

PLSC 471: American Constitutional Law

Final Examination Case List Fall 2025

These are cases you will be expected to know well; i.e. recall the general facts of the case, have a thorough understanding of the majority and (where applicable) minority opinion(s), state the doctrine set forth in the case and its importance, and be able to integrate the case into the law preceding and following it. Please note that you are responsible for other cases on the syllabus as well, but not to the same degree of detail as those listed here. The study guide for the midterm exam is available [here](#).

Federalism

- *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)
- *Scott v. Sanford* (1857)
- *National League of Cities v. Usery* (1976)
- *Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Authority* (1985)
- *New York v. U.S.* (1992)
- *Printz v. U.S.* (1997)

The Commerce Clause

- *Gibbons v. Ogden* (1819)
- *U.S. v. E.C. Knight Company* (1895)
- *Schechter Poultry Corporation v. U.S.* (1935)
- *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Company* (1937)
- *U.S. v. Lopez* (1995)
- *Gonzales v. Raich* (2005)
- *National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius* (2012)

Taxation and Spending

- *Pollock v. Farmers Loan & Trust Company* (1895)
- *Bailey v. Drexel Furniture Co.* (1922)
- *U.S. v. Butler* (1936)
- *Steward Machine Co. v. Davis* (1937)
- *NFIB v. Sebelius* (2012) (again)

Substantive Due Process and Economic Rights

- *Loan Association v. Topeka* (1875)
- *Lochner v. New York* (1905)
- *Adkins v. Children's Hospital* (1923)
- *Nebbia v. New York* (1934)
- *West Coast Hotel v. Parrish* (1937)

The Takings Clause

- *Penn Central Transportation Company v. City of New York* (1978)
- *Hawaii Housing Authority v. Midkiff* (1984)
- *Nollan v. California Coastal Commission* (1987)
- *Kelo v. City of New London* (2005)