



SENIOR SEMINAR: THE MEANING OF CITIZENSHIP

POLS 492, SECTION 1, SPRING 2022, 12:30 - 1:45 T&TH, MG 308

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Physical Office Hours: T and TH, 11 am – noon (just stop by!)

Zoom Office Hours: W noon – 2 pm (email for link!)

Office Hours Don't Work? Appointments Available (let me know!)

Course Description

What does it mean to be a “citizen?” What rights do you receive with that title? What obligations do you have? What form of citizenship is ideal? What pressures does this institution face today, given new modes of transnational political and economic organization? Is immigration a benefit or a danger? And what moral obligations do we have to people who live outside of our borders?

As ongoing debates in this country and across the globe have demonstrated, we are living in a time of increasing confusion over who has the right to be called a citizen. This course is an exploration of the meaning of citizenship, designed to help you develop your own understanding of the term, its relation to your values, and the connection between your beliefs and political actions. Because of the wide-ranging nature of this question, it makes an especially good area for a senior seminar—we will draw from all the subfields of political science, using diverse analytical tools and modes of inquiry.

Over the course of this semester, you should:

- be able to clearly articulate the various conceptions of citizenship, as well as the major challenges facing traditional forms of political membership today.
- integrate this material with your other coursework.
- develop and explain your own understanding of the future of citizenship, applying it to your own experiences as a citizen.
- fine tune your “analytical thinking” about politics. This requires you to provide reasons for what you believe, to consider counterarguments, and to engage in an open dialogue with multiple perspectives.
- polish your ability to interpret texts and use textual evidence to support your claims and arguments, following standard ethical and scholarly practices for using sources.
- write clearly, creatively, persuasively.

This course has been designated to meet the Writing Instruction in the Disciplines (WID) graduation requirement. WID courses provide instruction in the processes and formats for the writing content and style needed to be an effective professional in a student's chosen field.

Course Requirements

Required Texts

Sophocles, *Antigone* (Hackett)

Dostoevsky, *The Grand Inquisitor* (Hackett)

Shafir, ed. *The Citizenship Debates* (U of MN Press)

Benhabib, *The Rights of Others* (Cambridge U Press)

Purchase of these editions of the texts is essential. (The only exception is if you've taken my POLS 381 course in the past and kept your books; *Theban Plays* contains Sophocles' *Antigone*, so you will not need to purchase it for this class.) To ensure that you're able to participate fully in discussions, always have your readings with you during class. Additional readings are available on Western Online (WO), and you should have these available to you during class sessions, as well.

Participation

Because it is a seminar, the majority of our class sessions will be conducted as in-depth discussions among everyone in the class. This means that the responsibility for engaging and meaningful learning in this course is shared among all of us, rather than simply being left up to me as your instructor. Therefore, it is crucial that everyone is **prepared to participate**. This means that you should complete the required readings carefully, taking notes in whichever style you find most useful (but one that involves some sort of writing), and review your notes before class. (See the section below about quizzes.)

For much of the class, we will have discussions, drawing on your reading, analyzing the texts and engaging in practical political thinking. Keep in mind that **participation includes many different things**—not only commenting on a passage, but also active listening, asking questions, reading aloud, helping another person find the right page, clarifying a point, and meeting with me during office hours.

Assignments and Grading

This course is designed to help you think analytically and creatively about politics. To help measure your progress, your final grade will be based on the following:

<i>Epitaphios Logos</i> :	50 points
Assessment Exam:	25 points
Quizzes:	100 points
Class Facilitation:	75 points
Two Drafts:	50 points (25 each)
Reflective Essay:	200 points

A:	466 points or more	C:	366-383 points
A-:	450-465 points	C-:	350-365 points
B+:	434-449 points	D+:	334-349 points
B:	416-433 points	D:	316-333 points
B-:	400-415 points	D-:	300-315 points
C+:	384-399	F:	299 points or less

Epitaphios Logos

For the ancient Greeks, one way to celebrate their city and their place in it was through funeral orations (*epitaphios logos*). For example, Pericles' famous funeral oration celebrated not only the soldiers' sacrifices for the city, but also the city's qualities, the privileges enjoyed by its citizens, and the ability of all citizens to be involved in governance in some way. In a **minimum of 600 words**, write a funeral oration for yourself. Over the course of the piece, it should become clear what contributions you have made to your community and what sort of community that is. Be sure to specify what sorts of rights and obligations are entailed in your community and your relationship to them. This assignment (worth 50 points) will be due in Western Online by 11:59 pm on February 8; late assignments will lose five points for each day they are late.

Assessment Exam

Each year, the Political Science Department administers an exam to all seniors to assess your learning in the major. This exam will be administered during class time on **January 25** and will include three critical readings and 40 multiple-choice questions. Your grade on this exam will not affect your grade in the course; however, you must score a 30% or better to earn the 25 points for completing the exam. In addition, the assessment exam will provide the one and only opportunity for extra credit in this course. Students scoring 70%-79% will earn 5 extra credit points, students scoring 80%-89% will earn 10 extra credit points, and students scoring 90% or more will earn 15 extra credit points.

