

(CONSTITUTIONAL) CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Professor Rory K. Little -- Fall 2015

First Assignment and Announcements

Welcome back Upper Division students! We have a full (80 students) registration roster for this class. And it is an important “Bar” class requiring the study of lots of cases. So we will “hit the ground running” in our first class next Monday, August 24. Here are a few “before class” announcements.

1. A detailed syllabus for the semester will be posted on Blackboard and on Canvas, as well as sent to you by email and available on paper in our first class. I will go over it in class on Monday, so that you will have full information on which to make an add-drop decision.

2. The textbook for this class is Dressler & Thomas, Criminal Procedure (5th Edition, 2013), and the 2015 Supplement. I think it is important for you to have the latest (5th) edition, and the 2015 (not 2014) Supplement. There are a fair number of new cases. Also, the page numbers for old cases will be different from prior editions, and in class I refer to specific page numbers pretty frequently.

3. Photo seating chart: By now you should all have gotten the email telling you how to go on to the “SeatGen” program and choose a seat for our class. (This is the link that I have: <https://hastings-seatgen.appointlink.com/>). I need you to do that – select a seat for yourself via SeatGen -- **before the first class** if possible (and then sit in the correct seat that you have chosen). In any case, you are required to do it by the end of the first week of classes. Students who have failed to sign up on SeatGen for my class are automatically “on call” for every class.

4. FIRST ASSIGNMENT: Rather than starting with history, I think that current controversies require us to start off with some Supreme Court decisions that are central to various ongoing debates. So, for the first week, please read *Terry v. Ohio* and related “stop & frisk” cases as indicated on the Syllabus. Be prepared to discuss the FACTS as well as the LEGAL ARGUMENTS of the cases. (My belief is that “facts make the law, not the other way around.”) Try to relate what you read to recent headlines in the news. I would also like you to be prepared to discuss any encounters you have had with police, if you are willing to.

5. I will be posting, and sending by email, a number of **handouts** during the semester. For our early classes, I hope to send out an edited version of a new, 2015 Supreme Court decision called *Rodriguez*. Or feel free to go to the USSCt website and read the full version (April 21, 2015): (<http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/slipopinions.aspx>).

6. It would be a good idea to bring your book to our first class (as well as all our classes). On Monday I will go through it a little with you, so that you can learn its structure.

7. Students on Call August 24 and 26: Finally, in order to start us off at full speed, the following students are “on call” for me to call on about the assigned readings, the first week. (By the way, if you are not “on call,” that does NOT mean I can’t or won’t call on you. I expect you to be prepared every day in every week.): **Traci Aoki -- Danielle Bogaards -- Amanda Depuy -- Jennifer Gottshalk -- Cassandra Martinez -- Deborah Rodriguez -- Tonya Yan.**

I’m very excited to see you all next week! Safe travels, enjoy the weekend, and thanks! -- Rory