# BROCK UNIVERSITY D2, Fall, 2013 Political Science 3P02: Citizenship

Instructor: Leah Bradshaw, Professor, Political Science (Plaza 339)

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Teaching Assistant: Michael Liddiard (ml13qy@badger.ac.broku.ca)

Lectures: Thursdays, 11-1: TH 255

**Seminars:** 

1)Bradshaw: Fridays, 12 noon. MCC 301 2)Liddiard: Wednesdays, 1 p.m. MCC 401 3)Liddiard: Thursdays, 4 p.m. IC 116

Lectures begin Thursday September 6 and end Thursday, November 28 Seminars begin week of September 9 and end week of November 25

## **Course Requirements:**

- 1) Lecture attendance: attendance at lectures is important. There is a lot of background, synthesis and additional material supplied in lectures that is supplemental to the required reading.
- 2) Seminar attendance is mandatory. There are no formal presentations in seminar, but seminars give students the opportunity to clarify and discuss course material on a weekly basis.
- 3) There is one book review, one substantial essay and a final examination.

# Grade Breakdown and Due Dates: (see attached sheet on Political Science Department's policy on late assignments)

1) Seminar: 30%

2) Book review: 10%: due October 243) Essay: 30%: due November 14

4) Final examination: 30%

### **Description of Grade Breakdown:**

#### 1) Seminar

Seminars are an integral part of the curriculum in Political Science. Seminars are an opportunity for students to discuss and debate ideas in a formalized setting. A substantial component of your university education is learning to speak publically and articulate your thoughts spontaneously in exchange with others. Do not underestimate the importance of seminars. And bring your texts with you.

#### 2) Book Review:

Students are asked to read Richard Sennett, *Together: The Rituals, Pleasures and Politics of Cooperation* (Yale University Press, 2012). The cover blurb of this book

reads: "Living with people who differ – racially, ethnically, religiously, or economically – is the most urgent challenge facing civil society today." Much of this course focuses upon this challenge.

A good book review gives the reader a succinct summary of the book's arguments, a critical perspective on the book, and often situates the book in a body of literature on comparable themes. Good models for book reviews are *The Canadian Literary Review* and *The New York Review of Books*. Your book review should be about five pages, double-spaced.

# 3) Essay:

Essay will be based on the course readings. Topics will be distributed in the first two weeks of term. Length is 10-12 pages, double-spaced (not including notes). Any standard referencing style is acceptable. Essays must be handed to the instructor, or the teaching assistant, or deposited in the essay boxes outside the Political Science Department's administrative offices (Plaza 326)

#### 4) Final Examination

The final examination will be held during formal examination period and will be based on course readings and lectures.

# **Required Texts:**

All available in the Brock Bookstore. Total cost for texts is around \$120.

- 1. Aristotle. *The Politics*. Dover Edition.
- 2. John Locke, *The Second Treatise of Government*. Dover Edition.
- 3. Charles Taylor. Multiculturalism. Princeton. 1994
- 4. Howard Adelman and Pierre Anctil. *Religion, Culture and the State: Reflections on the Bouchard-Taylor Report.* Toronto. 2011
- 5. Will Kymlicka and Kathryn Walker. *Rooted Cosmopolitanism: Canada and the World.* University of British Columbia. 2012
- 6. Richard Sennett. *Together: The Rituals, Pleasures and Politics of Cooperation.* Yale. 2012

#### **Course Description:**

This course examines citizenship in both an historical and contemporary (specifically Canadian) context. The idea of citizenship extends as far back in the Western tradition as the classical political thought of ancient Greece. Aristotle opens his foundational text *The Politics* by declaring that "man is by nature a political being", or more literally from the translation, "man is by nature a being who lives in a *polis*". The ancient Greek *polis* was a revolutionary way of living together: a small city state, governed by law, and at its best, a participatory democracy of citizens. Aristotle also provides us with the first comprehensive definition of a citizen: someone who can both rule and be ruled. The implications of this are profound, and

have resonated through modern democracies. We will open the course by looking closely at Aristotle's foundational ideas on citizenship. Subsequently, we leap almost two thousand years to the early modern period and the writings of John Locke. Locke was a British 17<sup>th</sup> century political philosopher, whose *Second Treatise On Government* lays out the parameters of a parliamentary democracy based on the primary defense of natural rights and private property. We in contemporary Canada live in the legacy of Locke's schematic, but with still the strong and haranguing voice of Aristotle's original conception of citizenship. We will read Locke's *Treatise* and consider the ways in which both Locke and Aristotle inform our contemporary notions of citizenship.

