

Whose right to the City?

URBAN CITIZENSHIP THEORY AND PRACTICE

Extended Course Handbook vs. 02

Winter Term 2016/17

This is a **vertical seminar** suitable for higher level Bachelor and Master students.

Course is open to students from other departments (interdisciplinary).

Course convenor:

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office hours by appointment

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Introduction to the Course

The saying goes: people make cities but cities make citizens. Urban citizenship broadly refers to forms of participation in urban social and political structures that complement or even go beyond what the rights and obligations of national citizenship would afford. Observing and better understanding urban citizenship is mostly celebrated as offering a new perspective on the participation and inclusion of minority and disadvantaged groups. How urban residents claim their 'right to the city' is crucially important for trajectories of urban development. A primarily positive undertone of participatory citizenship however is also challenged as research shows that a diversification of urban populations goes hand in hand with a fragmentation of social groupings engaged in different practices of urban citizenship.

This seminar will provide an introduction to some key readings in the (urban) citizenship literature and how the term is differently conceptualised and applied. We will draw on recent studies and projects to get a tangible idea of this theoretically challenging notion and how it is relevant for understanding the development of contemporary cities.

For this seminar each session will in large part be theory focused and most of the class time will be devoted to critically discussing assigned readings. Part of each session will however be more practice focused. Through the theoretical focus, we will learn about and discuss how ideas about citizenship are linked to the rise of cities, how (urban) citizenship can be mobilised both as a control mechanism linked to increased inequalities but how it is also an important opportunity to foster new ways of resident engagement. In the practical part of the seminar we will trace the steps of developing and designing a small research project – exploring the importance of formulating a research question and how to identify appropriate research methods.

A detailed reading of the key texts prior to the seminar is expected and necessary for group discussions. The seminar will be conducted entirely in English – fluency is not essential, however, a willingness to communicate in English is expected.

Learning Objectives and Outcomes

With *Urban Citizenship Theory and Practice*, I aim to create a space for students to develop their ideas, knowledge and capacities in critical thinking while learning about a very specific and topical debate in Urban Sociology and adjacent disciplines. This is to be facilitated through the course design which I developed with the aim to foster academic faculties whilst also strengthening generic skills important for a range of future employment trajectories.

By the end of this course students should have developed or expanded competences in, or knowledge of:

1. Themes in citizenship studies and current debates surrounding urban citizenship.
2. Reading and comprehending complex academic writing (including from other disciplines).
3. Discussing and presenting a synthesis of learned material to colleagues.
4. Basic understanding of the research design process.
5. Formulating questions for innovative research.
5. Doing a literature review for a specific topic.
6. Judging the suitability of different methods for different research questions.
7. Skills to facilitate independent research.
8. Teamwork and project planning skills.
9. Recognising and evaluating the strengths of colleagues to provide support and feedback.
10. Collaborative learning.

Course dates and times

The Seminar will run **bi-weekly** (every 2 weeks) in weeks with **uneven** numbers.

The first introductory session will take place in week 43:

27.10.2016 18:00 – 20:00 Room: [Gottsch26 / Semr. 103/104](#)

Class dates will be:

Week 47		24. 11. 2016		18:00 – 20:00
Week 49		08. 12. 2016		18:00 – 20:00
Week 51		22. 12. 2017		18:00 – 20:00
Week 03		19. 01. 2017		18:00 – 20:00
Week 05		02. 02. 2017		18:00 – 20:00

Approximately two weeks after the course, I will offer one-on-one feedback sessions to discuss progress with the written report. Students will be expected to sign up for discussion slots. The exact dates and time will be decided in the last session.

Participation in class discussions is a central aspect of this tutorial style course. Please be courteous and email me if you have to miss a class – if more than one session has to be missed, I will require additional written exercises to be able to fairly assess course participants.

Laptop and personal electronic device policy

We will be using laptops (or smart phones/ tablets whichever you can work on most effectively) for the research work done in class.

We will not be using them for maintaining personal communication during seminar time or for using session time for anything not course related – use the breaks for that.

Please do bring your laptops charged and ready to use.

If you do not have access to a personal lap-top, please contact the c-lab (<http://www.asl.uni-kassel.de/>) to inquire about renting a laptop for the sessions.

Course materials and study skills

Most of the readings will be made available via the moodle system – due to copyright restrictions this will not be possible for all materials, please pay close attention to in-class advice on how to access reading materials. If you are unable to find a reading contact one of your colleagues.

