

Citizenship (303)

Elective (ELES 303)

ELES 303

From the Nobel Prize to Eurovision: Celebrating Human Achievements

Have you ever wondered what it takes to win the ultimate "gold star" for achievements in science, literature, and peace? Buckle up, because we're diving deep into the world of the Nobel Prize, the most prestigious international award since 1901. But hold on, it's not all sunshine and champagne; some past prizes haven't aged well (DDT, anyone?). We'll dissect these controversies and investigate how the Nobel committee isn't immune to mistakes. Meanwhile, not too far away, we've got the European Song Contest (a.k.a. Eurovision) – the cultish, sequin-studded extravaganza that's been showcasing European musical talent since 1956. Don't be fooled by the catchy tunes, though. Politics and scandals have been swirling around this competition since day one. Think of Russia's invasion inspiring a Ukrainian "protest song" or of that time Norway won with a dude playing the violin like a rockstar. In this course, we'll use these two awards as lenses to explore the messy, complex world of human achievement. We'll ask the big questions: How do we measure greatness? Do awards tell the whole story? And how do politics, biases, and even catchy dance moves influence who gets recognized?

Monster Tech: German Film

ELES 303

Does technology create monsters or is technology a monstrous creation? How can technology be used to unmake monsters? In this course we will explore how German cinema represents and reflects on the intersection of technological advances in warfare, information, and film itself, with the monstrous. Students will be introduced to the tools of filmic representation in order to reflect on works from the beginning of German film history to today's streaming television serial. This course is a Technology and Innovation strand elective. It is taught in English and can be counted for the German major & minor.

ELES 303:

German Soldier Stories

Regardless of country or time period served, there are aspects of the soldier experience that are universal. This course seeks to examine that experience through the lens of German stories (translated to English), ranging from fairy tales involving Soldiers to a play set in the Seven Year's War to a brutal and uncanny short story by Kafka to and adaptation of the well-known novel All Quiet on the Western Front set in WWI. Course materials include various mediums, such as readings, graphic novels, and films.

ELES 303

Immersive Cultural Experience

Selected topics or problems in the general area of culture and leadership. This course examines the culture(s) of the host country, leadership styles/philosophies, conflicts, changes, and human resources involved in entities/organizations.

English (ENG 303)

ENG 303

We the People

This course involves inquiry-based study culminating in papers and projects on various aspects of American identity. By considering a wide range of subjects—including works of American literature, art, and music as well as political and philosophical writings—we will develop a deeper understanding about what it means, and what it historically has meant, to be an American. As we investigate how American identity has changed over time, we will analyze how historical and cultural factors have affected United States citizenship. You will

design and create your own projects, and, in doing so, you will develop skills that will serve you well throughout your life. In addition to becoming knowledgeable about important works by a diverse group of American authors, goals of this course include improving your writing, inquiry, textual analysis, critical thinking, and oral communication skills.

ENGS 303

Plague & Penance: Greek Tragedy

In this Citizenship Strand course of the General Education curriculum sequence, we will perform close readings of four celebrated tragic plays that form the foundation of the Western artistic and cultural tradition. These works of literature encompass narrative situations that prompt the interrogation of our notions of heroism, moral courage, and principled leadership; the significance of defiance against authority (both sacred and secular), personal conscience contrasted against what is commonly accepted as socially appropriate behavior in the pursuit of one's desired ends, and what is required to bring members of a social order into compliance with established power structures and the standards of civilizations. When characters live in community, there is an implicit expectation that they will adhere to the written and unwritten rules governing that society. When they fall out of compliance—whether the inciting incident is rooted in personal choice, immutable circumstance, or some combination thereof—the attendant friction takes on a life of its own, impacting the perspective, judgment, and limits of autonomy of the parties involved.

History (HISS 303)

HISS 303

History of US Immigration

This course will give students an overview of U.S. immigration history. Students will be asked to think critically about different types of migration, as well as the political, economic, and sociocultural dynamics that resulted from the movement of people into and within the U.S. Through an analysis of primary and secondary sources, students will explore how immigration and the inclusion/exclusion of specific groups have shaped the United States.

HISS 303

Ireland: The Struggle for Citizenship

This course, part of the Citizenship strand, will explore the history of citizenship by examining the history of Ireland from the 1801 Act of Union with Great Britain to the present. We will study how and why Ireland was incorporated into the United Kingdom, struggles by Irish nationalists to separate from the UK, and the legacy of that union for the present day. Major topics to be covered include the Great Famine, the Irish Home Rule movement, and the “Troubles” from 1968-1998. Throughout the course we will ask such questions as “How does citizenship work if you don’t feel that you have a voice in your governance?” “What responsibilities do citizens have if they don’t feel represented?” “How do citizens on opposite sides of political conflict learn to work together?”

