Constitutional Law I  
Prof. Fletcher  
Syllabus  

Class Time: 7:45 – 9:25 PM, Tuesdays  
Classroom: 473  

Office: 405B  
Phone 432-6909  
Email: matthew.fletcher@law.msu.edu  
Office Hours: TBD & By appointment  

Required Book:  
WILLIAM FUNK, INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE (Thomson West 2008)  

Recommended Book:  

Students are required to check the Turtle Talk blog for some of their class materials, and for the discussion questions I prepare before class that should be available the Friday before class or earlier. Many of the discussion questions are intended to help you understand the facts and the holding, and do not expect that the questions will serve as the roadmap for the classroom instruction. I will also post background materials for many of the cases on Turtle Talk.  

The Con Law I page on Turtle Talk is here – http://turtletalk.wordpress.com/matthew-lm-fletcher/constitutional-law-i-fall-2009-materials/. From the main Turtle Talk page you can get to the page by clicking my name at the top of the page, and then clicking “Constitutional Law I (Fall 2009 – Class Materials).”
Week 1 (8/25/09) – Introduction to the Constitution
Read Funk 1-43

Week 2 (9/1/09) – Marbury, Judicial Review, and the States
Read Funk 44-67
Read The Cherokee Cases and President Jackson on Turtle Talk (emphasis on pp. 729-736; 745-761)

Week 3 (9/8/09) – Standing, Political Questions, and Other Limits on Judicial Power
Read Funk 74-117

Week 4 (9/15/09) – The Necessary and Proper Clause and the Commerce Clause
Read Funk 142-160
Read United States v. Kagama on Turtle Talk
Read Funk 182-194

Week 5 (9/22/09) – The Modern Commerce Clause
Read Funk 194-219
Read United States v. Lara on Turtle Talk

Week 6 (9/29/09) – The Taxing and Spending Clause, the Treaty Clause and the Tenth Amendment
Read Funk 219-248

Week 7 (10/6/09) – The Eleventh Amendment
Read Funk 134-141
Read Seminole Tribe v. Florida on Turtle Talk

Week 8 (10/13/09) – The Reconstruction Amendments
Read Funk 248-292

Week 9 (10/20/09) – Introduction to Executive Power
Read Funk 375-413

Recommended: Amicus Brief by Quirin Historians on Turtle Talk
Week 10 (10/27/09) – The War on Terror Cases Part 1
Read *Johnson v. Eisentrager* on Turtle Talk
Read Funk 414-423

Week 11 (11/3/09) – The War on Terror Cases Part 2
Read *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld* on Turtle Talk
Read *Boumediene v. Bush* on Turtle Talk

Week 12 (11/10/09) – The Special Case(s) of Richard Nixon
Read *In re Subpoena to Nixon* on Turtle Talk
Read Funk 479-486
Read *United States v. United States District Court (Keith)* on Turtle Talk

Week 13 (11/17/09) – *Certiorari* and Supreme Court Processes
Read *Certiorari* Materials on Turtle Talk
Read the Nixon Tapes Case Materials on Turtle Talk
Read *New York v. United States* Cert Pool Memo
Read *United States v. Lopez* Cert Pool Memo

Week 14 (12/1/09) – Play Constitutional Jeopardy