

Great Supreme Court Decisions

Controversies and consequences

Course #	21FGSC
Format:	Seminar
Moderator:	Stephanie Levin
Date and Time:	Thursday, 9:30-11:30 AM 10 weeks, starting 9/30/2021
Format:	Online
Maximum number of participants:	20
Auditors accepted:	Yes, up to 2

Purpose: The goal is to give participants a greater understanding of how the U.S. Supreme Court works and to discuss a range of noteworthy Supreme Court decisions and their significance.

Description: From a list of topics and cases provided by the moderator, participants will choose one Supreme Court case they wish to study and present to the class, alone or with a partner. Emphasis will be on cases that concern issues of continuing controversy, such as abortion (e.g., *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*) or gun rights and the Second Amendment (e.g., *McDonald v. City of Chicago*). We'll explore not only past Supreme Court decisions, but also directions the Court may possibly take in the future.

Role of participants: Each participant will select, investigate, and report on a U.S. Supreme Court decision, either alone or with a partner, from a list provided by the moderator. Participants will be encouraged to join in the discussion of all the cases, not only the one they studied.

Resources: The only required reading will be the Supreme Court decisions themselves. Edited versions of the cases chosen by the participants will be made available by the moderator to keep the amount of reading reasonable. Participants are expected to do some additional research for the case on which they are presenting.

About the Moderator: Stephanie Levin is an attorney who has both practiced and taught law. Her last teaching job was at Hampshire College, where she taught undergraduates interested in legal issues, but not necessarily intending to be lawyers