

Course Syllabus Part I

LA 400-410-420 – Kirkpatrick Signature Series

9 Credit Hours

Course Description

The Kirkpatrick Signature Series enables students to become more engaged citizens in a rapidly changing world. This course cluster examines the values and traditions of the United States in relation to civic freedoms and responsibilities. It explores the successes, as well as the challenges, of a pluralistic republic. Through service to the larger community, students apply the ideas and values that serve as the foundation of American governance. Together the three courses foster a sense of individual empowerment to pursue the collective good.

Course Prerequisites

60 credit hours

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete this cluster should be able to:

1. Analyze the importance of such values as justice, dissent, and equality to the functioning of republican government.
 2. Explain the importance of the Constitution and the structure of the government it creates to the preservation of individual rights.
 3. Reflect on the relevance of the values discussed to their work and personal lives.
 4. Assess the benefits of changes in race and gender equality for the individual and governance.
 5. Synthesize ideas about the challenges posed, to the individual and to governance, by globalization and immigration.
 6. Assess the impact of large changes in modern society on their work and personal lives.
 7. Explain the relationship between engaged citizenship and the functioning of a republican form of government.
 8. Synthesize ideas about the duty of individual citizens to promote engaged citizenship.
 9. Assess the impact on their communities of their own acts of engaged citizenship.
-

Grading Scale

93 – 100% = A	80 – 82% = B-	67 – 69% = D+
90 – 92% = A-	77 – 79% = C+	63 – 66% = D
87 – 89% = B+	73 – 76% = C	60 – 62% = D-
83 – 86% = B	70 – 72% = C-	0 – 59% = F

Topic Outline

- I. Engaged Citizenship
- II. Civic Engagement in a Republic
- III. Equality of Opportunity
- IV. American Values
- V. Federalism
- VI. The Necessity of Rights
- VII. Globalization, Immigration, and Pluralism
- VIII. Citizens as Agents of Moral Change
- IX. Engaged Citizenship and Students' Roles in Self-Governance