

## CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

**Ronald Turner, Alumnae Law Center**

**Professor of Law**

**Office: BLB 238**

**Telephone Number: (713)743-2285**

**Secretary's Number: (713)743-2144**

**E-Mail: [rturner@central.uh.edu](mailto:rturner@central.uh.edu)**

**Office Hours: TBA Or By Appointment**

**I. *Course Description:*** This course focuses on the Constitution of the United States and judicial interpretation and application thereof.

**II. *Required Text:*** Kathleen M. Sullivan & Noah Feldman, *Constitutional Law* (Foundation Press, 18<sup>th</sup> edition 2013).

**III. *Method of Instruction:*** The primary method of instruction and review of assigned materials will be discussion by and between the professor and class participants, and students will be called on and asked questions concerning the readings. Each student must be prepared for each and every class and student participation is expected. A student's final grade may be adjusted upward in recognition of exceptional contributions in the classroom (with the emphasis on quality and not quantity) or downward for lack of preparedness or for failure to participate. Students are responsible for all of the assigned reading, including parts of assignments that are not specifically discussed in class.

**IV. *Attendance:*** The Law Center's attendance policy applies and any student violating that policy by failing to attend at least eighty (80) percent of class sessions may be dropped from the course. A class roll will be circulated each day and each student must initial the appropriate square next to his or her name for the particular date of attendance. Initialing the roll indicates that the student will be in attendance for the entire, and not part, of the class session. Each student is responsible for initialing the roll sheet at each class meeting. If the sheet is not initialed before the professor leaves the classroom at the end of a session, students who have not initialed the roll for that class will be considered and counted absent. Students will not be allowed to argue at a later time that they were actually present on days in which the class roll was not initialed. As late entrances to class are disruptive, students should arrive at the designated classroom before class begins; habitual tardiness may result in the lowering of a student's final grade. And, with the exceptions of emergencies, students should not leave and re-enter the classroom during a class session.

**V. *Grading:*** Students will be graded on the basis of an examination to be given at a time and location scheduled by the Law Center, and that grade may be adjusted upward or downward as discussed in Part III of this syllabus. The examination will be discussed in greater detail later in the semester and is subject to the official University of Houston Law Center grade curve.

**VI. *Assignments:*** Specific assignments will be announced in class and/or posted or e-mailed to

class members. These assignments may be altered based upon the amount of material covered in class, and any such alteration will be announced.