

You Decide!

Applying Court Cases to the Bill of Rights

Grades:	7th – 10th
Day of Week:	Monday
Time of Class:	11:00 am – 12:30 pm EST
Length of Class:	10 weeks
Semester:	Spring 2021
Tuition:	\$250.00
High School Credit:	.5 Social Studies or Elective

Class Dates:

Week 1: April 5

Week 2: April 12

Week 3: April 19

Week 4: April 26

Week 5: May 3

Mid-Term Break May 10 - 16 (Eid Al Fitr)

Week 6: May 17

Week 7: May 24

Week 8: May 31

Week 9: June 7

Week 10: June 14

Make Up Week: June 21

Instructor's Name:	Jonathan Meola
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Office Hours:	By appointment

Description of Class:

The United States Constitution was drafted in Philadelphia in 1787 at the Constitutional Convention. However, many delegates felt that the document was not truly complete, since it did not include a list of rights that offered people protections from abuses of power by the government. These delegates felt that the lack of these rights would prevent ratification by the States, and after further deliberations, crafted ten Amendments to the Constitution that are known collectively as the Bill of Rights.

In this survey class, we will explore the Bill of Rights, using cases and examples covering the first eight Amendments, that will cover both the Founders' intent and further interpretation by the judiciary.

Class Approach:

We will discuss cases and examples in class, in order to illustrate each Amendment. The class is highly interactive. Students are expected to participate.

Goals:

For students to develop an understanding of the Bill of Rights as it relates to the US Constitution.

Textbook: You Decide! Applying the Bill of Rights to Real Cases, by George Bundy Smith & Alene F. Smith
(The Critical Thinking Co., 1992) www.criticalthinking.com ISBN: 978-1-60144-495-0

Additional Supplies/Resources Needed:

- Notebook / Notepad
- Pen / Pencil
- Computer
- Microphone

Weekly Homework:

Approximately 2 hours. Students are expected to complete any readings assigned prior to class. They should be ready to discuss. In addition, there will be a few papers and/or projects for the student to complete.

Homework Policy:

Homework is expected on time. It should be submitted via CANVAS (our LMS) prior to the next class.

Additional Policies:

Respect for other students. Respect for opinions. Respect. Respect. Respect.

Grading Scale:

100-90:	A
89-80:	B
79-70:	C
69-60:	D
59 – 0:	No effort: F

Anticipated Weekly Course Schedule:

Week	Topic	
Week 1	Introduction	What is the Bill of Rights?
Week 2	Amendment 1	Text, Cases, and Discussion
Week 3	Amendment 2	Text, Cases, and Discussion
Week 4	Amendment 3	Text, Cases, and Discussion
Week 5	Amendment 4	Text, Cases, and Discussion
Week 6	Amendment 5	Text, Cases, and Discussion
Week 7	Amendment 6	Text, Cases, and Discussion
Week 8	Amendment 7	Text, Cases, and Discussion
Week 9	Amendment 8	Text, Cases, and Discussion
Week 10	Summary	Class Presentations