

From Roe to Dobbs
HILR; Spring 2023
Course Description in the Catalog

301* From Roe to Dobbs

B Ruml

Readings: Excerpts from the relevant judicial cases, commentary in law reviews, and articles from the popular press will be provided on the course website.

When the US Supreme Court, in *Dobbs v. Women's Health*, overruled *Roe v. Wade* last June, most commentators criticized the decision for its untraditional way of analyzing the issues and for ignoring settled law. One said that the decision would certainly come to be known as one of the worst in the Court's history (*Dred Scott* is hard to beat!). Our reading and discussions will equip SGMs with the background to understand what the critics were talking about, focusing on the history of substantive due process, originalism as a judicial philosophy and *stare decisis* as it promotes stability in the law. We'll then reach our own conclusions about the appropriateness of the Court's ruling. There will be a lot of reading, most of it in judicial decisions. Nonlawyers welcomed and accommodated. Estimated outside work is three hours per week. Class size is limited to 24. This is a 10-week course starting February 27. **On Zoom.**

B Ruml, a long-ago law professor, would like to make more people aware of the profound changes resulting from the current composition of the Supreme Court.