SUPREME COURT CLINIC

Fall Semester 2011 – Spring Semester 2012

Adjunct Professor Consovoy
Adjunct Professor McCarthy

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Number: Law 185
Date & Time: Monday 6:00 pm-7:50 pm
Room Number: Room 412
Course Book: Stern & Gressman: Supreme Court Practice (9th ed.) (Note: chapters will be distributed to the students electronically in advance—purchase of this book is not required)

COURSE SYLLABUS

August 22  Chapter 1: Introduction to the Supreme Court
August 29  Chapter 6: Procedures in Connections with Petitions for Certiorari
September 5  No Class – Labor Day
September 12  Chapter 2: Jurisdiction to Review Decisions of Federal Courts
              Chapter 2.1: Introduction
              Chapter 2.2-2.6: Federal Courts of Appeal
              Chapter 2.7-2.8: District Courts
September 19  Chapter 2: Jurisdiction to Review Decisions of Federal Courts (cont’d)
              Chapter 2.9-2.11: Three-Judge District Courts
              Chapter 2.12-2.15: Other Federal Courts
September 26  Chapter 3: Jurisdiction to Review Decisions of State Courts
              Chapter 3.1-3.3: Introduction
              Chapter 3.4-3.10: Requirements of Finality
              Cox Broadcasting Co. v. Cohn, 420 U.S. 469 (1975)
October 3  Chapter 3: Jurisdiction to Review Decisions of State Courts (cont’d)
              Chapter 3.11-3.15: Requirement of Decision by Highest State Court
              Chapter 3.16-3.21: Properly Raising a Substantial Federal Question
October 11  Chapter 3: Jurisdiction to Review Decisions of State Courts (cont’d)  
Chapter 3.22-3.28: Independent and Adequate State Grounds  

October 17  Chapter 4: Factors Motivating the Exercise of Jurisdiction  
Chapter 4.1-4.10: Certiorari Jurisdiction

October 24  Chapter 4: Factors Motivating the Exercise of Jurisdiction (cont’d)  
Chapter 4.11-4.25: Certiorari Jurisdiction (cont’d)


November 7  Chapter 4: Factors Motivating the Exercise of Jurisdiction (cont’d)  
Chapter 4.26-4.29: Appellate Jurisdiction

November 14  Guest Speaker [TBD]: The Law Clerk’s Perspective on Certiorari

November 21  Roundtable Discussion: When to Seek Certiorari—And When Not To

November 28  Chapter 5: Manner in Which the Court Determines to Take Jurisdiction

***END OF FALL SEMESTER***

January 9  Chapter 13: The Briefs on the Merits

January 16  No Class – Martin Luther King Day

January 23  Chapter 8: In Forma Pauperis Proceedings

January 30  Chapter 10: Original Cases

February 6  Chapter 11: Extraordinary Writs

February 13  Guest Speaker

February 20  Chapter 14: Oral Argument

February 27  Guest Speaker

March 5  Chapter 15: Petitions for Rehearing and Final Disposition of Cases
March 12  No Class – Spring Recess
March 19  Supreme Court Tour and Oral Argument
March 26  Chapter 16: Motions and Applications
April 2  Chapter 17: Stays and Injunctions
April 9  Chapter 18: Capital Cases
April 16  Marbury v. Madison, 5 U.S. 137 (1803)
April 23  TBD

***END OF SPRING SEMESTER***