**CIVIL LIBERTIES IN THE UNITED STATES**

**Prof. Dennis CAMPBEL – guest lecturer**

Director of Center for International Legal Studies (CILS**)**

**Message from prof. Campbell for the class of 2021 spring semester:**

*“Civil Liberties in the United States will be taught online in the spring 2021 semester at ELTE. The good news for students is that the teaching will be “asynchronous” and not “synchronous”. This means that you can “attend” the classes when it is convenient for you and access my lectures, videos, and PowerPoint slides when you have time. You learn at your own pace so long as you complete all the classes (there will be 10 in this course) by the time the course concludes. In case you get lonely, there will be opportunities to connect by Zoom, email and smoke signal.*

*The spring semester will be an interesting time to look at civil liberties in the United States. President Biden will take office on 20 January and has promised to immediately rescind many of the executive orders issued by Donald Trump that restricted civil rights.”*

**Course description**

This course introduces students to the work of the United States Supreme Court and to the main outlines of American constitutional law, with an emphasis on development of American ideas about civil rights. The course outlines the major civil rights protections in the United States and how they are applied.

The principal topics are civil liberties in wartime, race relations, privacy rights, freedom of expression, freedom of religion, the right to a fair trial, the right to own a gun, the death penalty, the balancing of personal freedoms and public interest and the application of those rights in current American society.

**Materials**

All course materials are provided online as PDFs

**Assessment**

Assessment is by take home examination consisting of multiple choice and short essay questions.