

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 participatio

Religion in civil socit

Week 5 – Verba - Political Engagement

Voting and the continuum of other forms of politic 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 sacrency of the individual

Week 10 – Presentations