You should subscribe to the accompanying moodle-course via this link:

<https://moodle.uni-kassel.de/moodle/course/view.php?id=6351>

The course is accessed through self-registration the password is: urbancitizenship

Especially for your final report you will need to do your own research and you will need to find resources that go beyond those indicated in the following seminar roadmap. Skills in independent research activities are a central learning objective, if you require support in this field please indicate this to the course convenor but also consult the University of Kassel learning support website for training opportunities and advice on doing successful research: www.uni-kassel.de/go/studierkompetenz .

For the duration of the course please make sure that you regularly (daily) check the emails sent to the account associated to the moodle system. I may use this avenue to inform you about short notice changes to the course (e.g. dates and times).

Email Policy:

You can always reach me via email (often better than by phone) – if I am out of the office for a conference or similar commitments and anticipate delayed response times, you will receive an out of office reply indicating when to expect a response. I will make sure to answer student queries as promptly as possible – however you should expect a response time of 72 hours (this means please avoid contacting me at last minute with important concerns). I will not respond to emails on the weekend or after regular work hours.

Course Roadmap

This roadmap is subject to change. Please, always consult the newest version of the course handbook uploaded to moodle.

SESSION 01 | INTRODUCTORY MEETING

Thursday 27.10.2016 | 18:00 – 20:00 | Gottschalkstr. 26 Raum 103

We will use this session to introduce the seminar and to take care of a number of housekeeping points for the course. We will also speak about expectations (yours and mine) and how they can best be met. We will also distribute the readings for oral presentations and discuss interest in and ideas for a possible thematic day excursion or research design workshop.

SESSION 02 | CITIZENSHIP WITHOUT THE URBAN: AN EXCURSION INTO CITIZENSHIP STUDIES

Thursday 24.11.2016 | 18:00 – 20:00 | Gottschalkstr. 26 Raum 103

The readings in this session introduce the concept of citizenship as a legal status and how it can be made sense of and studied. Even before considering cities, why is citizenship important and at what level(s)/scale(s)? How should/is citizenship be obtained and what methods are suitable to study questions linked to citizenship? These are some questions that we will be addressing through the presentation of the texts.

These readings will (for most of you) enhance your abilities to read outside of your usual disciplinary canon and will facilitate later debates in the seminar. We will also discuss what makes a research project interesting (and how that should impact on the questions we want to pose).

Readings:

Varieties and levels of citizenship (Anna):

Vink, Maarten Peter; Bauböck, Rainer (2013): Citizenship configurations. Analysing the multiple purposes of citizenship regimes in Europe. In *Comp Eur Polit* 11 (5), pp. 621–648. DOI: 10.1057/cep.2013.14.

Maas, Willem (2013): Varieties of multilevel citizenship. In Willem Maas (Ed.): *Multilevel Citizenship*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, pp. 1–24.

Bauböck, Rainer (2012): Constellations and Transitions combining macro and micro perspectives on migration and citizenship. In Michi Messer, Renee Schroeder, Ruth Wodak (Eds.): *Migrations: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*. Vienna: Springer Vienna, pp. 3–15.

Interesting Blog about the question of 'semi-citizenship':

<http://politicsblog.ac.uk/2016/10/24/marginalized-migrants-become-visible/>

Granted or Earned Citizenship (Clara):

Shachar, Ayelet (2010): Earned Citizenship. Property lessons for immigration reform. In *Yale Journal of Law and the Humanities* 23.

van Houdt, Friso; Suvarierol, Semin; Schinkel, Willem (2011): Neoliberal communitarian citizenship: Current trends towards 'earned citizenship' in the United Kingdom, France and the Netherlands. In *International Sociology* 26 (3), pp. 408–432. DOI: 10.1177/0268580910393041.

Studying Citizenship (All):

Desforges, Luke; Jones, Rhys; Woods, Mike (2005): New Geographies of Citizenship. In *Citizenship Studies* 9 (5), pp. 439–451. DOI: 10.1080/13621020500301213.

