



COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Information

Course Title:	PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION
Course Code:	PHILCON
Semester/Year:	2ND SEM - (2024-2025)
Instructor:	MX. LUCY MARIE B. CLARAMON
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Course Description

This course offers a comprehensive analysis of the 1987 Philippine Constitution. Students will explore its historical context, fundamental principles, institutional structures, and the impact of constitutional provisions on Philippine society and governance. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the Constitution's role in shaping the political, social, and economic landscape of the Philippines.

Course Objectives

- Understand the historical background and drafting process of the 1987 Philippine Constitution.
- Analyze the fundamental principles and provisions of the Constitution.
- Examine the structure and functions of the three branches of government.
- Discuss the Bill of Rights and its implications for civil liberties.
- Evaluate contemporary issues and debates related to constitutional provisions.

Course Materials

1. "The 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines: A Commentary" by Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.
2. "Philippine Governance and the 1987 Constitution" by Ricardo S. Lazo
3. "The Philippines: A Past Revisited" by Renato Constantino
4. "A Living Constitution: The Troubled Arroyo Presidency in the Philippines" by Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.
5. Supreme Court rulings and case law related to the 1987 Constitution

Assessment Methods:

MIDTERMS EXAM	30%
FINALS EXAM	30%
QUIZZES	15%
CLASS PARTICIPATION/RECITS	15%
ATTENDANCE	10%

Course Schedule/Outline of Topics

Week	Topic
1	Course Outline & Course Requirements Introduction to Constitutional Law <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Definition and importance of a constitution2. Overview of constitutional law principles3. Comparative analysis of different constitutions

2	Historical Context of the 1987 Philippine Constitution <ol style="list-style-type: none">Historical background of the Philippines' constitutional developmentThe 1986 People Power Revolution and its impactThe Constitutional Commission of 1986
3	Preamble and National Territory <ol style="list-style-type: none">Analysis of the PreambleDefinition and significance of national territoryTerritorial disputes and their constitutional implications
4	Declaration of Principles and State Policies <ol style="list-style-type: none">Sovereignty and democratic principlesState policies on social justice, education, and healthRole of the family, youth, and marginalized sectors
5	Citizenship <ol style="list-style-type: none">Definition and types of citizenship (by birth, naturalization, dual citizenship)Rights, duties, and obligations of citizensProcesses of acquiring and losing Philippine citizenship (e.g., naturalization, renunciation)Case laws and Supreme Court rulings on citizenship
6	Suffrage <ol style="list-style-type: none">Definition and importance of suffrage in a democracyConstitutional provisions on suffrage (Article V of the 1987 Philippine Constitution)Qualifications and disqualifications for voters in the PhilippinesRole of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC)Issues and challenges: voter turnout, vote-buying, and disenfranchisementThe impact of suffrage on governance and representation
7	The Legislative Department <ol style="list-style-type: none">Structure and powers of Congress (Senate and House of Representatives)Legislative process and law-makingChecks and balances with the executive and judicial branches
8	The Executive Department <ol style="list-style-type: none">Powers and functions of the PresidentThe role of the Vice President and the CabinetPresidential succession and impeachment processes
	MIDTERMS EXAM
10	The Judicial Department <ol style="list-style-type: none">Structure and powers of the judiciaryThe role of the Supreme Court and lower courtsJudicial review and independence
11	The Bill of Rights (Part 1) <ol style="list-style-type: none">Fundamental rights and freedomsCivil and political rightsRights to due process and equal protection
12	The Bill of Rights (Part 2) <ol style="list-style-type: none">Freedom of speech, assembly, and the pressRight to privacy and protection against unreasonable searchesRights of the accused
13	Local Government and Autonomous Regions <ol style="list-style-type: none">Structure and powers of local government unitsDecentralization and autonomyCreation and significance of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)
14	Accountability and Transparency <ol style="list-style-type: none">Constitutional provisions on accountability of public officersRole of the Ombudsman and Commission on AuditAnti-corruption measures and institutions

15	Social Justice and Human Rights <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Social justice provisions in the Constitution2. Land reform and agrarian rights3. Human rights protections and the role of the Commission on Human Rights
16	Economic Provisions and National Patrimony <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Constitutional framework for the national economy2. Ownership and use of natural resources3. Foreign investment and economic development policies
17	Constitutional Amendments and Revisions <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Procedures for amending the Constitution2. Historical amendments and proposed revisions3. Debates on federalism and charter change
18	Contemporary Issues and Challenges <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Constitutional crises and landmark Supreme Court decisions2. Human rights issues and extrajudicial killings3. The Constitution's role in addressing modern political and social challenges
	FINALS EXAM