

January 7, 2009

TO: Readings in Legal Thought Seminar
FROM: Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg
RE: Assignments and Logistics

This seminar will meet on six Thursdays from 4:00 – 5:50pm in room 412. The readings and the dates for the first two meetings are listed below; other dates will be announced later.

Jan. 29 Scalia, A Matter of Interpretation
Feb. 5 Rotunda, Honor Bound, Inside the Guantanamo Trials
TBD Revesz, Retaking Rationality
TBD Friedman, Guarding Life's Dark Secrets
TBD Peacock, Deconstructing the Republic
TBD Shaviro, Taxes, Spending, and the U.S. Government's
March Toward Bankruptcy

Prior to 9 am on the Monday preceding class, you should send me a “reaction paper” on the book for that class. Your paper should be more than five pages and should be analytical, not descriptive. Do not consult book reviews. Each paper must be double spaced and have your name on every page. You should submit your paper in the form of an attachment to an email message addressed to me (dginsburg@cadc.uscourts.gov), with a copy to my secretary, Ms. Alice Sweet (asweet@cadc.uscourts.gov). If at all possible, do not wait until the last day to send your paper.

When you have submitted your paper, post it on the TWEN (The West Educational Network) page for this seminar. Before the seminar meets, you must review the papers posted by the other members of the seminar and be prepared to discuss them.

Grades for the seminar will be based entirely upon the written submissions and the oral contributions of the participants; there is no examination. This seminar qualifies as a writing course.

Attendance at every meeting of the seminar is important; timely submission of every paper is imperative, and is expected even of a student who will unavoidably miss a particular class.