**POLS 110: Moot Court (Fall 2022)**

Meeting times: Mondays 3pm-4pm or Thursdays 11am-12pm Classroom: CSB 277   
Instructor: Andre P. Audette   
Email: aaudette@monmouthcollege.edu   
Andre’s Office: CSB 330   
Office Hours: 2-3pm M-F, and by appointment   
Credit: 0.25

**Course Description**

This course is for all students who plan to participate in the annual Monmouth College moot court competition and/or the legal brief writing competition. We will discuss the procedure of these competitions, the selected case, and related legal concepts (for example: scrutiny levels, constitutional interpretation, legal reasoning, etc.). As part of the course, you must participate in either the moot court competition, the legal brief writing   
competition, or both.

**Course Objectives**

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to better:   
Understand moot court procedures and practices   
Read, analyze, and critically evaluate the selected case and its legal reasoning Synthesize and intelligently express legal arguments, both orally and in writing

**Readings**

You are not required to purchase any texts for this course. You are expected to read: The moot court case   
The moot court case guide   
All other class handouts

**Course Requirements/Attendance Policy**

This is a participation course. You must attend all class meetings or you will not receive credit for the course. You are permitted one unexcused absence but you must make up all work for the day that you miss. If you do miss a class, contact Andre to arrange what work must be made up.

Additionally, you must sign up to participate in either the brief writing competition or the oral arguments competition scheduled for later this semester.

**COVID Statement**

This semester presents many uncertain circumstances due to the ongoing pandemic. The policies and schedule outlined in this syllabus are subject to change, and I will do my best to provide advance notice for any such changes. Likewise, should your ability to fully participate in the class change over the course of the semester, please reach out to me and we can discuss the best options for moving forward. We’re all in this together!

**Course Engagement Expectations**

Classroom activities (1 hour/week)   
Study/practice of legal arguments (2 hours/week)

Total: 3 hours/week

**Course Policies and Additional Resources**

***Academic Honesty***   
It is your responsibility to be familiar with and uphold the academic honesty policy of MC, as defined in the Scots Guide (https://www.monmouthcollege.edu/offices/student-affairs/academic-regulations/). Any student found to have violated these policies of academic integrity will receive a failing grade on the assignment and may be subject to further penalties by the College, including suspension or expulsion. If you have any questions about avoiding plagiarism or any of the other policies, please come talk to me.

***Accessibility Services***   
If you have a disability or had academic accommodations in high school or another college, you may be eligible for academic accommodations at Monmouth College under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Monmouth College is committed to equal   
educational access. To discuss any of the services offered, please call or meet with Jennifer Sanberg, Associate Director of Academic Support & Accessibility Services. The ASAS office is located in the ACE space on the first floor of the Hewes Library. They can be reached at 309-457-2257 or via email at academicsupport@monmouthcollege.edu.

***Counseling Services***   
Monmouth College provides cost-free, professional and confidential counseling sessions to support you and to help you manage challenges that may impact your personal and academic success. The Counseling Center is located in the upper level of Poling Hall, offices 204 and 216, and the hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:00pm. To request a confidential appointment online, go to https://titanium.monmouthcollege.edu/ or email   
counselingcenter@monmouthcollege.edu, Cindy Beadles at   
cbeadles@monmouthcollege.edu or Tom Caudill at tcaudill@monmouthcollege.edu.

**Moot Court Tutoring**   
I am very happy to meet with you one-on-one to work through the details of the case or provide additional tutoring in preparation for moot court. There will also be additional public tutoring sessions available to all participants in the moot court competition. You are invited and encouraged to take part in those sessions, even as they will replicate much of what we do in this course.

**Course Topics and Schedule**   
*Week of Aug. 29th – Introductions, overview of MC moot court competitions*   
*Week of Sept. 5th – Oral argument procedure and brief writing*   
*Week of Sept. 12th – Introducing the case and its legal background*   
 Complete at least a first read of the case and case guide before this class period *Week of Sept. 19th – The arguments (Petitioners)*   
 Complete a detailed read of the petitioners’ arguments   
*Week of Sept. 26th – The arguments (Respondents)*   
 Complete a detailed read of the respondents’ arguments   
*Week of Oct. 3rd – Catch-up week and practice moot court*   
*Week of Oct. 17th – Practice moot court*   
*Week of Oct. 24th – Individual meetings*   
*Oct. 29th – Moot court preliminary round and brief writing competition*   
*Nov. 2nd – Moot court finals round*