SYLLABUS
First Amendment, Fall, 2007

Basic information:

This course covers both freedom of religion and freedom of speech. The casebook is Choper et al, Constitutional Law (tenth ed., Thompson/West). We will also have assignments in Garvey and Schauer, The First Amendment: A Reader (second ed., West). The grade is based on a 2 ½ closed book final exam and 3-page essay due on Monday, December 3 [see “Writing assignment,” below]. My office phone is 303-492-8428, and my email is Robert.Nagel@Colorado.edu. My office is room 430. You may make an appointment to see me by phone or email, or you may stop by my office at any time.

Writing assignment:
[please type in from hard copy]

Reading list:

A. Freedom of Religion

Establishment Clause: Choper, pp. 1061-1131; Garvey and Schauer, Berns at 428, Cahn at 433, Howe at 436, Bradley at 439, Johnson at 486, Smith at 492, Dellinger at 544, and Carter at 558.

Free Exercise Clause: Choper, pp. 1131-1177; Garvey and Schauer, McConnell at 580.

B. Freedom of Speech

Illegal advocacy: Choper, pp. 587-628; Garvey and Schauer, Gunther at 24, Emerson at 47, Mill at 58

Reputation and Privacy: Choper, pp. 628-667; Garvey and Schauer, Kalven at 103, Bollinger at 137, Blasi at 208

Obscenity: Choper, pp. 667-685; MacKinnon at 349

Vagueness and over-breadth: pp. 685-688

Offensive speech: Choper, pp. 688-699, 708-737, 811-832

Symbolic speech: Choper, pp. 737-782

Commercial speech: Choper, pp. 782-804
Prior restraints: Choper, pp. 832-859; Garvey and Schauer, Blasi at 279

Newsgathering: Choper, pp. 860-888

Public forum doctrine: Choper, pp. 888-917

Government support: Choper, pp. 917-935

Schools: Choper, pp. 935-960

Electronic media: Choper, pp. 960-1003

Elections: Choper, pp. 1035-1060