

# HPSC2017A Action for Global Citizenship

## Course Syllabus

2013-14 session | Dr Chiara Ambrosio | [c.ambrosio@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:c.ambrosio@ucl.ac.uk)

### Course Information

This is an action-based group-work module in which students develop and implement a project via which they, and a wider community, enhance citizenship and leave a legacy of new understanding, better practice or improved social relations. The student groups choose a contemporary issue of global significance (such a fair trade, climate change, public health, participatory democracy) and undertake a programme of learning and activity which enrolls a wider community in a way that enhances both their own citizenship and UCL's citizenship in its wider community. For example, the students might: develop and implement a project to enrol UCL's members in reducing UCL's carbon footprint; or run a 'town meeting' on universities and citizenship involving UCL, politicians and our neighbours in Camden. The module runs twice per year, once in Term 1 (HPSC2017A) and once in Term 2 (HPSC2917B). Please make sure you select the correct module code for the term you wish to take the module. Spaces on this module may be limited and priority will be given to students (BSc and Affiliate) registered in the STS department. Students enrolled on HPSC2017B cannot take HPSC2017A.

### Basic course information

Course website:	See Moodle
Moodle Web site:	See Moodle
Assessment:	Individual essay (10%), Group proposal (30%), Amended group proposal (10%), Group event report and evaluation (40%), Individual reflection (10%)
Timetable:	<a href="http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/hpsc">www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/hpsc</a>
Prerequisites:	No preequistites
Required texts:	No required texts
Course tutor:	Chiara Ambrosio
Contact:	<a href="mailto:c.ambrosio@ucl.ac.uk">c.ambrosio@ucl.ac.uk</a>   t: 020 7679 0166
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Office location:	22 Gordon Square, Room 1.2
Office hours:	Thursday 1-3

## Schedule

UCL Week	Topic	Date	Activity
6	Introduction. Discussion of global citizenship	3 Oct	
7	Allocation of groups	10 Oct	
8	Local and Global from a multidisciplinary perspective/ Start of group project work	17 Oct	NB: individual essays due end of week
9	Group project work	25 Oct	
10	Group project work	31 Oct	Draft group proposal due end of week
11	<b>Reading Week</b>		
12	Group project work	14 Nov	
13	Group project work	21 Nov	Final group proposal due end of week
14	Group project work	28 Nov	
15	Group project work	5 Dec	
16	Group project work	12 Dec	Group report due 22 December Individual reflections due 13 Jan

This half-course unit is offered by the Department of Science & Technology Studies as part of their programme in Global Citizenship. Places are limited and registration is at the tutor's discretion. Priority is given to: second year STS students, affiliate students who are registered for the Global Citizenship Programme; and students who have taken, or are taking, Global Citizenship courses (HPSC2014 and 6) in the STS Department. All other undergraduates are welcome, provided there are places available. Students are expected to be, or to become, both independent learners and good team players.

This is an action-based group-work course in which students change the world. The students develop and implement a project via which they, and a wider community, enhance citizenship and leave a legacy of new understanding, better process or improved social relations.

Groups of between five and eight students will each choose a contemporary issue of global significance (such as fair trade, climate change, public health, participatory democracy) and undertake a programme of learning and activity which enrolls a wider community in some aspect of that global problem, and in a way that enhances both their own citizenship and UCL's citizenship in its wider community. For example, the students might: develop and implement a project to enrol UCL's members in reducing UCL's carbon footprint; or run a 'town meeting' on universities and citizenship involving UCL, politicians and our neighbours in Camden.

Students have a free choice of projects, limited only by the aims and resources of the course, and subject to supervision. Previous projects have included an exploration of UCL's interaction with people with learning disabilities, and the 'rehoming' of under-used books from the UCL campus to places where other people can enjoy them.

## Assessments

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### Summary

The formal scheme of assessment is as follows:

Coursework	Marks	Guideline schedule
Individual essay, aims and principles of action for citizenship, and how it relates to your project (1000 words)	10%	20 <sup>th</sup> October
Provisional group proposal	30%	1 <sup>st</sup> November
Final group proposal	10%	26 <sup>th</sup> November
Group event, final report and evaluation. ( The distribution of marks within this assessment varies depending on the character of the project.)	40%	22 <sup>nd</sup> December (final event to be scheduled last week of term)
Individual reflection on the process, dynamics and outcome of the course	10%	First day of Term 2
Each student keeps a course diary or log-book which provides a record of participation.	0%	Submitted only if requested by the examiners
All the above items are required for completion. Note that, further to submission of items for assessment, students are required to participate to a level deemed acceptable by the examiners, A student who, in the judgement of the examiners, does not participate sufficiently will be deemed incomplete.		

