

PALOMAR COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

X Transfer course X A.A. degree applicable course
(check all that apply)

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: PLS 240/LS 240 Civil Liberties and Procedures

UNIT VALUE: 3

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS: 48

BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS: Appropriate language skills.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

PREREQUISITE: None.

COREQUISITE: None.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: English 50 or eligibility for English 100.

SCOPE OF COURSE:

The study of the Bill of Rights and Supreme Court decisions focusing on civil rights and liberties. This area of constitutional law exams the relationship between individuals and government. Emphasis is on minority issues such as privacy, personal freedom, political equality, and first amendment jurisprudence.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES: Successful students will

1. explain the history and general application of the constitutional provisions as applied to civil rights and liberties;
2. identify constitutional provisions as they apply to nebulous factual situations (a fortiori to common factual situations);
3. evaluate judicial power and the scope of judicial review;
4. analyze the Federal judicial system.

5. demonstrate knowledge of civil rights as it affects Native Americans, African Americans, and civil rights issues relating to gender and socioeconomic class.

SPECIAL NOTE: This course outline has been prepared in accordance with the multicultural requirements of Palomar College.

CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:

1. The Supreme Court in the American Judicial Process
2. The Establishment of Judicial Review
3. Constitutional Sources of Civil Rights and Liberties
 - a. Property Rights
 - b. Freedom of Expression, Press, and Religious Liberty
 - c. Civil Rights Cases, "Separate but Equal doctrine
 - d. Desegregation and Affirmative Action
 - e. Criminal Justice and the Right of Privacy
 - f. Equal Protection and Antidiscrimination Principle
 - g. Civil War Amendments, 13, 14, 15
 - h. Sex Discrimination
4. Cases focusing on civil rights and liberties will be analyzed, briefed, and discussed in class. Examples of cases would include *Dred Scott*, *Brown v. Board of Education*, *Roe v. Wade*, *Employment Division v. Smith* (Native Americans), *Miranda v. AZ*, *Plessy v. Ferguson*, *NAACP v. Alabama*, *McCleskey v. Kemp* (capital punishment is racially discriminatory), *Mapp v. Ohio*, and The Civil Rights Cases of 1883.
5. Various cases will be reviewed emphasizing socioeconomic class issues.

REQUIRED READING:

Main Text:

Stephens, Otis Jr. and John Scheb II. American Constitutional Law - with supplements. St. Paul: West, 1999. (Emphasis is on Part III: Civil Rights and Liberties)

Supplemental:

Rakove, Jack N. Declaring Rights. Boston: Bedford Books, 1998.

SUGGESTED READING:

Barron, Jerome. Constitutional Law. 3rd edition. St. Paul: West, 1986.

REQUIRED WRITING:

A 9-10 page research paper is required. The advocacy paper is presented on an important issue of law focusing on civil rights and liberties. The students make an oral presentation at semester's end. Examples of topics include the death penalty, abortion, affirmative action, sexual discrimination, age, etc. Additionally, assigned cases will have to be briefed (length may range from one paragraph to two pages).

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.

Activities include textbook readings, review of lecture notes, and law library legal research and case briefs.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes No

If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction
- video conference (live instruction)

GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

Two tests will be given during the semester. Each test will be equated on a basis of a 100 points. Each test will consist of 50 questions, true/false and/or multiple-choice and/or essays.

Additionally, the research paper and oral presentation will be worth 200 points.