

iCitizen Project
PART 4: CREATING WE THE PEOPLE
POL 120 – Fall 2018

Overview. In this final paper, you will be given a set of facts and asked to determine how citizenship should be granted. Utilizing your knowledge of citizenship within the United States and our previous papers, you will be in a position to award or deny citizenship to others and to establish how representation occurs in a society.

There are **FIVE (5)** steps to completing this assignment:

1. Read through the assignment sheet completely BEFORE attempting the assignment.
2. Complete the essay (directions below). Do NOT submit on SafeAssign yet.
3. Do the online survey (see link on Blackboard). Failure to complete this survey may result in lost points on your assignment.
4. Copy the unique statement/code at the end of the survey on your essay.
5. Submit your essay through Blackboard using the SafeAssign link.

Directions. In this paper, you are in charge of creating the rules for a new constitution for the newly discovered island of Blue Ivy. As part of that constitution, we need to determine the functions of citizen participation and representation. To that end, you will be required to explain how *citizenship* works and how *representation* functions. As such, you will answer the following two questions:

1. What are the requirements of citizenship and do you personally meet your own standards for citizenship?
2. What are the parameters of representation?

You must justify each of your choices by using evidence from course materials as to why this the best way to set up a society. That may mean it is different from the United States or it may be the same; either way, you must justify your decisions.

Evidence to be used. To do this, you must incorporate previous class readings on these topics to provide support for your plan. At a minimum, you should cite at least:

1. **Three (3) of our class readings;** (e.g. these – not an exhaustive list)
 - Federalist Papers (10, 14, 51, 84)
 - Anti-Federalist papers (Brutus 1, Brutus 15, Brutus 6, Cato 4)
 - Rawls, “A Theory of Justice”
 - Getzler, “America’s Problem Isn’t Too Little Democracy...”
 - Gutting, “Should Everybody Vote?”
 - Locke, “Second Treatise on Government”
 - Brown and Maloyed, “Service Guarantees Citizenship”
2. **The film *Starship Troopers*;** and
3. **At least one reading from another course** (of any subject not political science).

*Note: For the reading that you take from another course, you **must** provide the course name, semester taken, and rationale for choosing that reading (placing this information in a footnote or references page is preferred). This other reading may be a book or article provided that it was assigned for another course by another instructor. Be creative but make it relevant.*

How to use evidence. You should use these items to reinforce and justify your decisions made. Just because it worked for the United States doesn't mean it will work for the new nation of Blue Ivy. Conversely, just because it hasn't worked here doesn't mean it won't be appropriate for Blue Ivy. This is your opportunity to be creative while synthesizing course concepts and readings.

Issues to address. A well written paper will think about and address the following issues:

1. ***What are the requirements of citizenship? Do you meet your own standards for citizens?***
 - a. What are the privileges afforded to citizens only? Voting? Other forms of participation?
 - b. What are the obligations of citizens? What must individuals do to secure citizenship?
 - i. Is citizenship granted at birth? If so, can it be lost? How?
 - ii. Is citizenship earned as an adult? If so, what constitutes appropriate efforts to earn citizenship?
 - iii. Regardless of how earned, how is citizenship maintained?

2. ***What are the parameters of representation?***
 - a. What is the design of representation? How are representatives arranged?
 - b. How is representation apportioned? How many representatives are needed? When should the level of representation be reevaluated (i.e., reapportionment, redistricting, etc.)?
 - c. Who can act as a representative?
 - i. What are the minimum qualifications for representatives?
 - ii. Are there other desired qualifications that are not required but are socially desirable?
 - iii. How do representatives lose their role as representatives? Reelection?

You must be specific in your design such that a person reading your paper knows exactly how your system is constructed. The course readings that you will use as support for your design will help illustrate the soundness of your decisions.

Technical Details. Your essay should:

1. Be double-spaced;
2. Be 3-5 pages in length;
3. Use a readable, 12-point font;
4. Have normal, one-inch margins;
5. Use citations to reference course materials;
6. Have your name placed at the beginning of the paper;
7. Be paginated; and
8. Includes survey code at end of document (see below).

Survey. As part of this assignment, you are being asked to complete a survey reflecting on your political dispositions since taking this class. To access, please use the link posted on Blackboard in the iCitizen 4 folder. Once you complete the survey, include the unique statement/code provided at the end of your essay.

Grading. In scoring your essay, I will use the following rubric (100 points possible):

1. **Thesis:** A good thesis statement is clear and tells the reader what the paper argues. Theses should appear in an introduction which provides a broad overview of the paper's topic and communicates to the reader "where" the reader will end up at the end.
2. **Argumentation:** Essays should strive to provide clear organization of structural decisions and evidence for those decisions based on class discussions and readings. Such evidence should be used logically and persuasively to advance the essay's thesis. The assignment's questions are adequately addressed and resolved.
3. **Organization:** Arguments should follow a logical layout, preventing the reader from becoming "lost" or unsure. Paragraphs should be of sufficient length (i.e. five or more sentences). The essay also appears aesthetically pleasing.
4. **Veracity:** Top-notch essays will prove their arguments with sufficient and appropriate evidence including discussion of at least three (3) course readings, one reading from another course, and the film *Starship Troopers*, while ensuring that such evidence is properly cited.
5. **Articulation:** Well-written essays will be devoid of spelling, grammar, and syntax errors. Essays should strive to follow the format guidelines above.

I will provide an evaluation rubric with categorial scores and an overall grade, with comments for each category.

Submission. Submit your completed essay on Blackboard using the SafeAssign link under the iCitizen tab. SafeAssign will perform a plagiarism check. NO EMAILED ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED. NOTE: Make sure your document is submitted as a WORD Document (.docx or .doc) or PDF; failure to do so will result in delayed grading. If you encounter difficulties with uploading your file, please email me as soon as possible.

Due Date. Friday, December 14, 2018 at 11:59 pm via Blackboard.