SESSION 03 | CITIZENSHIP AND CITIES TOWARDS URBAN CITIZENSHIP

Thursday 08.12.2016 | 18:00 – 20:00 | Gottschalkstr. 26 Raum 103

Based on what we learned about the concept of citizenship in the previous session, in this session we consider in more detail the links between citizenship and the city. How can cities grant and prohibit rights and how do cities foster different forms of expressing urban citizenship? Urban citizenship clearly does not have one monolithic meaning and in our discussions we will try to get closer to the different ways in which cities matter to citizenship (practices). We will use the more empirical texts to interrogate how they study urban citizenship.

Readings:

Cities and citizenship (Jakob):

Staeheli, Lynn A. (2013): Cities and Citizenship. In *Urban Geography* 24 (2), pp. 97–102. DOI: 10.2747/0272-3638.24.2.97.

Holston, J.; Appadurai, A. (1996): Cities and Citizenship. In *Public Culture* 8 (2), pp. 187–204. DOI: 10.1215/08992363-8-2-187.

Vigneswaran, Darshan (2013): Centralization in the City-State. In Darshan Vigneswaran: Territory, migration and the evolution of the international system. New York: Palgrave Macmillan: pp. 29–50.

Differentiated access to citizenship in the city (Melissa):

Salcido, Olivia; Menjívar, Cecilia (2012): Gendered Paths to Legal Citizenship. The Case of Latin-American Immigrants in Phoenix, Arizona. In *Law & Society Review* 46 (2), pp. 335–368. DOI: 10.1111/j.1540-5893.2012.00491.x.

Darling, J. (2016): Forced migration and the city. Irregularity, informality, and the politics of presence. In *Progress in human geography*. DOI: 10.1177/0309132516629004.

Nair, Janaki (2012): In other words. The indian city and the promise of citizenship. In Renu Desai, Romola Sanyal (Eds.): *Urbanizing citizenship. Contested spaces in Indian cities*. Thousand Oaks Calif.: Sage, pp. 228–236.

SESSION 04 | ACCESSING, ENACTING AND FACILITATING URBAN CITIZENSHIP

Thursday 22.12.2016 | 18:00 – 20:00 | Gottschalkstr. 26 Raum 103

We have so far learned that (urban) citizenship is by its very nature an exclusive status that is not granted to everyone (in the same way). There is a sense that urban citizenship can be claimed by individuals or can be facilitated through planning initiatives. In this session we will focus on the implications of different ways of accessing, enacting and activating citizenship. We will again pay particular attention to ways of studying and making sense of urban citizenship as a methodological challenge.

Readings:

Planning, structuring and performing citizenship in the city (Mingyang):

Holston, James (2012): Spaces of Insurgent Citizenship. In James Holston (Ed.): *Cities and Citizenship*: Duke University Press, pp. 155–173.

Staeheli, Lynn A.; Clarke, Susan E. (2013): The New Politics of Citizenship. Structuring Participation By Household, Work, and Identity. In *Urban Geography* 24 (2), pp. 103–126. DOI: 10.2747/0272-3638.24.2.103.

Pine, Adam M. (2010): The performativity of urban citizenship. In *Environment and Planning A* 42, pp. 1103–1120.

Access through residence and jumping hoops (feel free to read the texts if they seem relevant to your work):

Bauböck, Rainer (2003): Reinventing Urban Citizenship. In *Citizenship Studies* 7 (2), pp. 139–160. DOI: 10.1080/1362102032000065946.

Schinkel, W. (2010): The Virtualization of Citizenship. In *Critical Sociology* 36 (2), pp. 265–283. DOI: 10.1177/0896920509357506.

Das, Veena (2011): State, citizenship, and the urban poor. In *Citizenship Studies* 15 (3-4), pp. 319–333. DOI: 10.1080/13621025.2011.564781.

WORKSHOP – Research Outline I

SESSION 05 | RIGHTS TO AND THROUGH THE CITY: CLAIMING THE CITY

Thursday 19.01.2016 | 18:00 – 20:00 | Gottschalkstr. 26 Raum 103

The readings for this session link notions of urban citizenship to discussions about a 'right to the city'. The latter notion is generally traced back to the work of Henry Lefebvre and it is commonly used in Marxist approaches to studying urban citizenship. Some of you will already be familiar with these debates, maybe even through practical engagement – the session will focus on critically making sense of how this literature and its application in practical research fit into broader debates. Next to the more theoretical reading we will look at two articles that take Istanbul as the location of their research and both work with the phrase 'right to the city'. We will explore the nuanced differences in the research questions the articles address.

