

Federal Courts
Introduction to the Class

1. new name of course
2. Syllabus: what is covered, what isn't
3. Hart & Wechsler casebook & 2007 Supplement
4. class sessions per topic; mini-syllabi & TWEN
5. "specially prepared" students
6. seating chart & attendance
7. grading
8. study aids
9. contacting me: michael.solimine@uc.edu; office hours

Introduction to the topic (pp. 1-20, 28-54 of casebook)

1. historical development of the federal courts
 - (a) Madisonian Compromise (pp. 8-9)
 - (b) scope of jurisdiction (pp. 12-17)
 - (c) Evarts Act of 1891 (p.37)
 - (d) non-Article III courts and judges (pp. 43-48)
2. separation of powers and federalism as underlying themes
 - (a) flexible/weak v. rigid/strong versions of separation of powers
 - (b) Nationalist model v. Federalist model for resolving federalism issues (but note historical changes in use of nomenclature, e.g., p.3)