Office hours: My office is located in room 412. Office hours are from 7 am to 8 am on class days. Feel free to call me at home or at the office. My office phone number is (303) 860-5662, and I can be reached at home at night at (303) 333-1235.

Required materials: The textbook for this course is William N. Eskridge, Jr., Philip P. Frickey, and Elizabeth Garrett, Cases and Materials on Legislation: Statutes and the Creation of Public Policy (3rd ed. 2001). I will also distribute supplemental materials from time to time through student services (“SS Supp.”).

Optional reading: A helpful hornbook is Legislation by Eskridge, Frickey & Garrett (2000).

Class participation and attendance: I will add from 1 to 3 points to the final grade of those who participate consistently and thoughtfully in class discussion. Grades will not be adjusted downward due to lack of participation. As provided by law school rules, I will lower the grade of anyone who misses more than 20 percent of the classes during the semester.

Exam: There will be an essay final exam in this course. You may not bring to the exam any books, treatises, nutshells, commercially-prepared outlines, notes, or the like.

Optional paper: You may choose to write a short (i.e., 10-page) paper on a topic relevant to the course materials presented in class. If the grade on your paper is higher than your final examination grade, it will count for 25 percent of your final grade. If the grade on your paper is lower than your final examination grade, it will not be counted toward your final grade. The paper is due by 9:30 am the last day of class (Friday, April 16th).

Guest speakers and field trip: For a “real” look at the legislative process, we will have guest speakers from time to time. We will also take a field trip to the Colorado state legislature on March 19, 2007. Plan on spending that morning in Denver at the state capitol.

Syllabus: The following is a tentative schedule of topics and assignments we will cover during the semester:
I. Introduction and Models of the Legislative Process

Assignment #1 pp. 1-38 (January 24th 8:00 – 9:30 am)
Assignment #2 pp. 38-65 (January 24th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

Assignment #3 pp. 65-103 (January 31st 8:00 – 9:30 am)
Assignment #4 pp. 103-20 (January 31st 8:00 – 9:30 am)

II. Representational Structures

A. Theories of Representation and the Voting Rights Act

Assignment #5 pp. 121-52 (February 7th 8:00-9:30 am)
Assignment #6 pp. 152-89 (February 7th 8:00-9:30 am)

B. The 2000 Presidential Election


C. Eligibility to Serve in Congress

Assignment #8 pp. 189-219 (February 14th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

D. Executive Check on Legislative “Excesses”: the Line Item Veto

Assignment #9 pp. 446-49; 342-60; Colorado Constitution Art. 4, Section 12 (SS Supp.) (February 21st 8:00 – 9:30 am)

E. Campaign Finance Reform

Assignment #10 pp. 227-45 (February 21st 8:00 – 9:30 am)
Assignment #11 pp. 245-53; Material on Colorado Campaign Finance Reform (SS Supp.); pp. 254-58; Materials on the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 (SS Supp.) (February 28th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

III. Citizen Initiatives: The Alternative to the Legislative Process
Assignment #12 pp. 499-505; 518-28; 556-57 (February 28th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

IV. Statutory Interpretation and Implementation

A. Theories of Interpretation

Assignment #13 pp. 669-707 (March 7th 8:00 – 9:30 am)
Assignment #14 pp. 707-42 (March 7th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

Assignment #15 pp. 742-72 (March 12th 8:00 – 9:30 am)
Assignment #16 pp. 772-816 (March 12th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

B. Canons, Presumptions and Clear-Statement Rules

Assignment #17 pp. 817-848 (March 19th 8:00 – 9:30 am)
Assignment #18 pp. 848-73 (March 19th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

Assignment #19 pp. 873-908 (April 4th 8:00 – 9:30 am)
Assignment #20 pp. 909-20 (April 4th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

Assignment #21 pp. 920-47 (April 9th 8:00 – 9:30 am)
Assignment #22 pp. 947-63 (April 9th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

Assignment #23 pp. 979-1003 (April 16th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

V. The Role of Agencies in Lawmaking and Interpretation

Assignment #24 pp. 1061-81 (April 16th 8:00 – 9:30 am)

FINAL EXAM – Friday, April 20th at 1:15 pm