Readings:

Theoretical Debate (Maik):

Harvey, David (2003): The right to the city. In *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 27 (4), pp. 939–940.

Purcell, Mark (2003): Citizenship and the right to the global city. Reimagining the capitalist world order. In *Int J Urban & Regional Res* 27 (3), pp. 564–590. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.00467.

Marcuse, Peter (2009): From critical urban theory to the right to the city. In *City* 13 (2-3), pp. 185–197. DOI: 10.1080/13604810902982177.

James Holston - Insurgent Cities and Urban Citizenship in the 21st Century:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dmgfvss2iMw> [accessed: 24.10.2016].

Istanbul and a right to the city:

Lelandais, Gülçin Erdi (2013): Citizenship, minorities and the struggle for a right to the city in Istanbul. In *Citizenship Studies* 17 (6-7), pp. 817–836. DOI: 10.1080/13621025.2013.834134.

Secor, Anna J. (2013): Citizenship in the City. Identity, Community, and Rights Among Women Migrants to Istanbul. In *Urban Geography* 24 (2), pp. 147–168. DOI: 10.2747/0272-3638.24.2.147.

WORKSHOP – Research Outline II

SESSION 06 | RIGHTS TO AND THROUGH THE CITY: FRAGMENTING CLAIMS

Thursday 02.02.2016 | 18:00 – 20:00 | Gottschalkstr. 26 Raum 103

In this session we will engage with the debates of a symposium published in a recent issue of the international Journal of Urban and Regional Research (IJURR). The symposium questions some of the intense focus on participation to 'earn' urban citizenship, and the authors investigate how a fragmentation of claims typical for highly differentiated urban

populations match those demands. How are urban civic acts relevant in cities where difference is an important part of the everyday – and where not everyone can or wants to claim urban citizenship. What new scales of relevance need to be thought about?

As in the previous sessions we will closely examine methodological strategies of the case studies presented in the special issue.

Readings: **Presenter: Max**

Blokland, Talja; Hentschel, Christine; Holm, Andrej; Lebuhn, Henrik; Margalit, Talia (2015): Urban Citizenship and Right to the City. The Fragmentation of Claims. In *Int J Urban Regional* 39 (4), pp. 655–665. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.12259.

Cohen, Nir; Margalit, Talia (2015): 'There are Really Two Cities Here'. Fragmented Urban Citizenship In Tel Aviv. In *Int J Urban Regional* 39 (4), pp. 666–686. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.12260.

Kosnick, Kira (2015): A Clash Of Subcultures? Questioning Queer-Muslim Antagonisms in the Neoliberal City. In *Int J Urban Regional* 39 (4), pp. 687–703. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.12261.

Kemp, Adriana; Lebuhn, Henrik; Rattner, Galia (2015): Between Neoliberal Governance and the Right to the City. Participatory politics in Berlin and Tel Aviv. In *Int J Urban Regional* 39 (4), pp. 704–725. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.12262.

Yiftachel, Oren (2015): Epilogue-from 'Gray Space' to Equal 'Metrozenship'? Reflections On Urban Citizenship. In *Int J Urban Regional* 39 (4), pp. 726–737. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.12263.

WORKSHOP – Research Outline III

Suggested additional Readings and Resources:

Brenner, Neil; Marcuse, Peter; Mayer, Margit (Eds.) (2012): Cities for people, not for profit. Critical urban theory and the right to the city. London: Routledge.

<https://hds.hebis.de/ubks/Record/HEB272843490>

Varsanyi, Monica W. (2006): Interrogating "Urban Citizenship" vis-à-vis Undocumented Migration. In *Citizenship Studies* 10 (2), pp. 229–249. DOI: 10.1080/13621020600633168.

James Holston, Department of Anthropology at University of California, Berkeley, speaking at the symposium "Emergent cities: Conflicting claims and the politics of informality," at Uppsala University, Sweden March 9, 2012 : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WpHNN2Wsnds> [accessed: 24.10.2016]

Designing Research:

Alvesson, Mats; Sandberg, Jörgen (2013): Constructing research questions. Doing interesting research. London: Sage. (available through google books)

More to be added!

Assessment

To be eligible for 3 ETCs students have to complete a number of tasks that will have a weighted impact on the final course grade:

Reading response paragraphs (s. b.)	10%
Peer assessed participation	10%
Oral presentation	40%
Written Report	40%
Total	100%

Reading Response Paragraphs:

A reading response is a response to a reading and a paragraph is a piece of text that should not be longer than one third of a page (130 -200 words). Once you have carefully read the texts, writing your reading response paragraph should not take longer than 15 minutes – it is not a mammoth task!

