The course is designed as a seminar with brief intro lectures, followed by discussion. It will explore the history of the concept of Civil Society focusing on the Scottish Enlightenment up to the present day empirical studies and transformations of the concept. We will discuss the common book for each week, and in addition each student will read and write a 3 page critique of two outside books during the course, and lead a class discussion on each. There will be a final paper with the topic selected in consultation with the instructor.

Grades
Grades will be based on three things.
1. Participation which includes a 1 page reading response on each week’s reading, and contribution to discussion. 10
2. Two presentations on outside books with a 3 page summary and critique on each. 20+20=40
3. Final 10 page paper on a topic selected in consultation with instructor. 50

Books
Ferguson – Essay on the History of Civil Society
Putnam – Bowling Alone
Wuthnow – Sharing the Journey
Verba – Voice and Equality
Berry – Rebirth of Urban Democracy
Sennett – Fall of Public Man
Lofland – Public Realm
Carter – Civility: Manners, Norms, and Etiquette

Topics
Week 1 – The Multiple Meanings of Civil Society
  John Keane
Week 2 – Ferguson - Historical Roots
Week 3 – Putnam - The Decline
Week 4 – Wuthnow - Religious Response
Week 5 – Verba - Political Engagement
Week 6 – Berry – Local Response
Week 7 – Sennett - The Urban Decline
Week 8 – Lofland – The Planning Response
Week 9 – Carter - Civility

Week 10 – Presentations and Final Papers Due

Lectures

Week 1 – The Multiple Meanings of Civil Society
John Kane
Civil society – voluntary associations – social contract
  question of relationship to the state
  culture of civil society
  structure of civil society

Week 2 – Ferguson - Historical Roots

  Scottish Enlightenment
  Stage view of history – civil society culmination out of savage & barbarian
  Breakdown = chaos and violence – civil strife BonniePrinceCharlie 1745
  Bosnia
  Smith – Wealth of Nations, Theory of Moral Sentiments,
    Francis Hutchinson
  Hirschman – Passions & Interests

Week 3 – Putnam - The Decline
  deTocqueville
  The idea of the third, voluntary, non-profit sector
  Decline in participation

Week 4 – Wuthnow - Religious Response
  Americans exceptionalism
  Small scale participation
  Religion in civil society

Week 5 – Verba - Political Engagement
  Voting and the continuum of other forms of political participation

Week 6 – Berry – Local Response
  Local neighborhoods – local communities
  Local community organizations
  federations

Week 7 – Sennett - The Urban Decline
The rise of mass society
Bourgeoisie Hauptmann’s Paris

Week 8 – Lofland – The Planning Response
Private parochial and public

Week 9 – Carter – Civility
Civil selves and civil society
The sacreness of the individual

Week 10 – Presentations