

**Jurisprudence Seminar: Montesquieu and American Republicanism**  
**Law 435**  
**Autumn 2003**  
**Craig Lerner and Nelson Lund**

Montesquieu is the only modern political philosopher whose authority was invoked by the *Federalist Papers* and the Anti-Federalists alike. This seminar will begin with a careful reading of Montesquieu's principal work, *The Spirit of the Laws*, and will then examine the debate between the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists in light of his philosophic teaching.

The readings will average about 100 pages per class. The assignments for Class 6 and Class 7, however, are about 200 pages each.

**Texts**

Montesquieu, *The Spirit Of The Laws*. translated by: Anne M. Cohler, Basia C. Miller, and Harold S. Stone (required edition)

*The Federalist Papers*, edited by Clinton Rossiter (this is the edition we recommend, but you may use a different edition)

*The Anti-Federalist: Writings by the Opponents of the Constitution*, edited by Herbert J. Storing and selected by Murray Dry from *The Complete Anti-Federalist* (required edition)

**Tentative Syllabus**

**Class 1**

*Spirit of the Laws*, Part 1 (Books 1-8)

**Class 2**

*Spirit of the Laws*, Part 2 (Books 9-13)

**Class 3**

*Spirit of the Laws*, Part 3 (Books 14-19)

**Class 4**

*Spirit of the Laws*, Part 4 (Books 20-23)

**Class 5**

*Spirit of the Laws*, Part 5 (Books 24-26)

**Class 6**

*Spirit of the Laws*, Part 6 (Books 27-31)

**Class 7**

*Anti-Federalist Papers*: Federal Farmer and Brutus (pp. 7-197)

**Class 8**

*Anti-Federalist Papers*: Penn., Md., Va., and N.Y. (pp. 199-223, 255-359)

**Class 9**

*Federalist* Nos. 1-14

**Class 10**

*Federalist* Nos. 15-29

**Class 11**

*Federalist* Nos. 30-40

**Class 12**

*Federalist* Nos. 41-51

**Class 13**

*Federalist* Nos. 52-77

**Class 14**

*Federalist* Nos. 78-85