

Department: POLS

Course No: POLS 2062W

Title: Privacy in the Information Age

Credits: 3

Contact:Oksan Bayulgen

WQ: W only

Catalog Copy:POLS 2062W. Privacy in the Information Age. Three Credits.

Thematic overview of privacy from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Public policy, legal and ethical debates surrounding privacy and the impact of technology and scientific advances on how privacy is conceptualized, valued, enacted, and protected.

Course Information:

This course will introduce students to historical, anthropological, sociological, philosophical, literary, psychological political and legal conceptualizations of privacy. In addition to enabling a wide-ranging exploration of this topic, this interdisciplinary structure will provide me with multiple opportunities to highlight for students the many distinctive approaches (methodological and epistemological) that academic writers/researchers employ. Students will learn how to draw on disparate sources of knowledge to develop their arguments which will serve the general education goals of helping students to acquire intellectual breadth and versatility. This course will encourage students to acquire critical judgment and moral sensitivity by stimulating them to repeatedly consider and articulate their views on particular policy debates and/or ethical dilemmas pertaining to the concept of privacy.

W Criteria :

The W version of the course will incorporate the GEOC requirements for W courses including 15 pages of writing that is reviewed and redrafted along with specific instruction on and attention to matters of style and grammar. This requirement will be accomplished by requiring students to write two 8 page essays on topics pertaining to privacy. Students will turn in both a rough draft and a final draft of each paper. Paper grades will be divided between a draft grade (30%) and a final draft grade (70%). Final draft grades will include a consideration of how well students responded to and incorporated feedback about the draft provided by the instructor.

Role of Grad Students: none