

Fa18-PHIL-0020-01-Intro to Civic Studies

CVS 20, TCS 20, PHIL 20, PS 20

Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:30AM- 11:45AM
Lincoln-Filene Hall, Rabb Room

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Civic Studies is an interdisciplinary field of study that focuses on critical reflection, ethical thinking, and action for social change. People who think and act together to improve society must address problems of collective action (how to get members to work together) and deliberation (how to reason together about contested values). They must understand how power is organized and how it operates within and between societies. They must grapple with social conflict, violence, and other obstacles to peaceful cooperation. When tensions arise within a group, people face questions of justice and fairness, and they must confront questions about appropriate relationships to outsiders of all types. This introductory course explores ethical, political, and theological frameworks for understanding how people can and should organize themselves to improve societies. Readings are drawn from philosophy and political theory, economics, the history of social movements, and other disciplines. This course provides theoretical grounding for Civic Studies majors and for other students interested in social change.

Course readings:

Mark Lilla, *The Once and Future Liberal: After Identity Politics*. On order at the Tufts bookstore.

Recommended: David Grann, *Killers of the Flower Moon*.

All other readings available on the course Canvas site.

Final grades will depend on:

- 10% class participation
- 25% first paper (5-7 pages)
- 25% second paper (5-7 pages)

- 30% a [simulation](#) (a group exercise that comprises six short writing assignments, each worth 5%)
- 10% in-class midterm exam

Papers

The course is part of the Writing Fellows Program. The Writing Fellows are: Kat Kakkis, Muna Mohamed, Owen Finnegan, and Jesse Ryan. They will stop by to introduce themselves and explain the program, and will eventually let you know who your assigned Fellow will be.

You will be required to meet with your Writing Fellow, in order to review and revise your first paper as follows:

1. Draft of paper due on October 1, at 5 PM, via email, in Word format
2. Meet with your Writing Fellow, to discuss your paper
3. Revise your paper accordingly
4. Revised paper and short note on revisions due by 5 PM on October 15, via turnitin.com.

For the final paper:

1. Draft due on December 10, at 5PM, via email, in Word format
2. Meet with your Writing Fellow, to discuss your paper
3. Revise your paper accordingly
4. Revised paper and short note on revisions due by 5 PM, on December 20, via turnitin.com.

You must arrange to meet your writing fellow and review your draft. If you do not, your paper will not be graded, and you will fail the assignment. Also, please note that both deadlines matter: your first draft should be a serious attempt at a paper, rather than an opportunity for an extension. We will look at both.

Please note that the final versions of papers are to be submitted using turnitin.com. Please visit <http://turnitin.com/static/index.html>, and set up an account if you do not have one already. Once you have an account, you may access the assignment page for this course by using the following information: Class ID: 18975047, Password: Ostrom. Please familiarize yourself with this system early on and let us know if you encounter any difficulties. Last minute problems with it will not constitute an acceptable excuse for late submissions. If you have questions or concerns about turnitin.com, please see turnitin.com.

Also, please review Tufts' academic integrity policy at:

<http://students.tufts.edu/student-affairs/student-life-policies/academic-integrity-policy>

Any suspected violations of Tufts' policies will be referred to the Dean of Student Affairs Office.

We will expect you to submit all written work by the relevant deadline, except in cases of medical or family emergency. In the latter, please contact us as soon as possible to let us know what the problem is. In all other cases, beyond the due date, papers will be penalized by one grade (e.g., A→B) per day for the first three days. We will not accept papers more than three days late.

September 5

Introduction

September 10: A “feeling of personal responsibility for the world”

- Summer Institute of Civic Studies [Framing Statement](#) .
- Vaclav Havel, [Address at Wroclaw University](#) (December 21, 1992)
- Martin Luther King, Jr. [The Time for Freedom has Come](#) (1961). [Easier to read [PDF](#)].

September 12: What is a citizen? Who is a citizen?

- Aristotle, [Politics III.1-5](#) .

