

Constitutional Law
Professor Teachout
Spring Term, 2023

Reading Assignment for First Class (January 17, 2023):
Historical Foundations

Students in Professor Teachout's section in Constitutional Law should sign up on the TWEN site for the course. All reading assignments will be posted there.

We devote the first two classes in Constitutional Law to coverage of key events leading to adoption and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, focusing on four important historic documents: (1) the Declaration of Independence (1776); (2) the Articles of Confederation (national governance from 1776 to 1788); (3) the "Virginia Plan" introduced by the Virginia delegation at the start of the Constitutional Convention of 1787; and (4) the U.S. Constitution (ratified in 1788). In the first class on Tuesday, January 17th, we will discuss the first two of these documents: the Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation posted on TWEN. Please read the Declaration and the Articles of Confederation and prepare answers to the questions set out immediately above each of these historic documents.