

**Constitutional History I:  
From the Articles of Confederation to the Civil War  
Spring 2015  
Professor Michael Klarman**

Our primary course materials will consist of photocopied materials available to you from the law school copy center. Those materials will be supplemented with readings from Kelly, Harbison & Belz, **The American Constitution: Its Origins and Development** (7th ed., vol. I) (referred to below as **Kelly**), which should be available for purchase at the bookstore.

My office is Areeda 332. My office hours this semester will be Wednesdays, 3:30 to 5:30. There is a good chance that I will also be available many Friday afternoons at roughly the same time, for those for whom Wednesday appointments are inconvenient. It would be a good idea to make an appointment even if you are coming during those hours; this enables me to better distribute the traffic. To set up an appointment, please email me—not my assistant—at [mklarman@law.harvard.edu](mailto:mklarman@law.harvard.edu).

The exam for the class will be an open-book, any-day takehome. Sometime before the mid-point of the semester, I will ask my assistant to post on the course webpage an old exam or two, along with some model answers. These will give you some sense of what to expect on the final exam.

This is going to be a large class, and, as the course description stated, the format of the class is largely lecture, not Socratic or a seminar-like discussion. That said, it is important that people take the frequent opportunities I will offer to raise questions, make objections, and offer alternative perspectives. In addition, I encourage people to come up after class for discussion and to take advantage of my office hours. The burden is on you in a class this size if you want to get to know the professor, but I am eager to make that happen, if you are willing to seize the opportunities.

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