

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910455505803321
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Titolo	American constitutionalism [[electronic resource] ] : from theory to politics // Stephen M. Griffin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Princeton, N.J., : Princeton University Press, c1996
ISBN	1-4008-0311-X 9786612730511 1-4008-2212-2 1-282-73051-7 1-4008-1187-2
Edizione	[Course Book]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (229 p.)
Disciplina	342.73/001 347.30201
Soggetti	Constitutional law - United States Constitutional law - Philosophy Electronic books. United States Politics and government
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Introduction -- One. American Constitutionalism -- Two. The Constitution and Political Institutions -- Three. Judicial Review and American Democracy -- Four. Problems of Constitutional Adjudication -- Five. Theories of Constitutional Interpretation -- Six. Constitutional Crisis and Reform -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Despite the outpouring of works on constitutional theory in the past several decades, no general introduction to the field has been available. Stephen Griffin provides here an original contribution to American constitutional theory in the form of a short, lucid introduction to the subject for scholars and an informed lay audience. He surveys in an unpolemical way the theoretical issues raised by judicial practice in the United States over the past three centuries, particularly since the Warren Court, and locates both theory and practices that have inspired dispute among jurists and scholars in historical context. At the same time he advances an argument about the distinctive nature of our

American constitutionalism, regarding it as an instance of the interpenetration of law and politics. American Constitutionalism is unique in considering the perspectives of both law and political science in relation to constitutional theory. Constitutional theories produced by legal scholars do not usually discuss state-centered theories of American politics, the importance of institutions, behaviorist research on judicial decision making, or questions of constitutional reform, but this book takes into account the political science literature on these and other topics. The work also devotes substantial attention to judicial review and its relationship to American democracy and theories of constitutional interpretation.

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