September 2011 marks the 224-year anniversary of the signing of the American Constitution, which is the oldest written constitution in the world still in effect today. While other countries with much younger constitutions have repeatedly amended or entirely rewritten their constitutions, the U.S. Constitution is noteworthy for its relatively small number of amendments – only 27 in 224 years.

In recognition of this year’s Constitution Day, USC students will host a round-table discussion on a U.S. Constitution for the 21st century.

- What amendments should be enacted to improve the Constitution? Should we have a balanced budget amendment? Should the mechanisms to amend the Constitution be used for social issues such as gay marriage and abortion?
- How does the First Amendment apply to new technology? Are constitutional reforms necessary to protect speech in the 21st century?
- What electoral reforms should be enacted to improve our democracy?
- Should the Constitution be amended to include a specific right to privacy?

For more information contact the Levan Institute for Humanities and Ethics at dornsife.usc.edu/levan