

POLITICS 167
SUPREME COURTS AND ELECTIONS:
AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

TR 11:00 – 12:15

Fall 2010

Dr Kieran Williams

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1. The law of elections (Aug. 24)

- Donald Kommers, et al, *American Constitutional Law. Volume 1: Governmental Powers and Democracy*. Third edition (Rowman & Littlefield, 2009), ch. 1 ('The Supreme Court') and Appendix E ('Understanding Supreme Court Opinions').
- Further tips on briefing for Politics 167
- Background law: Frequently cited sections of the US Constitution

2. The right to vote:

a. in the US (lecture Aug. 26, case brief due Aug. 31)

[Read the "Nuts and Bolts of the Voting Rights Act" in the course pack.]

1. *Minor v. Happersett*
2. *Richardson v. Ramirez*

b. in Canada and Australia (lecture Sept. 2, brief due Sept. 7)

3. *Sauvé v. Canada (Chief Electoral Officer)*
4. *Roach v. Electoral Commissioner*

3. Apportionment (lecture Sept. 9, brief due Sept. 14)

5. *Wesberry v. Sanders*
6. *The Attorney General for Saskatchewan v. Carter*

And check out this on-line apportionment/districting game to get a feel for what is involved in mapping constituencies:

<http://www.redistrictinggame.org>

4. Representation:

a. in the US (lecture Sept. 16, brief due Sept. 21)

7. *United Jewish Organizations v. Carey*
8. *Shaw v. Reno*

b. in Kenya and Hong Kong (lecture Sept. 23, brief due Sept. 28)

9. *Lemeiguran v. Attorney General*
10. *Chan Wah v. Hang Hau Rural Committee*

5. Voter ID (lecture Sept. 30, brief due Oct. 5)

11. *Crawford v. Marion County Election Board*
12. *New National Party v. Government of South Africa*

6. Electronic voting (lecture Oct. 7, brief due Oct. 12)13. *Gusciora v. Corzine*

14. Decision 2 BvC 3/07 (2009) of the Constitutional Court of Germany

7. Campaign claims and content:**a. in the US (lecture Oct. 14; brief due Oct. 21)**15. *Henley v. DeVore*16. *Siefert v. Alexander***b. in the UK, India and Malaysia (brief due Oct. 26):**

[Read the background notes in the course pack]

17. *ProLife Alliance v. British Broadcasting Corporation*18. *Harcharn Singh v. Sajjan Singh*19. *Kho Whai Phaw v. Chong Chieng Jen***8. Parties barred and banned:****a. in the US (lecture Oct. 28, brief due Nov. 2)**20. *Dennis v. United States***b. in Philippines and Turkey (lecture Nov. 4, brief due Nov. 9)**21. *Ang Ladlad v. Commission on Elections*22. *Refah Partisi v. Turkey***9. American specialties:****a. campaign finance (lecture Nov. 11, brief due Nov. 16)**23. *Randall v. Sorrell***b. corporate expenditure (lecture Nov. 18, brief of JJ Kennedy's & Thomas's opinions due Nov. 23, brief of Justice Stevens's dissent due Nov. 30)**24. *Citizens United v. FEC* [Kennedy & Thomas – brief together]25. *Citizens United v. FEC* [Stevens]**c. party primaries (lecture Dec. 2, brief due Dec. 7)**26. *Tashjian v. Republican Party of Connecticut*27. *California Democratic Party v. Jones***10. Wrap-up (Dec. 9):** last briefs returned, guide to final exam issued, course evaluations filled out.