

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

Rights to have rights? Transformation of liberties and rights in times of mobilities (2SC2109)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal M ScS - migration et citoyenneté	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier principal M ScS - migration et citoyenneté (EuMIGS)	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire M ScS - migration et citoyenneté	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

Equipe enseignante

Prof. Gianni D'Amato

Contenu

Authoritarian political movements are increasingly expanding in Europe, as much as in North- and South-America. These populist or radical extremist political styles may be, as some say, favored by economic globalization and its inherent increase of human mobilities. But they can also be seen as an ideologically adverse reaction to apparently Western universal values. The consensus reached after World War II on human rights, civil liberties and free trade as an outcome to the (post-) totalitarian experience, has come to exhaustion. Beyond a lack of funding for enforcing rights, or a lack of goodwill on the part of governments, the reason a number of people across the globe still find it a struggle to enjoy their human rights, despite formal recognition from the United Nations and its member states, is that they are unable to secure meaningful membership in a functioning political community. To which degree have the rights to have rights, as Hannah Arendt described the importance in pretending sovereignty of individuals against the nation's sovereignty, much to say to our contemporary moment?

The goal of this course is to develop a critical approach to the notion of mobility and rights. We will start with Hannah Arendt's seminal text and expand this reading with the transformation of European welfare and migratory regimes after 1945 and its effects in shaping the patterns of rights. We will see to which extent the system of human rights and civil and economic liberties have been transformed over these decades, how they were attacked. We will gain a deeper understanding on the relationship between sovereignty, democracy and pluralism. We will learn to which extent a political culture of debate, opposition and conflict may help invigorate practised liberalism against populist abuses. Therefore, we will refer to recent studies deriving from international literature and from the nccr-onthemove.ch.

Forme de l'évaluation

Students will have to analyze reference texts for each session. The group responsible for the session will have to deepen the problematic starting with from a short bibliographic orientation. It will be in charge of a presentation of the source that will be followed by a reflection, discussion and synthesis. Students wishing to earn credits for this seminar will be required to deliver a 15-page essay at the end of the semester. The final grade will be weighted as follows: Presence and participation (10%) Group presentation (30%) Trial (60%) Note: Failure to submit written work in a timely manner, without good reason, will automatically result in a flop of the exercise (échec)

Documentation

The reference list, texts and all sources will be made available on Moodle.

Pré-requis

This course is open to all students in social sciences (MA courses) interested in political theory and the relationship between democracy and migration

Forme de l'enseignement

The aim is students to be active, so the seminar will alternate participatory methods with presentations.

- Mandatory readings.
- Group presentations on given themes.
- Group discussions and reflections.
- Synthesis by teachers.

Objectifs d'apprentissage

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Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Identify different disciplinary approaches (pol. theory, history and social sciences) applied in studies on democracy and migration
- Associate key concepts in political theory and migration studies with the changing social and political reality
- Evaluate critically and reflectively one's own position in relation to migratory phenomena
- Interpret contemporary challenges related to migration, and critically assess the issues of diversified, complex and dynamic societies
- Develop arguments that direct, or are the result of, empirical or theoretical analysis

Compétences transférables

- Carry out critical and evidence-based analyses
- Manage an own research project
- Discuss complex issues and interactions
- Generate new ideas (creativity)