Debating Citizenship:

Historical and Contemporary Controversies about Membership, Rights and Self-Government

Interdepartmental seminar

Prof. Martin van Gelderen (HEC)
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Mondays, 11:00-13:00
Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 2

Please register with:
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Introduction:

Questions of citizenship have troubled Europeans – and others – from the days of Aristotle. Our own heated debates stand in a long tradition that starts in classical Athens and Rome, is picked up in the great centers of Renaissance culture, including Florence and Siena, crosses the Atlantic and reverberates in the American and French Revolution.

In a broad sense citizenship can be defined as a status of equal membership in a self-governing polity, as a bundle of rights and obligations attached to this status, as a shared identity in diverse societies, and as a set of civic virtues and practices that sustain political freedom and self-government.

This seminar will look at each of these aspects through the lenses of classical texts from the history of political thought and confront these with contemporary commentaries and contributions on the same topics by current political theories.

From distinctly interdisciplinary perspectives we will specifically explore and debate ideas about the external boundaries and internal differentiation of citizenship in interdependent and internally heterogeneous societies. In other words, whilst fully recognizing that for a long time citizenship was bound to the city and then to the nation-state, our interests go further as we try to take up the challenge of reflecting on what it could and should mean to be a citizen in our days of globalisation.
**Programme:**

11-1: Introduction  
18-1: The Creation of Civil Society and Civil Rights: Grotius and Madison  
25-1: Citizenship and Self-Government: The Debate on National Self-determination  
02-2: Citizenship and Civility: Enlightened and New Republicans  
8-2: Membership Requirements: Aristotle, Levellers and Contemporary Political Theory  
15-2: Multilevel Citizenship: the Federalist, the European Union, plurinational Democracy and urban Citizenship  
22-2: Social Citizenship: Marx, Marshall and Theories of domestic and global social Justice  
1-3: Across the Border: Natural Law, Human Rights and the Rights of Migrants  
8-3: Cosmopolitan Citizenship: Kant and Tully  

**Participation and Requirements:**

Researchers from all EUI-departments are warmly invited to participate. Participants are asked:

- to read the seminar texts, which we try to limit to 80-100 pages per week  
- to give one presentation (or more, if you want) based on additional reading, with an outline disseminated until Friday of the week before  
- to engage actively in discussions, and this includes preparing comments on the topic of each week and the outline circulated  

If you want to write a seminar paper for this seminar, please send an outline before 8 March. The full paper has to be submitted by 9 April 2010.
Seminar Readings:

Monday 11-1: Introduction

Monday 18-1: The Creation of Civil Society and Civil Rights: Grotius and Madison
- Hugo Grotius, De iure Praedae commentarius. Commentary on the law of Prize and Booty, Prolegomena, pp. 19-37

Monday 25-1: Citizenship and Self-Government: from Rousseau to national self-determination
- 'Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen'; also many editions available, for example in Dale Van Kley (ed.), The French Idea of Freedom. The Old Regime and the Declaration of Rights of 1789 (Standford, Cal., 1994), pp. 1-5.

Monday 1-2: Citizenship and Civility: Enlightenment and Republicanism
- David Hume, ‘Of the Rise and Progress of the Arts and Sciences’ in Essays, Moral, Political, and Literary, Liberty Fund Indianapolis, 1985, pp 111-137.
Monday 8-2: Membership Requirements: Aristotle, Levellers and contemporary political theory
- Aristotle, Politics; book III, i-v

Monday 15-2: Multilevel Citizenship: the Federalist, the European Union, plurinational democracy and urban citizenship
- Publius (Alexander Hamilton, John Jay and James Madison), The Federalist Papers, Nrs. 9, 10, 47-51 (available in many editions)

Monday 22-2: Social Citizenship: Marx, Marshall and theories of domestic and global social Justice
- Karl Marx, ‘On the Jewish Question’ (many editions available)

Monday 1-3: Across the Border: Natural Law, Human Rights and the Rights of Migrants

Monday 8-3: Cosmopolitan Citizenship: Kant and Tully