



Democracy, Objectivity, and the US Constitution

Nathanial Blower, MTuTh 9:45am – 12:15pm,
06/05/2023 - 07/09/2023
(31818) HONOR 340 – 001

How should we read the United States Constitution? As a 'living document' whose meaning can change and grow alongside changes and growth in American democratic society? Or as something whose meaning is more 'static', more 'objective'? Recently more than ever, perhaps, it seems to be the second option that is preferred by justices of the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS). But is it even possible to interpret the Constitution without injecting any life into it? And if it is possible, do the recent decisions of SCOTUS (on abortion and gun control, for instance) actually live up to this ideal? These questions, and a number of related political, social and philosophical questions, will be our focus in this colloquium.

STEM in the News

Carrie Tomko, MTuTh 10:45AM - 02:55PM
05/15/2023 - 06/04/2023
(31953) HONOR 340 – 002

Students in this colloquium have an opportunity to reflect on innovations, such as: The latest in available smart phones... The ongoing discussion of global warming... The usage of self-driving cars... The challenges of feeding a growing population through technological advances in agriculture...!! As new research and technology emerge, resulting innovations enter our ever-changing world. How are these innovations communicated to the general public?? The mass media is the place where the general population learns of innovations. Students in this colloquium will engage in the analysis of the media's reporting and then the population's reaction to S.T.E.M.'s impact on society, discerning how emerging research and technology are embraced or refused by society via communication and the media's role in construction of a new reality. Class discussion is dynamic in my classes!! Interaction in class is highly encouraged through both individual and small group projects. Small group projects are a major part of assessment in order to develop communication skills. Through the group process, students are able to interact in small group communication. Also, during the small group presentation, students gain public speaking communication skills, as well as use communication skills to facilitate a question and answer session. Development of these communication skills is key to success in academia, as well as in career settings. Academia gives us the opportunity to both



develop and practice these important communication skills. On an individual level, students read a book, related to media, of their choice, and then they present the findings, as well as inquire to the other students through facilitation of a question and answer session.

Winning Combinations in Health Behavior: Combating Obesity

John Roncone, 100% Asynchronous Online

06/05/2023 - 07/09/2023

(31949) HONOR 340 – 501

This social science discipline colloquium examines health behavior in an exploration to combat obesity. Areas that will be carefully examined include: Current obesity trends, assessment of body weight and body composition, etiology of obesity, health and economic consequences of obesity, dietary interventions for obesity prevention and new insights and looking into future insights. We will engage in meaningful online discussions as well as assignments, learning from other's experiences and guidance from the professor, whom has an extensive knowledge in health education and promotion. Our main book will be, Nutrition and Obesity: Assessment, Management, and Prevention, by Alexandra G. Kazaks, and Judith S. Stern. Other secondary resources will be provided to the students from the professor. Assignment readings, HW/Labs, behavior change models/theories, online discussions, and other assignments will be assessments utilized in the course. Brightspace will be utilized to deliver this online asynchronous course for content, grades, communication/announcements, communication/class roster and emails, assessments/assignments, and communications/discussions and course materials/calendar. Students will leave the course with a sound knowledge of health behavior and exploring areas in combating the obesity epidemic in the US.

Courageous Conversations Promoting Inclusive Excellence

Sandie Crawford, 100% Asynchronous Online

07/10/2023 - 08/13/2023

(31949) HONOR 340 – 502

This course is designed to foster a collaborative and reflective thinking process via discussion and assignments in order to facilitate a better understanding of people from a diversity of

Summer 2023 Social Science Colloquia



perspectives. Students will exhibit culturally responsive practices as they learn about different people and how to honor diversity in society.