

Curriculum Vitae

Mark W. Denniston

1 Contact Information

Criminal Justice Department
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2 Education

Ph.D., University of Colorado at Boulder (2012), Political Science
Fields: American Politics, Political Theory, International Relations
M.A., University of Colorado at Boulder (2007), Political Science
J.D., University of Iowa College of Law (2000)
B.A., Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa (1997)
Majors: Political Science, History, German; Minor: Economics

3 Professional Positions

Assistant Professor, Weber State University, 2013 - present
Teaching undergraduate classes in Constitutional Rights, Laws of Evidence, Criminal Law and Courts and Introduction to Criminal Justice as well as Legal Foundations of Criminal Justice as a Master's level class. I also advise pre-law students.

Visiting Lecturer, University of Denver, 2012 – 2013
Implemented Constitutional Convention simulations in my American Politics classes and U.S. Supreme Court simulations for my Constitutional Law classes to promote student engagement with timely political and legal issues.

Instructor, University of Colorado, 2007 – 2013
Taught courses across a variety of American politics topics.

Instructor, Colorado State University, 2011 – 2012
Taught classes including Constitutional Law, American Political Theories, History of Political Thought, and Current World Problems while assisting two GTAs prepare their first lectures for my Current World Problems class.

Lecturer, Regis University, 2010 – 2011
Taught courses on U.S. Elections, Constitutional Law and Civil Liberties, as well as Courts and Judicial Process.

Attorney, Stuyvesant & Benton Law Firm, Carlisle, Iowa, 2002 – 2005
Practiced law primarily in criminal defense, domestic relations and probate areas. Responsible for prosecuting violations of city ordinances as Assistant City Attorney for the cities of Pella, Knoxville, Carlisle, and Pleasantville.

Law Clerk, Iowa Supreme Court for Justice Jerry L. Larson, 2000 - 2002
Researched cases and authored memoranda synthesizing my research and the arguments from the parties' briefs. Edited opinions drafted by Justice Larson. Screened applications for further review from decisions of the Iowa Court of Appeals.

4 Teaching

4.1 *Certificate in College Teaching, Graduate Teacher Program*
Completed at University of Colorado at Boulder in 2012

4.2 *Assistant Professor: Weber State University*

Legal Foundations of Criminal Justice (Masters): Fall 2014, Fall 2015
Constitutional Rights. Each semester Fall 2013—Fall 2015 and Summer 2014, 2015
Laws of Evidence. Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015
Criminal Law and Courts. Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015
Introduction to Criminal Justice. Fall 2013, Spring and Fall 2014, Spring and Fall 2015

4.3 *Visiting Lecturer: University of Denver*

Courts and Judicial Process. Winter 2013
Civil Rights and Liberties. Fall 2012
Introduction to American Politics. Fall 2012, Winter 2013

4.4 *Instructor: University of Colorado at Boulder*

Introduction to Legal Process. Spring 2013
Campaigns and Elections. Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Summer 2008, Spring 2010
State Government and Politics. Fall 2008, Summer 2011
The American Political System. Summer 2009, Summer 2010

4.5 *Instructor: Colorado State University, Ft. Collins*

American Constitutional Law. Spring 2012
History of Political Thought. Spring 2012
American Political Theories. Fall 2011
Current World Problems. Fall 2011

4.6 *Lecturer: Regis University, Denver*

Courts and Judicial Process. Fall 2011
Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties. Spring 2011
U.S. Elections and Political Behavior. Fall 2010.

4.7 *Teaching Assistant: University of Colorado at Boulder*

Survey of Western Political Thought. Spring 2012
Constitutional Law I. Fall 2006, Fall 2009, Fall 2010
Constitutional Law II. Spring 2007, Spring 2009, Spring 2011.
Environment and Public Policy. Spring 2007.
American Presidency. Spring 2006.

5 Research

5.1 *Research Interests*

I study American politics, including criminal justice issues and legal theory. My research interests are in state constitutional rights and judicial politics and my PhD dissertation focused upon state supreme court decision making concerning state constitutional rights. I am also interested in philosophy of law, constitutional history, as well as American political thought and federalism.
Specialties: state constitutional rights.

5.2 *Published Works*

Denniston, Mark W. (2014) *Dialogue Among State Supreme Courts: Advancing State Constitutionalism*. LFB Scholarly Publishing: El Paso.

5.3 *Conference Papers*

Denniston, Mark W. 2011. "When the U.S. Supreme Court is Not the Last Word: Dialogue Between State Supreme Courts and its Role in State Constitutionalism." Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois.

Denniston, Mark W. 2010. "A Dialogue of Equals: The Role of State Supreme Courts in Defining the Meaning of our American Constitutional Structure." Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois.

5.4 *Law Review Note*

Denniston, Mark W. 2000. "Correcting Past Mistakes: the Blaine Amendment, Stare Decisis, and the Supreme Court's Parochial School Funding Decisions."

6 Awards

Robert S. Hunt Legal History Award, University of Iowa, 2000

7 Service

Pre-Law Advising Associate, University of Colorado, 2010 – 2011.

Assist with annual CU Law School Fair, stand in for Pre-law Advisor during summer orientation events, meet with and advise students planning on attending law school.

Liberty Day contributor, Regis University, 2011. Wrote several informational backgrounders about the Bill of Rights for use by middle school teachers for Liberty Day.

Moot Court Judge, University of Colorado, 2009.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Graduate Student Representative, University of Colorado Political Science Department, 2007 - 2008.

Carlisle Betterment, member, 2004 - 2005

Met with community leaders on an economic development board dedicated to attracting economic and business development to the City of Carlisle, Iowa.

Iowa Law Review, Associate Editor, University of Iowa, 1999-2000

8 Professional Memberships

Western Association of Criminal Justice Professionals
Iowa State Bar Association