

Contact information

Instructor: Toni McClory

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Office: 05-135 (same building as campus bookstore)

Office hours: MW 11:00-12:00; TR 8:30-10:00 (other times by appointment)

Class meets: TR 10:00–11:15; HTA6

Class home page: Blackboard <https://ecourses.maricopa.edu/webapps/login/> (Go here for announcements, textbooks, the wiki study guide, extra credit assignments, grades and other important class resources.)

Required textbooks (no purchase necessary!)

- U.S. Constitution Factsheets (download for free in BlackBoard or you can purchase a packet for copy cost from the GCC **Copy Center**—next to the bookstore.)
- McClory, ed. *At the Schoolhouse Gate: Student Rights Cases* (2007 ed.) (download for free in BlackBoard or you can purchase it for copy cost from the GCC Copy Center—next to the bookstore.)

About the course

There are many good reasons to study the U.S. Constitution: The Constitution is the backbone of American government. It is the primary source of our rights and freedoms. And it is a document of immense historic importance. This course will examine: (1) the Constitution's origins and underlying philosophy; (2) how the Constitution defines and restricts the power of the national government; and (3) how the Constitution protects individual rights and liberties. There will be special emphasis on constitutional issues that arise in educational contexts. There are no prerequisites. To learn more review the official course description and competencies at: <http://www.dist.maricopa.edu/cgi-bin/cpr.pl?trm=20036&crs=pos222&inst=99>

Class policies

- This 10-week class moves very quickly. Expect to spend roughly 3 hours per week outside of class on this course. Regular attendance is strongly encouraged.
- Late work will be accepted with a 10% grade deduction. (The penalty will be waived for special circumstances.)
- **Your own words please!!!** To receive credit, all written work must be in your own words and syntax unless you are quoting and properly credit the source. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and the college penalties are severe. (See MCCCDC Policy 2.3.11.) There are no joint projects in this course.

- Please keep a copy of all your work until the end of the course as insurance against loss by you or me.
- Taping of lectures is not allowed without special permission. Let me know if you have any special needs that require accommodation and please make the appropriate arrangements with the College's Disability Services Office (623) 845-3080.
- Consult the college and district handbooks to learn your rights and responsibilities as a student at GCC.

GCC Faculty and Staff Handbook: http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/catalog/student_rights.html

MCCCD Student Guide: Polices, Procedures and Resources
<http://www.maricopa.edu/legal/student/>

Study Guide Wiki

A collaborative study guide for the final exam will be provided online. You can access it in BlackBoard. <https://ecourses.maricopa.edu/webapps/login/>

Grading

The course grade will be based on the following point system:

Assignments	Points
8 Reading Quizzes (5 points each)	40
Paper*	60
Final exam*	50
Total points	150
*Required to pass the course	

A = 135 points or higher; B = 120—134 points; C = 99–133 points; D = 90–98 points; F = below 90 points. Strong participation in class discussions or on the study guide wiki will be considered in borderline cases.

Extra credit

If you wish to enrich your learning experience, or simply improve your grade, you can earn up to 15 additional points by completing one or more of the posted extra credit assignments. (Go to Blackboard for assignments: <https://ecourses.maricopa.edu/webapps/login/>)

Important dates

- 3-6 Reading quiz 1
- 3-11 Reading quiz 2
- 3-30 Reading quiz 3
- 4-3 Reading quiz 4
- 4-8 Reading quiz 5
- 4-20 Reading quiz 6
- 4-27 Reading quiz 7
- 4-29 Paper due
- 5-4 Reading quiz 8
- 5-8 Last day to submit extra credit
- 5-11 Final exam

Assignments

The following assignments should be *completed* on the date indicated below.

M 3-2	Introduction
W 3-4	Declaration of Independence (handout); U.S. Constitution Roots factsheet
F 3-6	*** Reading Quiz 1: U.S. Constitutional Convention factsheet
M 3-9	U.S. Constitution Convention cont'd
W 3-11	*** Reading Quiz 2: U.S. Constitution: Key Features factsheet
F 3-13	Expansion of Federal Power factsheet
3-16 to 3-20	Spring Break (no class)
M 3-23	U.S. Congress Factsheet
W 3-25	U.S. Congress Factsheet cont'd
F 3-27	U.S. Electoral College factsheet
M 3-30	*** Reading Quiz 3: U.S. National Security Powers factsheet
W 4-1	U.S. Judicial Branch factsheet
F 4-3	*** Reading Quiz 4: Power of Judicial Review factsheet
M 4-6	U.S. Constitutional Amendments factsheet; Nationalization of the Bill of Rights factsheet (optional)

W 4-8	*** Reading Quiz 5: Establishment Clause factsheet
F 4-10	<i>Lee v. Weisman</i> (in Schoolhouse Gate) & <i>Santa Fe v. Doe</i> (Schoolhouse Gate)
M 4-13	Free Exercise Clause factsheet
W 4-15	Free Exercise Clause factsheet
F 4-17	Free Speech Clause factsheet
M 4-20	*** Reading quiz 6: <i>Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District</i> (Schoolhouse Gate)
W 4-22	<i>Bethel Independent School Dist. v. Fraser</i> (Schoolhouse Gate); <i>Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier</i> (Schoolhouse Gate); <i>Morse v. Frederick</i> (Schoolhouse Gate)
F 4-24	Equal Access Act (handout); <i>Good News Club v. Milford Central District</i> (Schoolhouse Gate)
M 4-27	* * * Reading Quiz 7: Fourth Amendment factsheet
W 4-29	* * * Paper due * * *
F 5-1	<i>New Jersey v. T.L.O.</i> (Schoolhouse Gate); <i>Board of Education v. Earles</i> (Schoolhouse Gate)
M 5-4	* * * Reading Quiz 8: Equal Protection factsheet
W 5-6	<i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> (Schoolhouse Gate)
F 5-8	<i>United States v. Virginia</i> (Schoolhouse Gate); *** last day to submit extra credit***
M 5-11	*** Final Exam (please bring a scantron & pencil) ***