

**FSEM 1111, Section 7**  
Fall Quarter, 2011  
CRN 4316  
MW 10:00-11:50  
SH 235

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SH 387-E

**FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR:  
CENSORSHIP, FREE SPEECH, AND LITERATURE**

**ESSAY #7-8: *Civil Liberties Post 9/11 (at home & abroad)***

For this next (and final) essay, you have several materials (texts, films, & audio programs) to consider:

- The United States Constitution, [http://www.constitution.org/constit\\_.htm](http://www.constitution.org/constit_.htm), and The US Bill of Rights, [http://www.constitution.org/billofr\\_.htm](http://www.constitution.org/billofr_.htm)
- The USA Patriot Act (HR 3162), [SEC. 215. ACCESS TO RECORDS AND OTHER ITEMS UNDER THE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT], <http://www.epic.org/privacy/terrorism/hr3162.html> & <http://epic.org/privacy/terrorism/usapatriot/default.html>
- The Campaign for Reader Privacy, <http://www.readerPrivacy.org/>
- The Freedom to Read Protection Act (HR 1157), [http://www.fas.org/irp/congress/2003\\_cr/hr1157.html](http://www.fas.org/irp/congress/2003_cr/hr1157.html)
- Nancy Chang, *Silencing Political Dissent*
- *Fahrenheit 9/11* (Moore), <http://video.google.com/>
- *Fahrenheit 451* (Bradbury and/or Hamilton and/or Truffaut)
- *Unconstitutional: The War on Our Civil Liberties*, <http://video.google.com/>
- “A Book Ban Overreaction” and other documents from our visit to the Law Library
- Marc Falkoff, ed., *Poems from Guantánamo*
- *This American Life*, “Habeas Schmabeas,” [http://www.thislife.org/Radio\\_Episode.aspx?episode=331](http://www.thislife.org/Radio_Episode.aspx?episode=331)
- John Peters, “Hard-Hearted Liberalism”
- Howard Saunders, *AxeMan*

Our primary texts for weeks seven and eight are *Silencing Political Dissent* and *Poems from Guantánamo*. This essay assignment invites you to examine those primary documents vis-à-vis the dialectical relationship between censorship and free speech as demonstrated by your critical engagement with at least five other works from the above list of materials. What are the factors that most significantly influence that balance in each case? How so and why?

Incorporate evidence (i.e. direct quotation) from all of your sources and provide a works cited page (either MLA or Chicago style). This essay calls for a synthetic, contextual study.

**Length: 2,000 words**  
**Due: Monday, November 7**