HISS 303

Redefining Citizenship in the 1960s America

The 1960s were years of momentous change in the United States and across the globe. The Civil Rights Movement and the election of John F. Kennedy, as well as the wars on poverty and Vietnam were expressions of great hope and possibility. The 1960s were also a decade of rage and anguish after public support for the war plummeted and dozens of cities burst into flames during uprisings triggered by poverty, racism, and police brutality. To those who had begun the decade hopeful for liberal reform, economic prosperity, and social progress, the assassinations of the Kennedys and Martin Luther King, Jr. were deeply demoralizing. They were “murders most foul” in the words of Bob Dylan. The wounds never fully healed. By the end of the decade, there

was no avoiding the fracture, pain, and loss. It was there at family gatherings. It was all over the nightly news. Lyndon B. Johnson, who had won the presidency by a landslide in 1964, had become a virtual prisoner of the White House and decided against seeking re-election due to growing resistance to his Vietnam policies. Unable to agree on a nominee, the delegates to the 1968 Democratic National Convention scuffled on the floor of the Chicago International Amphitheater, while across town police beat protestors, reporters and passers-by in what was later deemed “a police riot.” “The whole world was watching,” the protestors chanted. But what did the world see? Mostly, they saw what they were looking for. Two months after the convention, Richard Nixon was elected president by successfully channeling the politics of resentment and promising (or possibly threatening) force to restore law and order. This class explores major themes in the cultural, political, and social history of the 1960s with an emphasis on changing notions of citizenship. Through all of the major events of the decade, American citizenship was constantly redefined. The US Congress redefined citizenship legally through the passage of the Voting Rights Act and the Immigration and Nationality Act, both of which became law in 1965. In less tangible ways, the young people who attended the historic Woodstock concert in New York in 1969 and those who fought in the remote provinces of Southeast Asia were redefining citizenship as well. Over the course of the semester, we will grapple with a range of historical questions, including: What was it like to be a young person in the 1960s? What impact did the Cold War have on youth culture in the 1960s? What accounts for the great changes that took place? Who was an American citizen in the 1960s? Who was not an American citizen? How and why did citizenship change over the course of the decade? How have the 1960s been remembered in American popular memory? To what degree were these developments global?

HISS 303

European Revolutions/Citizen

European revolutions spanned the long nineteenth century, from the French in 1789 to the Russian in 1917, with several more in between. This course will explore how these revolutions sought to define modern citizenship, tying it to new, and ever-expanding, rights guaranteed by constitutions and suffrage. We will learn about the origins of modern rights and obligations of this citizenship and the struggles that the nations of Europe went through to claim them.

Natural Science (NTSS 303)

NTSS 303

Biology, Environment & Law

This course explores the relationships between biological systems in the environment, and the environmental laws that regulate them. We will examine the profound influence that environmental laws have on species, ecosystems, and landscapes, and the effects of regulation of air, water, and land in maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem health. The course begins with an exploration of the legal system, and how it relates to the science of environmental biology. We then consider ecosystems biology, the effects of regulations on plant and animal communities, and the importance of land use regulation on ecosystems. We then explore the specific laws that control pollution of air, water and land, and their effects on natural ecosystems. Finally, we review the influence of international laws and agreements on the health of natural communities.

Social Science (SCSS 303)

SCSS 303

Democracy & Dictatorship

This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of democracy and dictatorship, their origins, characteristics, and implications for the governance of nations, including the United States. The

course will cover the historical and contemporary examples of democratic and dictatorial regimes and the political, social, and economic factors that influence the emergence, consolidation, and stability of these forms of government.

The course will introduce the theoretical and philosophical foundations of democracy and dictatorship, exploring different concepts and ways to measure democracies and dictatorships. Here, students will learn about other ways in which democracies and dictatorships have been coded over the years and in multiple datasets. We will then analyze the historical evolution of democracy and dictatorship, looking at the significant events, trends, and transformations that have shaped their development from the ancient Greeks to the present day. The course will also focus on the contemporary issues and challenges facing democratic and dictatorial regimes, including the rise of authoritarianism, the role of civil society and institutions (e.g., elections, courts, political parties), the challenges of globalization and economic development, and the impact of technological innovation on governance. We will examine case studies from various world regions to understand how different countries have addressed these challenges and the consequences of their actions.

SCSS 303

National Identity and Political Participation

This course dives into how a nation's identity influences citizens' political engagement. It examines the formation of American national identity, considering factors like historical narratives, customs, ethnicity, language, and pop culture. The course also explores how national identity shapes political behavior, including voter turnout and civic activism, and analyzes its impact on participation in politics. Students will gain analytical tools to advocate for equitable citizenship.

SCSS 303

Survey of Economics

This course is designed to provide non-business majors with the elements of economics. It will cover both principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics as well as the relationships between economics and politics. As many of the students in the class are political science majors and some are legal studies minors, I will try to demonstrate how economics is related to the world of politics.

SCSS 303

The Right to Have Rights

Although they're regularly mentioned in everyday political conversations, intangible concepts such as 'citizenship,' 'duty,' and 'human rights' can be difficult to describe in a concrete way. For example, although 'citizenship' is sometimes summarized as 'the right to have rights,' there's not even a universally accepted definition of what a 'right' actually is. Drawing from multiple disciplines (political science, moral philosophy, international law, etc.), this course aims to develop students' understanding of contemporary trends and debates in human rights thought, especially as they relate to the concepts of duty and citizenship. Although primarily international in focus, this course will also examine these issues in specifically South Carolinian contexts.