

Course Syllabus Part I

LA 400-410-420 – Kirkpatrick Signature Series

9 Credit Hours

Course Description

The Kirkpatrick Signature Series courses invite students to explore how individual values and behaviors relate to the goals of a good society for all. In an era of dynamic social, cultural, and political change, students examine the duties, rights, and responsibilities of citizenship in a Constitutional Republic with evolving norms and mores. Through a close examination of founding documents and institutions, and service to the larger community, students learn the importance of civil debate and dialogue, critical thinking, political compromise, and engaged citizenship.

Course Prerequisites

60 credit hours

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course cluster should be able to:

1. Ethically discuss the relationship between one's own personal values, engaged citizenship, and participation in a good society.
 2. Explain how the founding documents and institutions of the US relate to values and issues in citizenship.
 3. Engage in informed critical discussion of contemporary social and political issues, synthesizing information from multiple sources and perspectives.
 4. Analyze the relationships among engaged citizenship, individual values and behaviors, and the elements of a good society.
 5. Evaluate how evolving norms, cultural traditions, and social values affect civic debate, social discourse, and societal mores.
 6. Practice citizenship by engaging in community initiatives that respect differing viewpoints and values and that support human dignity.
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Grading Scale

A	$\geq 92.5\%$	C	$< 76.5\%$ and $\geq 72.5\%$
A-	$< 92.5\%$ and $\geq 89.5\%$	C-	$< 72.5\%$ and $\geq 69.5\%$
B+	$< 89.5\%$ and $\geq 86.5\%$	D+	$< 69.5\%$ and $\geq 66.5\%$
B	$< 86.5\%$ and $\geq 82.5\%$	D	$< 66.5\%$ and $\geq 62.5\%$
B-	$< 82.5\%$ and $\geq 79.5\%$	D-	$< 62.5\%$ and $\geq 59.5\%$
C+	$< 79.5\%$ and $\geq 76.5\%$	F	$< 59.5\%$

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