### Assignments

Specific advice on the format of assignments will be given in class. One required part of the final group report must be a description of the whole project which is written for a public audience. Also we encourage you to provide photographs as forms of evidence for the project report.

Coursework must be submitted by Moodle.  
All coursework must be submitted to complete this course.

### **Criteria for assessment**

The departmental marking guidelines for individual items of assessment can be found in the STS Student Handbook.

## **Aims & objectives**

### **Aims**

The course aims to:

- enhance understanding of citizenship as a concept
- enhance understanding of, and skills for, action for citizenship
- enhance institutional citizenship of students as members of UCL
- enhance engagement of the extended UCL community in citizenship issues and activity
- provide a community experience of citizenship, building new understandings and new social relations
- make lasting changes in thinking and process for all participants

### **Outcomes**

Students gain:

- Knowledge and learning about citizenship
- Skills in communication, planning, advocacy, and dealing with people
- A sense of what it means to 'make a difference'

UCL gains:

- an enhanced sense of community
- an enhanced understanding of citizenship
- improved community relations

### **Reading list**

For a quick introduction to citizenship, see Michael Byers' lecture at the University of British Columbia: 'Are you a global citizen?', <http://thetyee.ca/Views/2005/10/05/globalcitizen/> ; and 'Globalization' from the *Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy*, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/globalization>.

For an overview, the recommended text is *An Introduction to Global Citizenship* by Nigel Dower (Edinburgh University Press).

More recommended readings are available on moodle. Further texts will be suggested during the course and will vary depending on the nature of the projects that the students will work on.

## Course expectations

Because of the many variables introduced by the free choice of projects, this course operates flexibly within a guideline formal framework. Please be alert to occasions when flexibility is appropriate, and when it is not.

Each term's course runs over the full 11 weeks of term, with the 'action' delivery happening towards the end of the course. There is a brief taught introduction to: clarify the intellectual and ideological resources that can enhance citizenship; to identify issues in group work, project planning and implementation; and to guide students in the scope and topic of their project.

Class time = 5 hours

This is followed by around 7 weeks of activity to bring the project about. Weekly supervision will continue through this period, and will be available during the scheduled class time.

Reading and research = 50 hours

Supervision time = 15 hours

Activity time = 50 hours\*

Delivery of the project will conclude the course.

Delivery time = 30 hours\*

\*Activity and delivery time will total 80 hours and the split may vary between projects.

**Total course time: 150 hours**

150 hours is the standard time for a half-course unit. In traditional courses you would spend most of this time on your own, reading and thinking. You may never have added up how many hours you spend thinking about lectures, and forming essays in your mind. However, for an action-based, group-work course, you will become very aware of the time you are spending on it, not least as you will have to coordinate that time with other students. So this course is not, and should not become, a bigger time commitment than other courses. It is likely to be more challenging logistically, and you will certainly be conscious of the time you spend on it.

## Additional information

### Your role in the group

Because we have a lot to achieve in short time, students will be asked to fit quickly into specific roles in the group. The roles can be flexible, so you are not stuck doing only one thing, but you may be asked to take responsibility for one aspect of the project. What roles your group needs will depend on your project. You will probably need at least a leader/coordinator, a communications manager and an editor/archivist for your coursework. You may find that you need a driver, a treasurer, or a research coordinator. If your action is public, you may need an advertising manager, a speaker and a press relations officer. You may need a catering manager, and a waste disposal director. You should identify a 'green champion' in your team. Think about what kinds of skills you want to develop, and what skills you can contribute.

## **Budget**

The students have a small fund for essential expenses, as appropriate to their project aims. Costing and accounting is assessed within coursework.

## **Important policy information**

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Details of late penalties, coursework word limits and policies on extensions and plagiarism can be found in the STS Student Handbook [www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/handbook](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/handbook)