

Landmark Supreme Court Case Presentations (Updated Spring 2019)

U.S. Government--Strahn

This assignment is worth 100 points. From the establishment of judicial review in *Marbury v. Madison*, the United States Supreme Court has issued many significant and monumental decisions that have altered the general course of life in the United States. The Court's decisions have played a giant role in defining our system of government and ultimately our way of life. You and **TWO PARTNERS** are charged with researching a landmark Supreme Court case and presenting your information to the class in the form of a PowerPoint or other type of presentation.

Presentation Details: Your 8-10 minute presentation must consist of:

- at least 7 slides and **no more than** 12.
- a visually engaging mixture of high-quality images and a limited amount of **original** and well-edited text.
- One slide needs to be a listing of **AT LEAST FIVE** related URL references
- The following information:
 - Who are the key players in the case?
 - What are the differing sides/positions in the case?
 - What relevant background/context exists regarding the case?
 - What related Supreme Court cases (before or after) are especially relevant? Why?
 - Explain the decision of the Supreme Court.
 - Were there any opposing/dissenting opinions? If so, what was the essence of their position?
 - What "precedent" was established with this decision?
 - How does this precedent relate to the Constitution and future Supreme Court decisions?
 - How does the decision in this case impact us today?
 - Develop 2 questions for discussion and engage the class in a discussion of these issues. Discussion Questions must be pre-approved by Mr. Strahn **AT LEAST ONE DAY BEFORE SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS**. When presenting, be sure to provide the class with your own answer to the questions as well.

Project Work Time: We will be in the library on **Thursday, April 18th, Friday, April 19th, and Monday, April 20th**. Any additional work must be completed at home and on your own time.

Project Due Date: Presentation due dates will be determined by lottery. **All presentations must be shared with Mr. Strahn on or before the assigned presentation date.** All presentations will take place on **Thursday, April 25th-Tuesday, April 30th**.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are absent the date of your presentation (without a medical excuse and prior communication with Mr. Strahn (derek.strahn@bsd7.org or 522-6697), you will receive a zero for this assignment.

Choose **ONE** of the following cases to use for your project. Cases will be determined by lottery. Those presenting first will get to choose first. Each presentation team must present on a different case. Repeats will not be allowed. I suggest researching a few options this evening and come with a list of your top three. **NOTE:** **If there is another case that you would like to research that is not on this list, please see Mr. Strahn for permission to do so.**

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

(AGE/RACE/GENDER/RELIGION):

Korematsu v. United States (1944)
Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka (1954)
Loving v. Virginia (1967)
Rostker v. Goldberg (1981)
Regents of the University of California v. Bakke (1978)
DeShaney v. Winnebago County Social Services (1989)
United States v. Virginia (1996)
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission v. Abercrombie & Fitch Stores, Inc., 2015

DEFENDANT RIGHTS:

Miranda v. Arizona (1966)
Gideon v. Wainwright (1963)
Kent v. United States (1966)

SCHOOL RELATED ISSUES:

Ingraham v. Wright (1977)
Bethel School District #43 v. Fraser (1987)
West Side Community Schools v. Mergens (1990)
Vernonia School District v. Acton (1995)
Santa Fe Independent School District v. Jane Doe (2000)
Board of Education of Pottawatomie County v. Earls (2002)
Grutter v. Bollinger (2003)

DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUAL

ORIENTATION:

Boy Scouts of American v. Dale (2000)
Obergefell v. Hodges (2015)
Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission(2018)

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT:

Gregg vs. Georgia (1976)
Roper v. Simmons (2005)

FREEDOM OF RELIGION:

Engel v. Vitale (1962)
Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of N.Y., Inc. v. Village of Stratton (2002)
Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc. (2014)

BIRTH CONTROL/ABORTION:

Roe v. Wade (1973)
Griswold v. Connecticut (1965)
Planned Parenthood of SE Pennsylvania et al. v. Casey (1992)

TERRORISM:

Boumediene v. Bush (2008)

ELECTIONS/POLITICS:

Bush v. Gore, 2000
Citizens United vs. Federal Election Commission, 2010
National Federation of Independent Business vs. Sebelius, 2012
United States vs. Nixon, 1974

END OF LIFE:

Cruzan v. Director, Missouri Department of Health, 1990

GUN OWNER RIGHTS:

D.C. vs. Heller, 2008

SEARCHES AND SEIZURES:

Mapp v. Ohio (1961)
Terry v. Ohio (1968)
New Jersey v. T.L.O. (1985)
Riley v. California (2014)

FREEDOM OF SPEECH:

Tinker v. Des Moines School District (1969)
New York Times Co. v United States (1971)
United States v. Eichman (1990)

Resources for Your Research:

1. Moodle Page-In the Passport to Citizenship section there is a document called "Case Summaries." This document has a one page summary of several cases to help you choose which one sounds most interesting and to help you start your research. There are also links to Findlaw.com and Oyez.com which provide background information about all court cases in the United States.
2. Berg Library website-Ebsco and SIRS will also have information regarding most major cases.
3. Search "List of Landmark Court Decisions in United States" and a wiki page with helpful classifications and summaries will emerge.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_landmark_court_decisions_in_the_United_States