

**History 552: Selected Topic in Early American History: Madison, Marshall, and the Early Republic**

**T, Th 11:00-12:15 Spring Semester 2003**

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**Office hours 9-10 MWF 9-11 TTh**

**Required Reading:**

Lance Banning, *The Sacred Fire of Liberty: James Madison and the Founding of the Federal Republic*

R. Kent Newmyer, *John Marshall and the Heroic Age of the Supreme Court*

**Course Goals and Objectives:**

Members of the class will be expected to *engage* the content, argument, and interpretation of the Banning and Newmyer volumes, be prepared to *discuss* assignments, and, by the end of the course, to *understand* the political culture and constitutional ideas of the American Republic from 1776 to 1836.

\*“Engaging” the reading means making a manageable selection of facts, ideas, and interpretations on the basis of one’s own priorities and taste.

\*“Discussion” includes speaking, active listening, and responding to the views of others. Responsibility for opening the discussion, responding to opening remarks, and drawing the discussion to a conclusion will rotate among members of the class.

\*“Understanding” political culture and constitutional ideas means seeing the political world and meaning of the Constitution as Madison, Marshall, and their contemporaries saw those realities. It also entails knowing how scholars understand concepts like political culture and constitutionalism.

**Course Schedule:**

**Unit 1: Madison and Constitutionalism in Revolutionary America**

Jan. 14 introduction to the course

Jan. 16 Banning 1-10

Jan. 21 Banning 13-26

Jan. 23 Banning 26-42

Jan. 28 Banning 43-57

Jan. 30 Banning 58-75

Feb. 4 unit examination

**Unit 2: Marshall and the Law in Revolutionary America**

Feb. 6 Newmyer 1-20

Feb. 11 Newmyer 20-49

Feb. 13 Newmyer 69-102

Feb. 18 Newmyer 102-128

Feb. 20 Newmyer 128-145

Feb. 25 unit examination

### Unit 3: Madison, Marshall, and the Constitution

Feb. 27 Banning 76-96; Newmyer 146-152

Mar. 4 Banning 96-107; Calhoun, "The Identity of Political Moderation" and  
"Prudence and Principle in American Revolutionary Moderation"

Mar. 6 Banning 111-137

Mar. 18 Banning 138-164

Mar. 20 Banning 165-191

Mar. 25 Banning 195-233

Mar. 27 Banning 234-264; Newmyer 49-68

April 1 Unit examination

### Unit 4: Politics, Law, and Constitutionalism

April 3 Newmyer, 146-157; Banning 386 (last paragraph)-393(first full  
paragraph)

April 8 Newmyer, 157-175 (compare with Banning ch. 7)

April 10 Newmyer 175-209

April 15 Newmyer 210-235

April 17 Newmyer 236-266 (compare with Banning ch. 7)

April 22 Newmyer 267-291

April 24 Newmyer 291-321

April 29 Newmyer 414-434

May 1 Newmyer 434-458

May 6 Banning 393-395; Newmyer 459-485

Final Examination (on Unit 4): Tuesday, May 13 (12 noon to 3pm)

**Grading:**

Unit examinations: 45 percent of final grade (15 percent each);

Final examination: 25 percent of final grade;

Class participation: 30 percent of final grade.