

SYLLABUS FOR ELECTION LAW SURVEY

Richard Emery

Spring 2018

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TEXTBOOK: THE LAW OF DEMOCRACY: Legal Structure of the Political Process, Fifth Edition,

Issacharoff, Karlan, Pildes and Persily

January 12 and 19th :

“Perpetuating Power: Majority Rules”

Selected reading assigned from Chapters 1,11 and 9.

(See Hofstra Website for initial reading assignment.)

January 26 and February 2nd :

“Who Gets to Vote and Why”

Selected reading assigned from Chapter 2.

February 9 and February 16th :

“Equal Votes: Revenge of the Nerds”

Selected reading assigned from Chapters 3 and 6.

February 23 and March 2nd :

“It’s My Party.....”

Selected reading from Chapter 4.

March 9 and 16th :

“Money Talks....”

Selected reading from Chapter 5.

March 23 and April 6th :

“A Little Help from my Friends: VRA and Preferences”

Selected reading from Chapters 7 and 8.

April 13 and 20th :

“If it’s Broke, Fix It: Defective Elections and Presidential Legitimacy”

Selected reading from Chapter 10.

Class participation is incentivized by counting substantially in a final grade. Paper between 10-15 pages will be required and topics approved in advance. There will be no exam. Electronic devices are not to be used in class.