**Constitutional Law I**

**Professor Mike Ramsey**

**Spring 2024**

**First assignment**

The textbook for this course is Maggs & Smith, *Constitutional Law: A Contemporary Approach* (6th ed. West 2023).

Information regarding the course and the assignments is posted at the course webpage, [www.mdramsey.com/index\_files/Page517.htm](http://www.mdramsey.com/index_files/Page517.htm) (you can also reach this page by going to my website homepage, [www.mdramsey.com](http://www.mdramsey.com), and following the link at the bottom of the page to “Constitutional Law I course webpage”). Please go to the course webpage to download (a) the course syllabus; and (b) the reading assignments for Unit 1 of the course.

The assignment for the first class meeting (Monday, Jan. 8, 2024) is:

(a) Read the text of the Constitution (pages 1571-1589 of the casebook) with special focus on Articles I, II, III and VI, and Amendment I.

(b) Read the introduction to the casebook, pp. 1-22.

(c) Consider and be prepared to discuss the following: Why do we need a Constitution? What purposes does a constitutional system serve, as compared to a system of simple majority rule? How is Constitutional Law different from other law? What are the sources of Constitutional Law?