

PT150 Global Citizenship

Seminar Leader: Dr. Nassim Abi Ghanem

Email: n.abighanem@berlin.bard.edu

Office Hours: Wed 12-1 and 3-4pm or by appointment

Course Description

Citizenship is traditionally a concept associated with nation-state, and at base signifies the status of belonging to a bounded political order and the rights and duties this entails. Yet economic, legal, and technological globalization increasingly call state boundaries into question. Transnational challenges such as climate change, forced migration, epidemics, weapons of mass destruction, and terrorism also require collective action on global scale. In this context, global citizenship has been promoted both as a sensibility and as an emerging reality. This course explores the notion of global citizenship from its philosophical foundations. We also address cultural and political perspectives, thinking critically about what global citizenship can and should mean. Building on these investigations, we explore the contemporary experiences and movements through which a future idea or reality of global citizenship might be shaped. The heart of the course will be in an interdisciplinary exploration of two of the transnational problems already noted above – climate change and ethno-nationalist conflicts – through readings and discussion on novels, historical work, film, social theory, scientific research, and policy documents. We present and compare rising political and social movements relevant to the definition of the category of the citizenship across the globe. Texts will include essays by Immanuel Kant, Hannah Arendt, Jürgen Habermas, Edward Said, Marth Nussbaum, Craig Calhoun, along with Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines*, Tayib Salih's *Season of Migration to the North*, Barbara Kingslover's *Flight Behavior* and Michael Winterbottom's *In This World*. This course will also be part of a collaborative one with Bard's international partner institutions over the world.

Requirements

- 1) Image and Concept Map Assignments (5% and 20% respectively). Students will have to choose an image that symbolizes what global citizenship means to you and post it on your campus column on the course padlet. Along with the image, include (1) a brief explanation (50 words or so) of why you chose this image and what definition or vision of global citizenship it points toward; (2) a meaningful hashtag that captures your thinking on global citizenship. Students should also comment on at least two other postings from another campus. The concept map is an assignment that triggers creativity by encouraging analytical and critical thinking about the main concept in the course and is an opportunity to create further linkages among the sections. This

assignment will be performed individually and in groups over several class sessions in order to create a single concept map for the class. The maps will also be posted on Padlet and exchanged across sections and students will be able to comment on them. The concept map starts on week 4.

- 2) Activity and Collaborations (25%). Students will be given a detailed requirement for the various short collaboration activities with fellow students at other Bard College Campuses. Details will follow.
- 3) Final Paper (35%). Students will be given a detailed requirement for the final paper later in the semester. The final paper will also address a question but will also include positionality of the author.
- 4) Class Preparation and Participation (15%). The course is very much based on discussion and class engagements. The grade includes regular attendance and active engagement in the discussions. It also reflects on your preparedness to that class and that you read the material beforehand. **Moreover, you will be assigned weeks (max 2 per student) in which you will provide a synopsis of one of the assigned readings.**

General observations: Please do not be late to class, make sure you are on time and respectful of your colleague's time. If you are more than five minutes late to class, you will be counted as absent for the day (check attendance policy below). It is expected that you read all the required readings before the class. You may be randomly asked to provide a synopsis of the reading at the beginning of the session.

The due papers need to be of your own work, and researched material should be properly cited. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in automatic failing grade on the assignment (see Academic Integrity section below).

Attendance

Attendance at all classes is a crucial part of the education offered by Bard College Berlin. To account for minor circumstances, two absences from twice-per-week courses or the equivalent (e.g. one absence from a once-per-week course) should not affect the participation grade or require documentation.

Kindly make sure you are on time and respectful of your colleague's time. If you are more than five minutes late to class, you will be counted as absent for the day

Bard College Berlin does not offer credit for any course in which a student has missed more than 30% of classes, regardless of the reasons for the absences. The full Bard College Berlin attendance policy can be found in the Student Handbook, Section 2.8.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR FALL 2022: Please notify the University administration and myself if you are unable to start the semester due to travel restrictions caused by the on-going pandemic. Accordingly online sessions will also be arranged for those not physically in

Germany. In the event that we go into another lockdown, all sessions will migrate to Zoom. Details will be provided in such a case.