The second half of the course deals with issues confronting us now in a liberal democratic, multicultural, pluralistic state. The focus is primarily, but not exclusively, on Canada. Canadian theorists are acknowledged throughout the Western world as among the most significant thinkers on citizenship. Charles Taylor provoked much discussion with his thesis about the 'politics of recognition', arguing that people want not just rights, security and individual protection, but they also want political recognition of their group identities, be those ethnic, cultural, or religious. Will Kymlicka has refined his arguments regarding multiculturalism over two decades, arguing most recently that a robust defense of citizenship must include both rooted identities and a broader, more universal commitment to human rights. Kymlicka calls this "rooted cosmopolitanism". We shall read original works by both Taylor and Kymlicka, and essays in the secondary literature that consider their work. We also will read parts of the Report of the Consultation Commission on Accommodation Practices Related to Cultural Differences, the report commissioned by the Ouebec government from Gerard Bouchard and Charles Taylor on the accommodation of religious and cultural differences. Finally, we shall look at the tensions between cosmopolitan goals ('citizen of the world') and loyalties to what is one's own country, culture and ethos. It is clear that in contemporary Canada, citizenship includes an understanding of ruling and being ruled (Aristotle), a defense of individual rights and private property along with lovalty to parliamentary institutions (Locke), and the accommodation of identity difference. It is hoped that this course will help students gain a clearer understanding of what is at stake in being a citizen in the 21st century in Canada.

#### **Lecture and Seminar Schedule:**

September 5: Opening Lecture: explanation of course and introduction to citizenship (reference: John Pocock, "The Ideal of Citizenship Since Ancient Times", Ronald Beiner, ed., *Theorizing Citizenship* (State University of New York Press, 1995)

September 12: Aristotle, *The Politics*: Books I (entire) and III (up to 1285)

- the organic character of the *polis*
- polis and household
- women and slaves
- definition of citizenship
- difference between 'good man' and 'good citizen'

- equality and inequality
- rule of the many versus rule of the one (kingly)

September 19: Aristotle, *The Politics*; Books IV (up to 1299a) Book V (up to 1310b) and VII (up to 1329b))

- the differing forms of state
- democracies and oligarchies
- extreme democracy and mixed constitutions
- the middle class and political stability
- equality, inequality and the causes of revolution
- features of a an ideal state

September 22:John Locke, Second Treatise of Government

- state of nature/state of war/civil society
- private property
- paternal power/political power
- contract
- division of powers
- executive prerogative
- sedition/revolution

October 3: Charles Taylor, *Multiculturalism*: Charles Taylor "The Politics of Recognition"

- multiculturalism and identity
- authenticity
- dialogical interpretation
- English and French Canada

October 10: Charles Taylor, *Multiculturalism:* Jurgen Habermas, "Struggles for Recognition in the Democratic Constitutional State"; Anthony Appiah, "Identity, Authenticity, Survival: Multicultural Societies and Social Reproduction"

- the tension between universal legal principles and historically specific cultures
- the transitory character of identity

October 14 - October 18: no classes, fall semester break

October 24: Richard Sennett, *Together: The Rituals, Pleasures and Politics of Cooperation* 

Book reviews are due today.

October 31: Gerard Bouchard and Charles Taylor, *Building the Future: A Time for Reconciliation* (this is the abridged version of the authors' *Report of the Consultation Commission on Accommodation Practices Related to Cultural Differences; it is available in pdf on line*)

November 7: Adelman and Anctil, *Religion, Culture and the State: Reflections on the Bouchard-Taylor Report;* Pierre Anctil, "Reasonable Accommodation in the Canadian Legal Context: a Mechanism for Handling Diversity or a Source of Tension?; Howard Adelman, "Monoculturalism versus Interculturalism in a Multicultural World"; and Howard Adelman, "Conclusion: Religion, Culture and the State"

November 14: Will Kymlicka and Kathryn Walker, *Rooted Cosmopolitanism: Canada and the World;* Kok-Chor Tan, "Cosmopolitanism and Patriotism"; Joseph-Yvon Theriault, "Universality and Particularity in the National Question in Quebec"

- being a Canadian citizen and a 'citizen of the world'
- tensions between allegiance to universal rights and loyalties to specific cultural practices
- abstract values and concrete situations

November 21: Kymlicka and Walker, *Rooted Cosmopolitanism: Canada and the World;* Yasmeen Abu-Laban, "A World of Strangers or a World of Relationships? The Value of Care in Migration Research and Policy"; Howard Adelman, "The Doctrine of the Responsibility to Protect: A Failed Expression of Cosmopolitanism"

- the ethic of care as an alternative to rights discourse in addressing issues of population migration and citizenship
- dangers and moral failings of cosmopolitan discourse in the international arena

November 28: Final week of classes: no assigned readings. Summary and examination review.