Quizzes

Each day during class, a five-question quiz will be administered using Socrative; you will need to have your phone with you (charged up and ready to go!) to take the quizzes. These quizzes will be open note, meaning that you may use any notes that you have taken about the readings. Doing the assigned reading and taking notes to be ready for these quizzes is vital, not only for your performance on the quizzes, but also for your ability to productively participate in our discussions. Your two lowest quiz grades will be dropped from your final quiz average, which will be worth 100 points.

Class Facilitation

During the second half of the semester, you will be responsible for writing quiz and discussion questions for one of our readings. During class, you will lead a portion of the discussion of that reading using some of the questions you have written. Your facilitation—including your quiz questions, your discussion questions, and serving as a discussion leader in class—will be worth 75 points.

Reflective Essay & Drafts

Since this assignment is lengthy and is worth 200 points, a major part of your grade, please read the detailed instructions and rubric (both available on WO) carefully—early and often!—and contact me with any questions. Keeping up with the readings, preparing well for class, and taking good notes are the best and only ways to ensure that your essays are interesting and well written. To get feedback before the final reflective essay is due, you will turn in a draft of the “Exploration” section on March 10 and a draft of the “Explanation” section on March 31; each of these drafts will be worth 25 points.

Attendance

Because of the nature of this course, each meeting is critical and you are expected to attend the entirety of every class session; missing more than 10 minutes of class is considered an absence. Attendance will be taken daily and, after your first unexcused absence, **each additional unexcused absence will result in a 15-point grade deduction.** If you need to miss class for **any reason** and would like to have your absence excused **and** earn credit for that day’s missed quiz, please just contact me via email **before the end** of the class you will be missing (by **1:45 pm**). I will send you a writing prompt related to the topic discussed in class and you will have the opportunity to complete a **600-word assignment** to make up for the missed class discussion and quiz. This make-up assignment will be due via email before the next class period (unless you negotiate alternate arrangements with me) and will be graded, with that grade substituted for your missed quiz. Please note that if you do **not** email me **before the end** of the class you are missing, this option for an excused absence **will not be available.** No matter why you miss class and whether or not you choose to notify me or do the make-up assignment, it is **your responsibility** to find out what you missed from me or one of your classmates.

Email

During the workday (8 am to 5 pm), I usually respond to email within hours, but it does take me longer in the evenings and on weekends, when I try to spend time away from screens. For this reason, you should just assume that a) if you email me in the evening, you will hear back from me the next day and b) if you email me over the weekend, you will hear back from me on Monday; it is your responsibility to plan accordingly. It will help me get back to you more quickly when you include the number or name of the course (POLS 492 or Senior Seminar) in your subject heading.

Phones, COVID-19, and Classroom Guidelines

You will need a phone with you in class to take our daily quizzes, but phones should be put away once quizzes are complete. At the beginning of the semester, there will be a bank of five extra credit points available. Each time I see a phone when it's not quiz time, I will deduct one point from this bank. At the end of the semester, the number of points left in the bank will be added to each student's total points.

As required by the university, we will adhere to all current university COVID-19 protocols, which are available at http://www.wiu.edu/policies/covid_safety.php. Non-compliance with any university COVID-19 policy may be considered disruptive student behavior and disciplinary action will follow general process outlined in disruptive student behavior procedures (<http://www.wiu.edu/policies/disrupst.php>) and/or other applicable enforcement measures applicable to the Code of Student Conduct.

Finally, please be a good classroom citizen by avoiding leaving class early, taking frequent or daily trips to the restroom, holding conversations with your neighbors when someone else (me or a classmate) is talking, sleeping during class, and using tobacco during class. Students who make a habit of engaging in these or any other disruptive behaviors will receive one kind and gentle email warning and, if the behavior continues, a second public and potentially embarrassing in-class warning. After that, repeat offenders will be asked to leave.

Students with Disabilities

In accordance with University values and disability law, students with disabilities may request academic accommodations where there are aspects of a course that result in barriers to inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement. To file an official request for disability-related accommodations, please contact Disability Resources at 309-298-1884, sdsc@wiu.edu or in 125 Memorial Hall. Please notify me as soon as possible to ensure that this course is accessible to you in a timely manner.

Sex Discrimination and Sexual Assault or Misconduct

University values, Title IX, and other federal and state laws prohibit sex discrimination, including sexual assault/misconduct, dating/domestic violence, and stalking. If you, or someone you know, has been the victim of any of these offenses, we encourage you to report this to the Title IX Coordinator at 309-298-1977 or anonymously online at: http://www.wiu.edu/equal_opportunity_and_access/request_form/index.php.

If you disclose an incident to a faculty member, the faculty member must notify the Title IX Coordinator, no matter when or where the incident occurred. The complete Title IX policy is available at: <http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/titleIX.php>.

