

# AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW



## AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (LAWM 505-301)

FALL 2019 WEDNESDAYS 5:30 PM - 8:15 PM



**Michael J. Gerhardt**

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This course is an introduction to American constitutional law and will cover fundamental constitutional doctrine and contemporary, controversial disputes in constitutional law. Among the subjects to be covered are the origins of the American Constitution, the foundations and scope of judicial review, basic separation of powers, Congress' regulatory powers, executive power under the federal Constitution including the pardon and removal and veto authorities, and basic civil liberties under the federal Constitution. Among the contemporary conflicts to be discussed will be the scope of the special counsel's powers to investigate corruption within or by people in the Trump administration, the President's options in response to the special counsel investigation, the emoluments clause, the President's power to reshape the Supreme Court, and recent and developing claims pertaining to freedom of speech on college campuses and religious liberty under the Constitution.