The Politics of Citizenship in a Transnational Age: Theories and Key Issues

Autumn 2016

Time and location: Monday 15:00-17:00, CSS 2-1-49; Thursday 15:00-17:00, CSS 2-2-49

Instructor: Dr Chenchen Zhang (cz@ifs.ku.dk)

How do we understand the concept of citizenship in a world increasingly characterized by transnational flows and hybrid identities? From ancient empires to the modern system of nation-states, this fundamental concept in our understanding of politics has always involved puzzling contradictions such as that between inclusion and exclusion; between particularity and universality; and between ‘the political’ and ‘the international’. The problems rooted in these contradictions have become more pronounced than ever, as the boundaries of the political community today are influenced by various processes of de-bordering and re-bordering: among them are international migration, regional integration, transnational social movement and so forth. Do these transformations bring us closer to or further away from the egalitarian and inclusive ideals of being a ‘citizen’? This course will not only introduce classic theoretical accounts of citizenship, but also explore alternative approaches that challenge conventional understandings of rights, identity and boundaries. Furthermore, we will focus on some key contemporary topics that have been widely debated over in citizenship studies and beyond, including migration, EU citizenship and urban citizenship.

Requirements:

It is mandatory to read all assigned readings (those marked as ‘optional’ not included) before each class. You are expected to actively contribute to classroom discussions. The course has an oral exam with a written synopsis.

1. Introduction (31/10)

Readings:


Optional:

2. Foundations I: Liberal, republican and communitarian conceptions of citizenship (3/11)

Readings:


Optional:


3. Foundations II: Citizenship and the nation-state (7/11)

Readings:


Optional:


Group presentation: Analyse the ‘citizenship regime’ in Denmark based on Vink and Bauböck’s framework

4. Alternative approaches I: Governmentality (10/11)

Readings:


Optional:


5. Alternative approaches II: Acts of Citizenship (14/11)

Readings:


Optional:


6. Migration I: The citizen and the alien (17/11)

Readings:


Optional:

7. Migration II: Border policing and neoliberal citizenship (21/11)

Reading:


Optional:


8. Migration III: Staging the political agency of status non-citizens (24/11)

Readings:


Optional:


Group presentation (Group 2): Analyse one case of migrant mobilisation based on the readings
9. Student research seminar (28/11)

10. Beyond the nation-state I: cosmopolitanism and its critics (1/12)


Optional:


11. Beyond the nation-state II: the debate on EU citizenship (5/12)

- Bellamy, R. (2008). Evaluating Union citizenship: belonging, rights and participation within the EU. *Citizenship Studies*, 12(6), 597–611. – Group 1

Optional:


12. Beyond the nation-state III: The revival of urban citizenship (8/12)

Readings:


Optional:

**Group presentations (Group 3): Urban citizenship and diversity in Copenhagen and Malmö**

13. **Social citizenship and the welfare state (12/12)**

**Readings:**

• Fraser, N. & Gordon, L. (2009). Contract versus charity: why is there no social citizenship in the United States?

**Optional:**


14. **Wrap-up and Q&As (15/12)**