It is, however, a useful practice for reflecting on complex content and it teaches you to record your own thoughts on (1) what the text was about and (2) what kinds of questions it raises for you or (3) how you would link the text to other literature/current. In writing your response paragraphs reflect on those three aspects and decide whether you want to write about (1) and (2) OR (3). Out of all of your reading responses at least one ought to be from each category.

I expect reading response paragraphs to be **submitted to me via email on the Tuesday before class (!)**. Your reading responses will help me to actually teach the material in a way that relates to your concerns in moving toward meeting the stated learning outcomes.

You are expected to read at least 1 preferably 2 of the listed readings per session and you should base your reading response on those readings. If you have to miss a session I would still expect to receive a reading response.

Assessment criteria: Students who submit all of the required reading response paragraphs demonstrating that they have engaged with the reading will receive the 10% points towards their final grade. If you are seeking to just audit the course or want to have it recognised but not graded, you will still be expected to submit a reading response. Late submission will be accepted if there are extenuating circumstances.

Please email response paragraphs to me: fran.meissner@uni-kassel.de I will then upload them to moodle.

Peer-assessed participation

10% of the grade will be devoted to peer assessed participation. At the end of each session I will ask you to confidentially assess the participation of your peers using the [criteria listed here](#) – this class should be a safe space for mutual discussion and this exercise will enhance your abilities in recognising different strengths in the participation of different individuals.

Assessment criteria: I will compile a final grade between 5-10 percent based on the feedback to the peer assessment. I will reserve the right to increase but not decrease the points determined by peer assessment. If you want to award a fellow student full marks on all the peer assessed criteria, I would expect a concise explanation why you believe the student deserves this assessment.

Oral Presentation:

During the introductory session we will distribute readings for presentation. If you are presenting you will not be required to submit a reading response that week. Your task is to present the key points of the readings identify if and how the texts can be read to speak to the same topic, evaluate critically the arguments of the authors and ideally you should research around the assigned reading to embed your presentation in a wider debate. Presenters will be expected to **prepare 3 questions for debate**. that can be debated with the seminar group.

Presentations should be **no longer than 20 minutes** but at least 15 minutes of length, they should be well structured and should provide a good basis for a discussion by highlighting contentious points and/ or putting a particular emphasis (where relevant) on different approaches to doing research on urban citizenship. Students will be expected to moderate a **discussion of 15 Minutes**.

Assessment criteria: I will pay particular attention to academic abilities (extracting main points/ critical evaluation / embedding in wider debate) but a small part of the presentation grade will also depend on presenting well (good and clear slides, time keeping, good demeanour in presenting, confident and capable management of the discussion).

Written Report:

For the written report you will be required to write a short research proposal (8-12 pages, not including references). You will be required to demonstrate your skills in identifying an interesting research topic, doing a (limited but well rounded) literature review, posing a relevant research question and identifying suitable research methods to address the research question. We will speak in more detail about the written assignment and assessment criteria in session 3. You will be expected to **submit a preliminary outline** with key points to be included in your research outline by the **end of February**. I will hold office hours to discuss those outlines with you and a **final research outline** will be expected **by the end of March**.

Plagiarism (and why you should cite correctly)

Please be aware that scientific practice does not accept any form of plagiarism. Please consult the following link about regulations at the University of Kassel:

http://www.uni-kassel.de/themen/uploads/media/handreichung_plagiate_studierende_2014_11_ENG_02.pdf

A good resource for academic best practice albeit in a different field can be found here (in german only):

Please also consult:

https://www.uni-kassel.de/fb07/fileadmin/datas/fb07/5-Institute/IBWL/Eberl/Grundregeln_gute_wissenschaftliche_Praxis.pdf

At your stage of study, the rule should be: **if in doubt cite**. If you plagiarise you risk a fail mark regardless how well prepared the paper is otherwise. Please do consider using a referencing software (e.g.: Zotero/Mendeley) to help you format your citations in a consistent style.

Inspiration for this course outline was taken from:

McManus et.Al (2015) GEOS3520 Urban Citizenship and Sustainability. Course Outline: University of Sydney, School of Geosciences.