Student Rights and Responsibilities & Academic Integrity

You are required to familiarize yourself with the university's Student Rights and Responsibilities and Academic Integrity Policies, which are available at the following URLs:

<http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students/>

<http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>

Please pay special attention to the Academic Integrity Policy. I take academic integrity seriously, and all violations of this policy will be punished in accordance with the guidelines it describes; all assignments submitted containing any plagiarism will automatically earn zeroes.

Calendar

This schedule may be changed if the needs of the class or circumstances change. Changes will be announced in class and online, via email and/or on Western Online. It is your responsibility to come to class and to check your email and the course's Western Online page regularly. Readings should be done by the date next to which they are listed and should always be nearby during class. **Please reach out (e-taylor@wiu.edu) when you have questions!**

Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments
T Jan 18	Course Introduction		
TH Jan 20	What is a Seminar?		
T Jan 25	Facilitation Planning & Assessment		Assessment Exam Due by 1:45 pm
What Does it Mean to be a Citizen?			
TH Jan 27	Rights and Obligations	Sophocles, <i>Antigone</i> , pp. 1-58	
T Feb 1	Rights and Obligations	Pericles, "Funeral Oration" (WO) The Declaration of Independence (WO) US Bill of Rights (WO)	
TH Feb 3	Difficulties and Dangers	Dostoevsky, "Rebellion," "The Grand Inquisitor," pp. 7-37	
T Feb 8	Difficulties and Dangers	Putnam, "Bowling Alone" (WO)	<i>Epitaphios Logos</i> Due by 11:59 pm
TH Feb 10	Difficulties and Dangers	Havel, "The Power of the Powerless": Section I, p. 127; Sections III-IX, pp. 132-154; Sections XX-XXII, pp. 205-214 (WO)	
Forms of Citizenship			
T Feb 15	Reflective Essay Discussion	Reflective Essay Assignment Sheet	
TH Feb 17	Classical	Pocock, "The Ideal of Citizenship Since Classical Times," pp. 31-41 (CD-Citizenship Debates book)	
T Feb 22	Liberal	Schuck, "Liberal Citizenship" (WO)	
TH Feb 24	Civic Republican	Adrian Oldfield, "Citizenship and Community: Civic Republicanism and the Modern World," pp. 75-89 (CD)	
T Mar 1	Social Democratic	T.H. Marshall, "Citizenship and Social Class," pp. 93-111 (CD)	
TH Mar 3	Multicultural	Will Kymlicka, "Multicultural Citizenship," pp. 167-188 (CD)	
T Mar 8	Feminist	Kathleen Jones, "Citizenship in a Woman-Friendly Polity," pp. 221-250 (CD)	
TH Mar 10	Focus Group with Dr. B.		Exploration Draft Due by 11:59 pm
T Mar 15 TH Mar 17	SPRING BREAK!		

What Do We Owe Each Other?			
T Mar 22	Justice and Fairness	John Rawls, "Justice as Fairness in the Liberal Polity," pp. 53-74 (CD)	
TH Mar 24	Sacrifice and Trust	Danielle Allen, <i>Talking to Strangers</i> , pp. 1-49 (WO)	
T Mar 29	Citizenship and Inclusion	Bhambra, "Citizens and Others" & Barack Obama, "A More Perfect Union" (both on WO)	
TH Mar 31	Class Facilitation Instructions	Class Facilitation Assignment Sheet	Explanation Draft Due by 11:59 pm
Contemporary Challenges			
T Apr 5	Who Are "We"? <i>Student-Facilitated</i>	Smith, "The 'American Creed' and American Identity" & "The Challenges Facing American Citizenship Today" pp. 679-681 (both on WO)	
TH Apr 7	Who Are "We"? <i>Student-Facilitated</i>	"Immigration & National Identity" Symposium, <i>Perspectives on Politics</i> (WO)	
T Apr 12	Not "We" <i>Student-Facilitated</i>	Hainmueller et al., "Catalyst or Crown" & USCIS, A Guide to Naturalization (both on WO)	
TH Apr 14	Not "We" <i>Student-Facilitated</i>	Lenard, "Democratic Citizenship and Denationalization" & Burki, "Statelessness in the COVID-19 Pandemic" (both on WO)	
T Apr 19	Changing Locations For Citizenship <i>Student-Facilitated</i>	Bauböck, "Expansive Citizenship" & Munro, "Integration Through Participation" (both on WO)	
TH Apr 21	The Effort to Redefine Citizenship <i>Student-Facilitated</i>	Smith, "Legal Civic Orders and Equitable Lived Citizenships" & Castles, "Hierarchical Citizenship in a World of Unequal Nation-States" (both on WO)	
Human Rights, Citizenship, and Sovereignty			
T Apr 26	Human Rights	Universal Declaration of Human Rights & "The Long and Influential Life of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" (both on WO)	
TH Apr 28	Benhabib	Benhabib, <i>The Rights of Others</i> pp. 1-69	
T May 3	Benhabib	Benhabib, <i>The Rights of Others</i> pp. 129-169	
TH May 5	Benhabib	Benhabib, <i>The Rights of Others</i> pp. 171-221	
T May 10	Final Exam Period		Reflective Essay Due by 2:50 pm