Office Hours: One hour before and after class and by appointment


Course organization and grading: This seminar requires a final paper, with a minimum length of 15 double spaced pages, not including footnotes. The final paper will account for 70 percent of your grade.

Additionally, beginning week 2, you are required to submit a one page weekly reaction paper responding to the reading. You have discretion over the focus of the reaction papers, but you should exercise that discretion responsibly.

Also, on the last class meeting each student will give a short presentation of his or her final paper as a work in progress.

The weekly reaction papers, class participation and the work in progress presentation will account for 30 percent of your grade.

Assignments

Week 1 The 1934 National Firearms Act and United States v. Miller, 530-553

Weeks 2-3 D.C v. Heller, 751-812, (also refer to Chapter 3 the Colonies and the Revolution, for background on arguments made in Heller); McDonald v. Chicago 812-902 (also refer to Chapter 6 War Reconstruction and Beyond, for background on arguments made in McDonald).

Weeks 4-6 Federal regulation of firearms in the modern era, 583-692

Weeks 7-8 State firearms regulation, 693-748

Weeks 9-12 Current issues and litigation, 903-1263

Final Class Student presentations of work in progress papers.