Dr. Daugherty, UH 218  
Office hours: M-W, 12:00-1:20; T-R, 12:00-12:50, 2:15-3:00; or by appointment.  
Tel: 344-2920 (warning: voice mail infrequently checked).  
E-mail (preferred; both checked frequently): wijid@comcast.net or daughewi@mail.armstrong.edu.  

ACCEPTANCE: Students are responsible for the contents of this syllabus; continued enrollment in this course constitutes awareness and acceptance of all requirements and policies discussed therein.  

TEXT: Required text: The Supreme Court (10th ed.) by Baum.  
Recommended books: Black’s Law Dictionary, Garner’s pocket edition (West Publishing); The Oxford Companion to the United States Supreme Court; The Oxford Guide to United States Supreme Court Decisions; Closed Chambers, by Lazarus; Justices, Presidents, and Senators, by Abraham.  
Suggested reading: The Choices Justices Make (Epstein and Knight); The Judicial Process (Abraham); A Court Divided (Tushnet); The Most Activist Supreme Court in American History (Keck).  

OVERVIEW: An exploration of the United States Supreme Court, its history, how it works, its impact on American government and the lives of individual American citizens.  

EXPECTATIONS: I expect each student to be prepared, able, and ready to do college-level work. At a minimum, this means faithfully attending class, arriving at class on time, being prepared for class by reading the assigned material, staying awake, taking notes, exercising good study habits, and being interested. Absences or actions that fall short of the minimal expectations may result, at my discretion, in a lowering of your grade. It will be a serious mistake to leave the impression that you don’t care about this class, if for no other reason than that’s probably the same extent to which I’ll care about your grade.  

CELL PHONES: Cell phones/PDAs/Beepers are to be turned off and stowed out of sight.  

TEXTING ABSOLUTELY FORBIDDEN: Any student seen texting during class will have their final grade lowered one letter on the first offence. The second offence will result in being immediately dropped from the class with a WF.  

HONOR CODE: All sections of the AASU Student Honor Code and Code of Conduct will apply to this class. Under the Honor Code, plagiarism, cheating, facilitating academic dishonesty, and fabrication in any form or manner are forbidden. Additional restrictions or instructions given in class on any individual assignment, whether verbal or written, will also fall under the Honor Code. Absence from the class when any additional instructions are given is not a valid excuse if a violation of the instructions results in an Honor or Conduct Code violation.
Students will also be required to sign each examination, which acknowledges that the student has followed the Honor Code and any additional restrictions/instructions given in class.

**HONOR VIOLATION POLICY:** I will accuse no student of violating the Honor Code unless I can prove beyond a doubt that the student is guilty. At that time, the student will be dropped from the class and his or her name will be transmitted to the Dean of Student Affairs along with the proof, for a formal hearing before the Honor Court. Although the Honor Code permits a professor an option to handle the transgression in an “informal” manner vice submitting the case to the Honor Court, I will not do so. Before the Honor Court, I will urge that the student receive the maximum penalty possible, to wit: an F for the semester, suspension from school for one year, and the findings of the Court to be made a permanent part of the student’s record. **This penalty will definitely affect your life, particularly if you are close to graduation or will be seeking a career in which a background check will be required; you need to weigh whether the consequences are worth the risk.**

**CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Students who participate frequently and positively in class by asking questions and engaging in debates and discussions will receive, at my discretion and based solely on my judgment, additional credit that often results in the student receiving a final grade that is one full letter higher than otherwise. The Supreme Court opens its new session on the first Monday in October, and there will be plenty to discuss in class; you can prepare yourself for discussions by watching news broadcasts or (preferably) reading national newspapers online.

**GRADING:** Your course grade will be determined by the aggregate scores on one exam and two papers, each worth 100 points. A = 270-300 pts; B = 240-269; C = 210-239; D = 180-209. Class participation points, if any, will be added in five point increments up to 25 points. Material for the exam will come from the assigned text and information presented in lectures.

**EXTRA CREDIT:** No extra credit will be given to an individual. Extra credit will be granted only in situations in which the entire class is able to participate (e.g., attending an off-campus lecture). The success to passing this course is to do well in class and on the papers.

**EXAM MAKE-UP POLICY:** Students are expected to be in class on the day exams are given. Students who fail to show up on exam day without being excused in advance may be denied a make-up. The burden will be on the student to justify why they should be given an make-up exam; anything short of a genuine emergency will result in a Zero for that exam. If an excusable emergency arises on the day of the exam that prevents your presence, you (or a family member in case of your illness) must notify me within 48 hours of the day and time of the exam, either by e-mail or telephone. **Failure to do so will result in the denial of a make-up exam.** All students receiving a make-up exam will have their grade reduced by 10 percent (usually equal to one letter grade) except in cases of prior notification AND for an acceptable reason (e.g., school athletic trip).

**ABSENCE POLICY:** You are permitted four absences, period, regardless of reason. Absences beyond four will be penalized 20 points each. However, if your absences exceed six I retain the right either to give you an F or to drop you from the class with a WF. Of course, emergency
situations will be taken into account

CLASS NOTES: If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain the class notes and any instructions for papers from one of your classmates.

SYLLABUS: The chapters listed below correspond to the primary text, Baum. However, each lecture will be augmented, sometimes significantly, by material presented in the class lecture. Thus, good notes are essential.

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION (Chapter One)
PART TWO: EARLY HISTORY OF THE SUPREME COURT (Chapter One and Lectures)
PART THREE: APPOINTMENT OF JUSTICES (Chapter Two)
PART FOUR: SUPREME COURT BASICS: From Petition to Decision (Chapter Three)
PART FIVE: DECISION MAKING (Chapter Four)
PART SIX: OUTPUT AND IMPACTS (Chapters Five and Six)