Constitutional Studies (CNST)

CNST 2600
Comparative Constitutionalism
3:3:0  On Sufficient Demand
* Prerequisite(s): POLS 1000 or POLS 1100
Compares and contrasts the political, social and economic aspects of the origins, drafting, and development of constitutions across the globe.

CNST 3870
Constitutional History to Plessy 1896
3:3:0  Fall Even Years
* Prerequisite(s): University Advanced Standing
Explores, in a critical and historical framework, US Constitutional history to Plessy (1896). Examines the origins and general principles of Constitutional thought, including the Colonial, Confederate, Early Republic, and Civil War periods of early US history. Examines the various Constitutional issues relating to judicial review, national supremacy, slavery, secession, the Civil War, and laissez-faire governmental policies.

CNST 3880
Constitutional History Since Plessy 1896
3:3:0  Spring Odd Years
* Prerequisite(s): University Advanced Standing
Explores, in a critical and historical framework, US Constitutional history since Plessy (1896). Examines the development of the US Constitution from the late nineteenth century to the present day, with special attention being given to the progressive era, the New Deal, liberal constitutionalism, and the US Supreme Court's interpretations of civil rights and civil liberties.

CNST 4720
Foundations of American Constitutionalism
3:3:0  On Sufficient Demand
* Prerequisite(s): (POLS 1000 or POLS 1100 or instructor approval) and University Advanced Standing
Examines the political and constitutional foundations of the American Constitution, from the English Charter of Liberties in 1100 AD to the United States Bill Rights of 1791. Employs a comparative analysis of early Anglo-American constitutional thought, with special attention being given to the writings of prominent 17th century and 18th century constitutional theorists (e.g., Coke, Bacon, Burke, Penn, Dickinson, Mason, Adams, Madison, Marshall).

CNST 4730
Framing of the US Constitution
3:3:0  Fall Odd Years
* Prerequisite(s): CNST 4720 and University Advanced Standing
Examines the political and constitutional arguments of the Framers of the Federal Constitutional Convention. Discusses the strengths and weaknesses of the Constitution and the alternative language and plans presented at the Convention. Examines the ratification of the Constitution, focusing on the Anti-Federalists' critique and the Federalists' defense of that historic document. Employs a critical analysis of the political factors affecting the drafting and ratifying of the Constitution.

CNST 4790
US Constitution
3:3:0  On Sufficient Demand
* Prerequisite(s): (POLS 1100 or POLS 1000) and University Advanced Standing
Examines the United States Constitution as the political blueprint of American national government. Explores the basic constitutional powers and structures of the federal government and the prominent political and constitutional conflicts among its executive, legislative, and judicial branches. Addresses such key elements of constitutional design as limited and empowered government, enumerated and implied powers, separation of powers, checks and balances, federalism, and the Bill of Rights. Employs a critical analysis of modern constitutional politics.

CNST 4795
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
3:3:0  On Sufficient Demand
* Prerequisite(s): CNST 4790 and University Advanced Standing
Examines, with a critical lens, the political and constitutional aspects of the origins, drafting, and development of The Bill of Rights, the Modern Civil Rights Movements, and the Ninth, Tenth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Nineteenth Amendments to the Constitution.

CNST 490R
Issues and Topics in Constitutional Studies
3:3:0  On Sufficient Demand
* Prerequisite(s): (POLS 1000 or POLS 1100) and University Advanced Standing
Surveys a specific topic in constitutional studies. Topic varies each semester. With the approval of the department chair or coordinator, students may repeat the course for a maximum of 9 credits toward graduation.

CNST 491R
Independent Study
1 to 4:1 to 4:0  On Sufficient Demand
* Prerequisite(s): (POLS 1000 or POLS 1100), Instructor Approval, and University Advanced Standing
 Provides independent study for students unable to secure a desired course subject matter within regular curriculum offerings. Requires student and instructor design and complete readings and other projects at the upper division level, with the approval of the department chair or coordinator. May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits toward graduation.