The seminar will focus on five landmark Supreme Court cases from the past 50 years with a view to exploring how politics and law interact, the different approaches to constitutional judgment and rhetoric, and the impact of the Court’s decisions on American lives. We will find the late Justice Antonin Scalia at the center of this discussion throughout the week, as we consider how his focus on constitutional “originalism” and the Constitution’s structural checks and balances, both rooted in his view of the courts’ properly limited role in republican government, profoundly changed the way in which Americans view the Constitution and constitutional law.

**Resources:** To learn more about other important figures in constitutional law, we encourage you to visit [ContemporaryThinkers.org](http://ContemporaryThinkers.org), a website covering the ideas and influence of pioneering intellectuals of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Sponsored by the Hertog Foundation, ContemporaryThinkers.org includes sites devoted to Walter Berns, Martin Diamond, Herbert Storing, and many others.

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**Monday, July 24, 2017, 9:00 am to Noon**

**Griswold: The Return of Judge-Made Liberties**

**Readings:**

- *Federalist* No. 78 (1788)
- Brutus, No. 15 (1788)
- Holmes’s Dissent in *Lochner v. New York* (1905)
Tuesday, July 25, 2017, 9:00 am to Noon

**Heller**: The Triumph of Justice Scalia’s Originalist Jurisprudence

*Readings:*


Wednesday, July 26, 2017, 9:00 am to Noon

**Noel Canning**: Tradition versus originalism

*Readings:*

- *Federalist* No. 37 (1788)
- Office of Legal Counsel Opinion on Recess Appointments, January 6, 2012

Thursday, July 27, 2017, 9:00 am to Noon

**Morrison**: Taking structure seriously

*Readings:*

- *Federalist* No. 51 (1788)
- *Federalist* No. 70 (1788)

Friday, July 28, 2017

**Smith**: Rights and Republicanism

*Readings:*