

Today's Supreme Court
Tuesday, March 5 - May 7, 2024, 1:45 to 3:15

Syllabus

Class texts: Linda Greenhouse, *The US Supreme Court: A Very Short Introduction* (3rd edition)
Jeffery Toobin, *The Oath: the Obama White House and the Supreme Court*

Reading Suggestions

Class Topics

Class # 1 March 5	Class Overview and Court History Greenhouse: Chapter 1 - Origins Toobin: Introduction and Chapters 1 & 2	Class Purpose & Process Supreme Court History 18 Year Roberts Court
Class # 2 March 12	Roberts Court in Operation Greenhouse: Chapter 2 – The Court at Work (1) Greenhouse: Chapter 5 – The Court at Work (2) Toobin: Chapter 3, 4, & 5	Supreme Court Procedures Competing Legal Philosophies <i>Ledbetter</i> (2006), <i>McDonnell</i> (2016) Justice Ginsburg
Class # 3 March 19	Presidential Powers Greenhouse: Chapter 6 - The Court & Other Branches	Shadow Docket, Guantanamo Cases (2004-8), <i>Noel Canning</i> (2014), <i>US v Texas</i> (2016), Trump cases (2018-21). Biden cases (2022-23) Justice Kennedy
Class # 4 March 26	Race - Affirmative Action & Voting Rights Greenhouse: Chapter 4 - The Chief Justices Toobin: Chapter 6	<i>Parents Involved</i> (2007), <i>Schuetz</i> (2014), <i>Fisher</i> (2016), <i>Shelby County</i> (2013), <i>Brnovich</i> (2021), <i>Harvard/UNC</i> (2023) Justice Breyer
Class # 5 April 2	Climate Change and Guns Toobin: Chapters 7, 8, & 9	<i>MA v EPA</i> , <i>UARG</i> (2014), <i>WV v EPA</i> (2022), <i>Sackett</i> (2023); <i>Heller</i> , <i>McDonald</i> , <i>Bruen</i> (2022)
Class # 6 April 9	Money and Elections Toobin: Chapters 11, 12, 13, & 14	Election Law, Judicial Impact <i>Citizens United</i> (2010), <i>McCutchen</i> (2013), <i>Rucho</i> (2019), 2020-22 election cases, <i>Moore v Harper</i> (2023)
Class # 7 April 16	Roberts Court Evolution Greenhouse: Chapter 3 – The Justices Toobin: Chapter 10, 15, 16, 17, & 20	Justices O'Connor, Souter, Stevens, Alito, Sotomayor, Kagan, Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, Barrett, Jackson
Class # 8 April 23	Health Care Toobin: Chapters 21, 22, & 23	Commerce Clause <i>Affordable Care Act</i> (2012), <i>Hobby Lobby & Wheaton College</i> (2014), <i>King v Burwell</i> (2015), <i>Texas v US</i> (2019), <i>CA v TX</i> (2020)
Class # 9 April 30	Religion Toobin: Chapter 18 & 19	"Doctrines" old and new, National Injunctions <i>Town of Greece</i> (2014), <i>Obergefell</i> (2015), <i>Bostock</i> (2020), <i>Dobbs</i> , <i>Carson</i> , <i>Kennedy</i> (2022), <i>303 Creative</i> (2023) Justice Scalia
Class # 10 May 7	Judicial Activism and Public Opinion Greenhouse: Chapter 7 - The Court and the Public Greenhouse: Chapter 8 - The Court and the World Toobin: Epilogue	Public Concerns and Calls for Change An Activist & Polarized Court Present & Future Battlegrounds Justice Thomas

Study Group Leader: Penny Hansen, 202-362-3150, pennyhansn@aol.com