Please refrain from in-person attendance if you feel you are ill.

Academic Integrity

Bard College Berlin maintains the highest standards of academic integrity and expects students to adhere to these standards at all times. Instances in which students fail to meet the expected standards of academic integrity will be dealt with under the Code of Student Conduct, Section 14.3 (Academic Misconduct) in the Student Handbook.

Assessment Deadlines

Due Dates:

- 1) Image assignment: Week Two.
- 2) Collaboration Activities: TBA
- 3) Final Paper: December 17th at 11:59pm to be uploaded on the course website.

Policy on Late Submission of Papers

Essays that are up to 24 hours late can be downgraded up to one full grade (from B+ to C+, for example). Instructors are not obliged to accept essays that are more than 24 hours late. Where an instructor agrees to accept a late essay, it must be submitted within four weeks of the deadline. Thereafter, the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Grades and comments will be returned to students in a timely fashion. Students are also entitled to make an appointment to discuss essay assignments and feedback during instructors' office hours.

Students receive mid- and end-of-semester grades for their seminar work. Students are entitled to make an appointment with an instructor to discuss seminar participation, or may be asked to meet with the instructor at any stage in the semester regarding class progress.

Grade Breakdown

Rubrics for the Midterm and Final Papers will be provided with a detailed requirements sheet uploaded on the course website at least 4 weeks before the paper is due. There you will be able to also see how the grades will be allocated and against what criteria you will be assessed.

Schedule

Part One

Week 1.

September 3: Introduction and Nations

Image Assignment. We will use Padlet to organize the image assignment and the collaboration across the network.

Instructions:

Choose an image that symbolizes what global citizenship means to you and post it on your campus column on the course padlet. Along with the image, include (1) a brief explanation (50 words or so) of why you chose this image and what definition or vision of global citizenship it points toward; (2) a meaningful hashtag that captures your thinking on global citizenship. You should comment on at least two other postings from another campus.

Read:

- Hutchinson, J. and Smith, A. (1994). *Nationalism: A Reader*. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, excerpted writing by Renan, Stalin, and Geertz, pp. 15-21; 29-34.

Week 2.

September 10: Nations, Nationalism, Ethnic Groups and Boundaries

- Ernest Renan. "What is a Nation?" in Geoff Eley and Ronald Grigor Suny (eds.) *Becoming National: A Reader*. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp.41-55.
- Benedict Anderson. 1991. *Imagined Communities*. London: Verso, pp.1-26.
- Rogers Brubaker. 2004. *Ethnicity Without Groups*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, Chaps. 1-2.

Week 3.

September 17: Citizenship beyond Nation-State

- Brubaker, "Citizenship as Social Closure".
- Nussbaum, Martha. 2002. *Patriotism and Cosmopolitanism in For Love of Country*. Boston: Beacon Press, pp.3-17.
- Documentary: *Hypernormalization* (2016), directed by Adam Curtis
"1975", 00:00 – 27:00
"World Without Power", 2:00-2:46:31

Week 4.

September 24: Theories of Global Citizenship

- Schattle, Hans. 2010. "Global Citizenship in Theory and Practice", in *The Handbook of Practice and Research in Study Abroad: Higher Education and the Quest for Global Citizenship*, eds. Ross Lewin. New York: Routledge, pp.3-20.
- Bauböck. 2011. "Temporary migrants, partial citizenship and hypermigration", *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, Vol. 14, No.5, pp. 665-93.
- Thomas F. Homer-Dixon. 1994. "Environmental Scarcities and Violent Conflict: Evidence from Cases", *International Security*, Vol. 19, No. 1, pp. 5-40.

Week 5.

