**Core Idea: The design of the judicial branch protects the Court’s independence as a branch of government, and the emergence and use of judicial review remains a powerful judicial practice**

-*Marbury v. Madison* (1803)-established judicial review and supremacy of Constitution

**Core Idea: Federalism reflects the dynamic distribution of power between the national and state governments**

-*McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)-Congress has implied powers (creating a bank), supremacy of national law over state law

-*United States v. Lopez* (1995)-Possession of a handgun near school is not an economic activity nor has a substantial effect on interstate commerce, and therefore cannot be regulated by Congress

**Core Idea: Provisions of the Bill of Rights are continually being interpreted to balance the power of government and the civil liberties of individuals**

-*Schenck v. United States* (1919)- Defendant's criticism of the draft was not protected by the First Amendment, because it created a clear and present danger to the enlistment and recruiting service of the U.S. armed forces during a state of war.

-*Engel v. Vitale* (1962)-Government-directed prayer in public schools violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, even if the prayer is denominationally neutral and students may remain silent or be excused from the classroom during its recitation.

-*Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District* (1969)- The First Amendment, as applied through the Fourteenth, did not permit a public school to punish a student for wearing a black armband as an anti-war protest, absent any evidence that the rule was necessary to avoid substantial interference with school discipline or the rights of others.

-*New York Times Company v. United States* (1971)-To exercise prior restraint, the Government must show sufficient evidence that the publication would cause a “grave and irreparable” danger.

-*Wisconsin v. Yoder* (1972)-The Wisconsin Compulsory School Attendance Law violated the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment because required attendance past the eighth grade interfered with the right of Amish parents to direct the religious upbringing of their children

**Core Idea: Protections of the Bill of Rights have been selectively incorporated by way of the 14th amendment’s “due process” clause to prevent state infringement of basic liberties**

-*Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963)-The Sixth Amendment right to counsel is a fundamental right applied to the states via the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution's due process clause, and requires that indigent criminal defendants be provided counsel at trial

-*Roe v. Wade* (1973)-Texas law making it a crime to assist a woman to get an abortion violated her due process rights.

-*McDonald v. Chicago* (2010)-The right to keep and bear arms for self-defense in one's home as protected under the Second Amendment is incorporated against the states through the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment

**Core Idea: The 14th amendment’s “equal protection” clause as we as other constitutional provisions have often been used to support the advancement of quality**

-*Brown v. Board of Education* (1954)-Segregation of students in public schools violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, because separate facilities are inherently unequal

**Core Idea: The impact of federal policies on campaigning and electoral rules continues to be contested by both sides of the political spectrum**

-*Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (FEC)* (2010)-The provisions of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act restricting unions, corporations, and profitable organizations from independent political spending and prohibiting the broadcasting of political media funded by them within 60 days of a general election or 30 days of a primary election violate the First Amendment's protections of freedom of speech

**Core Idea: The republican ideal in the U.S. is manifested in the structure and operation of the legislative branch**

-*Baker v. Carr* (1961)-The redistricting of state legislative districts is not a political question, and thus is justiciable by the federal courts

-*Shaw v. Reno* (1993)- Redistricting based on race must be held to a standard of strict scrutiny under the equal protection clause while bodies doing redistricting must be conscious of race to the extent that they must ensure compliance with the Voting Rights Act