September 17: The citizen in a modern democracy

- John Dewey, *The Public and its Problems*, Chapter 5, "[Search for the Great Community](#)." "

Problems of Collective Action

September 19: Elinor Ostrom and the Bloomington School

- Elinor Ostrom, [Nobel Prize Lecture](#) (video or text)

September 24: Ostrom Continued

- Thomas Dietz, Nives Dolsak, Elinor Ostrom, and Paul C. Stern, "[The Drama of the Commons](#) in Elinor Ostrom, ed., *Drama of the Commons*, pp. 3-26.
- Elinor Ostrom, "[Covenants, Collective Action, and Common-Pool Resources](#)"

September 26: Collective Action Problems at Scale

- James Madison, [The Federalist #10](#).
- Jane Mansbridge, *Beyond Adversary Democracy*, [pp. 23-35, 59-76, 163-182 293-8](#)

October 1: Spontaneous Order

- Friedrich Hayek, "[The Pretence of Knowledge](#) ," Nobel Prize Lecture (1974)
- "[Friedrich Hayek](#)" in the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*
- James C. Scott, [Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed](#), Introduction (pp. 1-8), Chapter 3 "Authoritarian High Modernism"

Draft of first paper due

October 3: Social Capital as a Solution

- Robert D. Putnam, "[Community-Based Social Capital and Educational Performance](#)," in Ravitch and Viteritti, eds., *Making Good Citizens*, pp. 58-95

Identifying Good Ends and Means

October 9: Habermas and Deliberative Democracy


- Jürgen Habermas, "[The Public Sphere: An Encyclopedia Article](#)," *New German Critique*, 3 (1974), pp. 49-55
- Jürgen Habermas, *Between Facts and Norms*, pp. 17-23, 38-41

[First group assignment](#) due

October 10: Habermas Continued

- Jürgen Habermas, *Between Facts and Norms*, pp. 359-379

October 15: Implementing Deliberative Democracy

- Tina Nabatchi, Matt Leighninger, *Public Participation for 21st Century Democracy* (2015), [pp. 241-285 and 305-324](#)
- Danielle E. Allen, [Talking to Strangers: Anxieties of Citizenship Since Brown, v. Board of Education](#)  pp 140-186

Final draft of first paper due

October 17: Scholars in Public Deliberation

Visiting speaker: Prof. Jonathan Garlick


- Bent Flyvbjerg, "[Social Science that Matters](#)" (2006)

(additional reading)

October 22: John Rawls


John Rawls, *A Theory of Justice*, pp. 3-19, 52-57

October 24: John Rawls, continued

- John Rawls, "The Idea of Public Reason Revisited"
- Nina Eliasoph, [Avoiding Politics](#), pp. 1-22 
- Lynn Sanders, "[Against Deliberation](#)"

Exclusion and Identity

October 29




- Audre Lorde, "[The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House.](#)"
- Steve Biko, "[Black Consciousness and the Quest for True Humanity](#)" 
- [The Book of Nehemiah](#)

[Second group assignment](#) due



October 31: Identity and the Common Good

- Lilla, *The Once and Future Liberal*

November 5: Social Movements



- Charles Tilly, "[Social Movements, 1768-2004](#)" 
- Jürgen Habermas, [Theory of Communicative Action, vol. 2, pp. 391-6](#). 
- Marshall Ganz, "[Why David Sometimes Wins: Strategic Capacity in Social Movements](#)" , in Jeff Goodwin and James M. Jasper, *Rethinking Social Movements: Structure, Meaning, and Emotion* (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2004) pp.177-98.

November 7: Community Organizing



- Saul Alinsky, [Reveille for Radicals](#) , 1946 (1969 edition), pp. 76-81; 85-88; 92-100, 132-5, 155-158.
- Myles Horton and Paulo Freire, [We Make the Road by Walking](#) , pp. 115-138

November 14: Midterm in class

November 19: Nonviolent Campaigns

- Martin Luther King, [Stride Toward Freedom](#) , chapters 3, 4, and 5.
- Erica Chenoweth and Maria J. Stephan, [Why Civil Resistance Works: The Strategic Logic of Nonviolent Conflict, chapters 1 and 2](#) 

November 26: Nonviolence


- Bikhu Parekh, *Gandhi*, [Chapter 4 \("Satyagraha"\)](#), pp. 51-62 
- Timothy Garton Ash, "[Velvet Revolution: The Prospects](#)" " *New York Review of Books*, December 3, 2009

The Person in Community

November 28: Plato, *Apology of Socrates*

December 3: Plato, *Apology of Socrates*; *Crito*

December 5: Civic Education: What all this means for what students should learn

- Joel Westheimer and Joseph E. Kahne, "[Educating the 'Good Citizen': Political Choices and Pedagogical Goals](#)" , *PS Online*

Third group assignment due

December 10: Civic Studies at Tufts and Beyond

Draft of second paper due

Dec. 20: Final paper due.