October 1: Ethnic Conflicts, Fears and Grievances

- Consuelo Cruz. 2000. "Identity Persuasion: How Nations Remember their Past and Make their Futures," *World Politics*, Vol. 52, No. 3, pp. 275-312.
- Lars-Erik Cederman, Nils B. Weideman, and Kristian Skrede Gleditsch. 2011. "Horizontal Inequalities and Ethnonationalist Civil War: A Global Comparison", *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 105, No.3, pp.478-495.

Week 6.

October 8: Imagining Global Citizenship I: **Readings TBC**

- Amitav Ghosh, *The Shadow Lines* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1988), pp. 3-113.

Week 7.

October 15: Imagining Global Citizenship II

- Amitav Ghosh, *The Shadow Lines* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1988), pp. 113-246.

Collaborative Assignment Due by October 17th by 11:59pm

October 18-22: Fall Break – No Classes.

Part two

Week 8.

October 29: The Making of the Modern Refugee

- Hannah, Arendt. 1968. "The Decline of the Nation-State and the End of the Rights of Man," in *The Origins of Totalitarianism* (New York: Harcourt, 1968), pp. 267-302.
- Alexander, Betts. 2015. "The Normative Terrain of the Global Refugee Regime," *Ethics and International Affairs*, Vol. 29, No. 4: pp. 363-375.
- Emma, Haddad, (2008). "Who is (Not) a Refugee?" and "The Refugee and the International States System," in *The Refugee in International Society: Between Sovereigns*, Cambridge: Cambridge university Press, pp.23-69.

Week 9.

November 5: The Clashes

- In-class film: Life and Debt
- Huntington, Samuel. P. 1993. The Clash of Civilizations? *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 72, No. 3, pp.22- 49
- Said, Edward. 2001. The Clash of Ignorance, *The Nation*, October 22, pp.1-4

Week 10.

November 12: Identity and Inclusion in Migration I

- Saleh, Tayib, *Season of Migration to the North*, (Heinemann Educational Publishers, 1991, originally published in 1966). Chapters 1-5

Week 11

November 19: Identity and Inclusion in Migration II

- Saleh, Tayib, *Season of Migration to the North*, (Heinemann Educational Publishers, 1991, originally published in 1966). Chapters 6-10

Week 11.

November 26: Keynote Lecture – Naji Bakhti

- *Between Beirut and the Moon* (Influx Press, 2020).
Pages 10-25
Pages 41-46

14:00-15:15 Class Discussion

15:30-17:15 Keynote Lecture followed by a discussion

Week 12.

December 3: Democracy and Global Citizenship

- Held, David. 1999. "The Transformation of Political Community: Rethinking Democracy in the Context of Globalization," *Theoria: A Journal of Social and Political Theory*, No. 94, pp:30-47.
- Benhabib, Seyla. 2005. "Borders, Boundaries and Citizenship," *PS: Political Science and Politics*, Vol. 38, No. 4, pp. 673-677
- Young, Marion. I. 2001. *Activists Challenges to Deliberative Democracy*, *Political Theory*, No. 29, pp. 670-690.

Week 13.

December 10: Climate change and Global Citizenship - Wrap Up

- Harris, Paul. 2008. *Climate Change and Global Citizenship*, *Law & Policy*, Vol. 30, No. 4, pp.481-501.
- In class film. *In this World*, Directed by Michael Winterbottom

Week 14.

December 17: **Completion Days, No Class**

Course Readings

The following books are required and available for purchase at the campus bookstore and on reserve at the library:

- Amitav Ghosh, *The Shadow Lines* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1988)
- Tayib Saleh, *Season of Migration to the North* (Heinemann Educational Publishers, 1991)
- Ghassan Kanafani, *Men in the Sun* (1962)
- J.M. Coetzee, *Disgrace* (1999)
- Naji Bakhti, *Between Beirut and the Moon* (2020)
- Bernadine Evaristo, *Girl, Woman, Other* (Penguin, 2019)
- *Two Women by the Sea* (Translated by Hartmut Fahndrich, Marebuch, Hamburg 2002)
- Barbara Kingslover, *Flight Behavior* (Harper Collins, 2013)
- Zadie Smith, *White Teeth* (Penguin, 2020)