

Good Citizenship Syllabus

Instructor

Marisa Mac Isaac

Office Location

Romanian American
University

Office Hours

[Hours,
Days]

Course Goals

1. To understand how the concept of good citizenship evolved through the United States Constitution, elections and participatory government.
2. To compare and contrast the concept of good citizenship in the United States and Romania
3. To develop strategies to practice good citizenship

Required Text

Constitution of Romania,

Constitution of the United States

Letter from Austria: Is Europe's "Tolerant Society" Backfiring?- New York Times article
"Kompromat" and the Danger of Doubt and Confusion in a Democracy- New York Times article

Course Expectations

- Instruction and discussion will take place in English.
- Active student participation is expected.
- Students will receive a certificate upon the completion of the course.
- Students should complete reading assignment ahead of class.
- Classes will occur March 20-24 from 09:00 to 11:50.

Monday, March 20 Origins and Applications of Constitutions

Questions to answer:

1. Why did the United States write a Constitution, and what is the Bill of Rights?
2. How is the U.S. Constitution taught to Americans, and how does this contribute to the concept of good citizenship?
3. How does this compare to the Romanian Constitution?

Reading:

1. Constitution of the United States
2. Constitution of Romania

Tuesday, March 21 Freedom of Speech

Questions to answer:

1. How is freedom of speech defined in the U.S. and Romanian Constitutions?
2. What are the limits of freedom of speech?
3. How can you practice freedom of speech?

Reading:

1. Letter from Austria: Is Europe's "Tolerant Society" Backfiring?- New York Times article

Wednesday, March 23 Ethics

Questions to answer:

1. What are ethics?
 - a. Rules based versus values based
2. Is there a methodology to making ethical decisions?

Reading:

Afternoon activity:

1. Screening of the film "Lincoln" followed by discussion

Thursday, March 23 Activity with an FBI Agent

Friday, March 24 Open Government

Questions to answer:

1. What is an open government?
 - a. How does this manifest itself?
2. How do Americans participate in government, beyond elections?
3. How can Romanians participate in government?

Reading: