



## Regula Lecture

Wednesday, April 4, 2018 4:00pm  
Law School, Brennan Courtroom (180)

# *Surprising Originalism*

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Many judges, lawyers, legal scholars, and law students assume that they already know everything that is important about "originalism." But they may be in for some surprises. The nature of originalism itself has changed. Even law professors may not know that the doctrine of "original intent" was abandoned by almost all originalists more than thirty years ago. Another common assumption about originalism is that it inevitably leads to "conservative" results, perhaps because it is part of a right-wing ideology. Surprisingly, originalism frequently produces results that are progressive on topics where the dominant living-constitutionalist approach has produced outcomes that are frequently associated with conservatism. "Surprising Originalism" is about the ways in which contemporary originalist constitutional theory diverges from widely held preconceptions.

*Free and open to the public. Reception to follow.*