



The Civic Leadership FYE Cluster

The Civic Leadership FYE Cluster at Portland State University engages students in the local community while preparing them for leadership roles in their respective majors and careers. This community is part of the First Year Experience Program (FYE) at Portland State University (see <http://www.pdx.edu/housing/first-year-experience> for additional information of the FYE program). To participate in this community students will enroll in a special section of Freshman Inquiry, On Democracy taught by Christopher Carey. Students are also encouraged to take PA 311U Introduction to Civic Leadership, a gateway course for the Civic Leadership minor offered through the Hatfield School of Government in collaboration with the Center for Academic Excellence. Students will be housed on the same floor, will participate in various community activities, and develop leadership skills through a variety of experiential learning programs.

The specific goals of this leadership community include:

- Civic engagement and leadership focus
- In depth community participation required as part of the course
- Year long examination of democratic values and concepts
- Global citizenship exploration through community service, reflection, and class discussion
- Strong commitment to applying what is learned in the classroom in the local community
- Bridging of in class learning to residence hall living through additional themed programming
- Supportive learning environment enhanced through peer academic support and Learning Community Assistants

About the Freshman Inquiry On Democracy Course

*"No Nation Can Remain Both Ignorant
and Free."*

Thomas Jefferson

In January 2005, the world was riveted by images of Iraqis lining up to cast votes in a free election. Their actions were accompanied by many

commentaries on the power of democracy. But what is democracy? Why does it succeed and flourish or dissolve into tyranny? Why does the idea have such power to move us? This course will trace the idea of "Democracy" and particularly focus on democratic leadership in history, culture, art, economics and politics. This course will include a significant portion of time dedicated to developing leadership qualities in students and community engagement activities.





In addition to the reading and written analyses the course will ask students to organize and present their conclusions in oral and visual form, to engage in statistical analysis the use of charts and tables to examine experience of democracy, to debate various aspects of the democratic project, and to explore democratic practice through projects in the local community.

About the Freshman Inquiry Professor

Christopher Carey, PhD, J.D., is a former Deputy District Attorney and currently an Assistant Professor at Portland State University. He is a graduate of Arizona State University's Hugh Downs School of Human Communication where his focus was intercultural communication. His expertise extends to the application of international law with an emphasis on human trafficking and conflict management. His international experience includes work in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Mexico. He has served as the executive director of an international non profit working to alleviate the spread of human trafficking. When not learning about the world from his children Eli and Lilah, he can be found fly fishing the rivers and climbing the mountains of the Pacific Northwest.

If you have additional questions feel free to contact Christina Johnson (cjohnson@pdx.edu) or Christopher Carey (ccarey@pdx.edu).

You may also contact Residence Life at 503.725.4370