Course Description
This course provides an overview of the United States Constitution and its articles, amendments, and judicial interpretations. Topics include separation of powers, checks and balances, governmental structure and process, and individual rights in relation to the government. The student will define and properly use terminology relating to constitutional law; locate, analyze, and describe other sources of law relating to constitutional law; and apply the United States Constitution and its amendments.

Text and Supplies

Participation Policy
Students MUST actively participate by completing an academic assignment required by the instructor by the official census date. Students who do not actively participate in an academically-related activity will be reported as never attended and dropped from the course.

Goals and objectives
Upon successful completion of the course, students will have the ability to accomplish the following objectives/competencies accurately and efficiently:

1. Demonstrate the ability to locate constitutional law sources.
2. Use terminology relating to constitutional law
3. Analyze legislative and judicial sources of law relating to the separation of powers and individual freedoms.
4. Apply legislation and judicial interpretation to hypothetical fact situations.
5. Identify the ethical considerations of the paralegal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competencies</th>
<th>Purpose and/or sample real life application</th>
<th>Used through out the course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Locate legal resources on the Internet</td>
<td>• Online legal research</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read, summarize, and interpret legal documents</td>
<td>• Case analysis and preparation for litigation</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare written summaries of legal issues</td>
<td>• Case analysis and preparation for litigation</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discuss legal issues with colleagues</td>
<td>• Interpersonal skills</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Student Contributions

Students are encouraged to contact the instructor at any time; e-mail is probably most efficient. However, I will be available during office hours and by appointment.

This will be an in-depth, fast-paced class. It is important that you keep up with the schedule by studying outside of class. Constitutional law is a very interesting subject, but can touch on matters that are very emotional. Students will be expected to exhibit professional behavior and discussions should be confined to legal reasoning. We can all agree to disagree.

If you have a problem and can no longer attend class, please contact the instructor before dropping the class. The instructor will try to work with you to help you complete the class. DO NOT simply stop attending class and expect a grade of “W”. It is necessary for you to contact the Office of Student Services at Midland College or your home college if you are a VCT student.

Class policies

It is each student’s responsibility to become familiar with Midland College policies as explained in the Midland College Student Handbook. The Handbook can be found online at the Midland College website. Cheating, plagiarism, and any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.

Discussion Forum, Papers and Exams

Students will be assessed on material covered in the class as well as on anything found in the textbook. If you cannot complete an assignment on time, please contact the instructor in advance to see if other arrangements can be made.

Plagiarism and Cheating

Any student found to be cheating on an exam or assignment will be given a grade of zero for that assignment or exam. Any student found to have plagiarized any portion of an assignment or exam will receive a grade of zero for that assignment or exam. Plagiarism includes self-plagiarism.

Grading/Evaluation of student

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- 90% - 100% A
- 80% - 89% B
- 70% - 79% C
- 60% - 69% D
- below 60% F

The student will be graded in the following areas:

- Review Questions 10%
- Practical Assignments 15%
- Discussion Board Responses 15%
- Exam (2) 15% each/30% Total
- Project/Paper 30%

Course schedule

A detailed course schedule will be provided during the first week of the semester.

Office Hours

See attachment.

Scans Information

The following SCANS skills are taught and/or reinforced in this course:

Resources: Allocates time to activities, understands, prepares and follows schedules including timely completion of assignments.
**Interpersonal:** Helps others learn by contributing to class discussions.

**Information:** Uses Internet resources to locate relevant information.

**Systems:** Demonstrates knowledge of state and federal court systems and the methods by which jurisdiction of cases is granted.

**Reading:** Locates, understands, and interprets written information found in legislation, constitutions, ordinances, and court decisions.

**Writing:** Communicates thoughts, ideas, information, and messages in writing by participating in forum discussions and solving hypothetical legal problems.

**E-mail**

All e-mails will be sent to you through the college e-mail system. To access your college e-mail:

1. Go to http://mymc.mail.midland.edu;
2. Enter your user name: your user name is your first initial, the first three letters of your last name, and the last three numbers of your social security number, with no spaces
3. Enter your password: your password is your social security number without dashes;
4. You may now change your password if you desire.

**Students with Disabilities**

Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must place documentation on file with the Counselor/Disability Specialist. Student with disabilities should notify Midland College prior to the beginning of each semester. Student Services will provide each student with a letter outlining any reasonable accommodations. The student must present the letter to the instructor at the beginning of the semester.