AYFCE 211N: Foundations: Civic and Community Engagement

3 Credits

Through readings, discussion, deliberation, listening, and individual as well as collaborative action, this course gives students the opportunity to learn about and practice theories and habits of civic and community engagement and public scholarship with the goal of helping to build democratic capacity and sustain participatory democracy. This course emphasizes concepts and case studies that focus on the people’s role in shared governance. The course also provides a foundation for understanding how a wide range of other individual and collective practices have an equally important role to play in building and sustaining community. The course draws from studies in demography, political science, sociology, psychology of racial identity formation and education to help students communicate better about and in shared governance.

Among the core concepts are the role of students and other citizens in sustaining and transforming their communities, the historical and contemporary mission of Land Grant universities, the centrality of rhetoric and communication to collaborative judgment, and the relationship among media, cultures, and politics as they affect civic and community engagement. Students also learn together about the range of ways that citizens do, can, and might participate in democratic decision-making and will observe and practice these forms in several communication media and across a range of differences. Finally, learn about models of and opportunities for engaging other citizens across and beyond Penn State, including in global environments.

Enforced Prerequisite at Enrollment: ENGL 15 or ENGL 30 or CAS 137H or ENGL 137H or CAS 100
Cross-listed with: CAS 222N, CIVCM 211N
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

AYFCE 211S: Foundations: Civic and Community Engagement

3 Credits

Conceptual foundations of public scholarship and orientation to contemporary themes and issues in civic and community engagement.

International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
First-Year Seminar
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
AYFCE 438: Living in an Increasingly Diverse Society

1-3 Credits/Maximum of 3

Students in this course will explore selected dimensions of diversity through lecture, discussion, speakers, active participation, and experiential learning.

United States Cultures (US)

AYFCE 455: Extension Youth Development Programs and Volunteer Management

3 Credits

A study of 4-H/Extension youth programs and the variety of roles played by volunteer leaders.

Prerequisite: 6 credits of social or behavioral sciences

AYFCE 495: Internship in Youth and Family Education Programs

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Supervised off-campus, nongroup instruction including field experiences, practicums, or internships.

Prerequisite: prior approval of proposed assignment by instructor

AYFCE 496: Independent Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

AYFCE 497: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.