

# Citizenship in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Theory and Practice

Date: Oct 30 – Nov 23, 2018  
Time: 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm (Every Tuesday and Friday)  
Place: Yangon School of Political Science

## Course convenor and lecturer

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## Course content

The concept of citizenship has an extraordinarily broad range of uses; it is invoked to characterise modes of participation and governance, rights and duties, identities and statuses, and the concept means different things in different contexts. This course will present influential perspectives and the current discussions on the theoretical and practical challenges of citizenship in an increasing mobile and global world. In particular, we address three important aspects of the concept. (a) The development of citizenship and the different theoretical understandings and practices of citizenship, which influence people's lives. (b) Different types of citizenship that have emerged due to migration and globalisation, and (c) tomorrow's challenges including discussions on statelessness and non-citizens with empirical perspectives from Europe, West Africa and Southeast Asia.

## Entry requirements

In order to be eligible for the course an intermediate command of English will be needed but prior knowledge of the subject is not necessary.

## Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the participant will be able to:

### *Knowledge and understanding*

- Present an overview of the conditions and contexts under which different forms of citizenship emerge, evolve and change.
- Understand the different ways in which legal, social, civil and political rights are distributed in an age where the nation state is being challenged by economic globalization, supranationalization, regional interaction, increased mobility, and migration.

### *Competence and skills*

- Reason about the rights of individuals versus groups from different perspectives like liberalism, republicanism, communitarianism, and utilitarianism.
- Position oneself in relation to different political theory perspectives concerning citizenship models, citizens' rights, other resident's rights, and the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and stateless people.

### *Judgement and approach*

- Critically assess core theories and contemporary problems within citizenship studies in relation to specific societal and political issues.
- Assess theoretical traditions within citizenship studies and the historical development of the field.

## Types of instruction

The course is taught with a mix of lectures, classroom and group discussions, and individual readings.

### *Language of instruction*

English

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## Topics and Readings

### Week 1

#### Lecture no. 1: Introduction

#### The historical development and the study of citizenship

- This lecture will introduce the participant to the historical development of the concept of citizenship, which emerged in the ancient Greek city-state. Moreover, a general introduction

to the research field of citizenship studies and its positioning in academia will be made and the outline of the course will be introduced.

## Readings

TBD

### Lecture no. 2: Theories of citizenship I Liberal, Republican, and Communitarian perspectives

- In the first part of 'theories of citizenship', we will discuss the three core theoretical fields that of liberalism, republicanism, and communitarianism, and how these different theoretical perspectives influence and affect the concept of citizenship.

## Readings

TBD

### Week 2

#### Lecture no. 3: Theories of citizenship II Critical and Post-structural perspectives

- In the second part of 'theories of citizenship', we will discuss critical and post-structural perspectives. Here, post-colonial and feminist perspectives will be in focus and seen as a more critical counter-theoretical perspective from the liberal, republican, and communitarian perspectives.

## Readings

TBD

### Lecture no. 4: Levels of citizenship I Local and National Citizenship

- In the second half of week 2, 'levels of citizenship' will be discussed. Here, we will be discussing boundaries of citizenship and what different boundaries does for the understanding of the concept and for peoples experiences and practices of their citizenship. In this lecture, we will be discussing local, urban, and national citizenship types, and examples will be provided from different locations in Asia and Europe.

## Readings

TBD

### Week 3

#### Lecture no. 5: Levels of citizenship II Regional Citizenship

- In the second part of 'levels of citizenship', the regional level is in focus. Here, we will discuss the emerging type of citizenship, which is the regional. This type is informing many people's abilities to move, to claim rights, and to act as a *regional* citizen. The ECOWAS citizenship, the European citizenship, and the Mercosur citizenship will be discussed, but also how one can understand the construction of citizenship at the regional level in a global word.

## Readings

TBD

#### Lecture no. 6: Levels of citizenship III Transnational and Global citizenship

- In the last lecture where we are focusing on levels of citizenship, we will be discussing transnational types of membership as well as the more normative global citizenship.

## Readings

TBD

### Week 4

#### 7. Tomorrow's challenges I Refugeehood, statelessness, and non-citizens

- In the last week, the participants will have a good theoretical knowledge of citizenship, an understanding of the historical development of the concept, and discussed the different types of citizenship there are. The last week will focus on future challenges, and in the first lecture of week 4, we will look into people who do not have any citizenship, and the immense consequences this have for individuals, groups, states, and regions.

## Readings

TBD

## 8. Tomorrow's challenges II Experiences from Europe, West Africa, and Southeast Asia

- The last lecture on future challenges will focus on particular cases in Europe, Africa, and Asia. Here, we will be drawing on theoretical knowledge from previous weeks, as well as discuss how these challenges, such as stateless groups or increased migration, is related to different ways of thinking about citizenship, but also discussions on levels of citizenship. Moreover, we will sum up and have an overall discussion in the last lecture about possible policies and political actions there can be made in regard to the challenges connected to citizenship around the world.

### Readings

TBD