Citizenship, Immigration & the Nation-State

COURSE OVERVIEW
Our political discourse is inundated with talk of citizenship. In this course we will examine various theories of citizenship, paying particular attention to the way the increasing complexity and multiculturalism of societies have challenged our understanding of citizenship and the impact of immigration and ethnic identities on our understanding of this concept. We will also consider how different conceptions of citizenship address the challenges raised by both global and local forces. After an overview of different theories of citizenship, we explore the debates about political rights and representation for oppressed groups and minorities and consider the nationalist and cosmopolitan understandings of civic identity. What should be the criteria for citizenship? What kind of citizenship and rights does democracy demand? Do undocumented immigrants have constitutional rights? What role do courts play in defining citizenship rights? Do current confusions in Europe over the relationship between the nation and citizenship support the separation of nation from the state? Can there be global or transnational citizenship? The reading material is normative, cross-disciplinary and comparative. The main goal is for students to gain a strong foundation, which will enable them to pursue their own research agendas.

Course Objectives
The primary objective of this course is for you to develop skills essential to thinking analytically and critically about the normative issues regarding citizenship and to help you define, refine and articulate your own theoretical viewpoints.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Take-Home Midterm: 40%
- Paper (20-25 pages): 60%
- Active participation in class discussions

REQUIRED TEXT: Required books are available at the NYU Bookstore. All other assigned reading material is available via NYU Classes. Readings from additional sources may also be assigned.

- Ronald Beiner, ed., Theorizing Citizenship
- Will Kymlicka, Multicultural Citizenship
- Gershon Shafir, ed., The Citizenship Debates
- Carol M. Swain, ed., Debating Immigration
CALENDAR OF ASSIGNMENTS
This calendar may be revised as the semester goes on.

Introduction to the Course
• Review of the objectives and expectations of the course.

Conceptualizing Citizenship

Liberal Democracy & Citizenship

Citizenship Rights
• Charles Tilly, “Where Do Rights Come From?” in Theda Skocpol, Democracy, Revolution and History, pp. 55-72.

Normative Theories of National Citizenship

Normative Theories Challenging National Citizenship
Civic/Constitutional Patriotism, National Identity and Citizenship


The Foreigner as Citizen: Citizenship in US

- Rogers Smith, “A Pioneering People” in *Stories of Peoplehood*, pp. 175-212.

Multicultural Citizenship

- Will Kymlicka, *Liberalism, Community, and Culture*, Chapters 7-9 (pp. 135-205).
- Will Kymlicka, *Multicultural Citizenship*, Chapters 1-2, 5-6, 8 (pp. 1-33, 75-130 and 152-172).
- Brian Barry, *Culture and Equality*, 169-193

Immigration, Borders and Citizenship

- Peter Schuck, “The Immigration System Today” in *Citizens, Strangers, and In-Betweens*.

Rights of Aliens


Contestations of Citizenship and the Politics of Restriction: a Comparative View

Gender and Citizenship
• Susan M. Okin, “Is Multiculturalism Bad for Women?” in Joshua Cohen and Matthew Howard (eds) Is Multiculturalism Bad for Women?.

Capitalism, Democracy and Citizenship
• Samuel Bowles and Herbert Gintis, Democracy and Capitalism, Chapter 3.
• http://billmoyers.com/episode/on-winner-take-all-politics/.

Citizens and Transnationalism