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INTRODUCTION

In George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, the assertion that "all animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others" signals the breakdown of any semblance of a fair society. We have probably all experienced it: a situation where someone who was better connected, more influential, or in a position of power could advance far beyond the position or actions of the common person. On a typical day, this happens in travel, restaurant seating, the selection of a church pew, and the line at the grocery store.

It should not, however, happen in our public services. As citizens, we all have rights, and we all have the same rights. That is the beauty of the United States's democratic government structure, and perhaps one of the most cherished aspects of it. Economic and social diversity aside, when we interact with the government, we expect to receive the same treatment, whether we are a Rockefeller or a plumber. The reality is that this balance of citizen rights is difficult to achieve, because in many cases, those wielding power and influence attempt to trump equity.

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OBJECTIVES

To successfully complete this learning unit, you will be expected to:

1. Identify common public values in the constructs of the welfare state and the middle class and assess the universality of these public values across local, regional, and global boundaries.
2. Analyze and explain your views on whether a welfare state is appropriate and whether it can add public values in a diverse society.
3. Examine the role of trust in public values and public perception of the welfare state.
4. Evaluate the role of the middle class in creating public value in society.
5. Examine the role of trust in public values and public perception of the middle class.

6. Demonstrate effective academic writing.

↓ [u04s1] Unit 4 Study 1
Studies

Readings

Use *DPA8412 Global and Diverse Societies* to complete the following:

- In the Kivisto and Faist text, *Citizenship: Discourse, Theory, and Transnational Prospects*, read Chapter 3, "Erosion," pages 49–74.

Research

Complete the following research in preparation for this unit's discussions:

- Use the Capella library, the Internet, and other resources available to you to locate at least three peer-reviewed articles on the middle class. The articles should have a major focus on comparing and contrasting the middle class of the United States with that of other countries. You will use these resources in The Middle Class discussion later in this unit.
- Using peer-reviewed sources, find definitions for the terms *citizen rights*, *welfare state*, and *exclusionism*. You will need your findings for The Welfare State discussion later in this unit.

↓ [u04a1] [Unit 4 Assignment 1](#)
Global Issue – Selection (Phase 1)

In this preliminary paper, you will identify a global issue or problem that has global, multicultural, and diversity ramifications, and can be addressed through public administration. This issue should require analysis of cultural values and their impact on decision making and communications, as well as public engagement and participation.

Your choice should be driven by the various sources of information that you have engaged with thus far in the course. You should cite sources of information you located through the Global Issue Resources multimedia piece (AGOA, U.S. State Department, GAO, and United Nations) and from course readings and other multimedia presentations. In addition, you may supplement this material with peer-reviewed sources from the Capella library or other peer-reviewed sources online or in print.

You will explain the issue and detail the rationale for your selection based on the literature you have examined thus far. This section will include analysis of key elements of the issue and how it is impacted by dynamics of public engagement and participation. This is considered Phase 1 in the development of your course project.

Your assignment should follow this organizational arrangement and structure:

10. Introduction.
11. Background.
12. Rationale for your selection, based on and drawn from the literature.
13. References.

The paper should also meet the following requirements:

- Written communication: Written communication is free of errors that detract from the overall message.
- APA formatting: Reference citations are formatted according to APA (sixth edition) style.
- Number of resources: Minimum of five resources found through Global Issue Resources and other sources as appropriate.
- Length of paper: 2–3 typed, double-spaced pages, plus a list of references.
- Font and font size: Times, 12 point.

Be sure to submit your completed assignment to Turnitin; be aware that it may take longer than 24 hours to get the report back.

Note: Your instructor may also use the Writing Feedback Tool to provide feedback on your writing. In the tool, click the linked resources for helpful writing information.

Resources

[↓ \[u04d1\] Unit 4 Discussion 1](#)

The Welfare State

It could be argued that the concept of citizen rights has become extended over the years to incorporate a sense of entitlement that sometimes runs counter to the self-sufficiency upon which the United States was founded. The theoretical foundation for this concept overlaps with the welfare state and exclusionism in modern society.

Using the resources you located in this unit's study, explain the terms *citizen rights*, *welfare state*, and *exclusionism*. How do the definitions in the sources you located compare to the definitions found in your text? Analyze the differences and similarities. Use this analysis to inform an explanation of your own views on whether or not a welfare state is appropriate and whether or not it can add public value in today's diverse society.

Response Guidelines

Read your peers' posts and respond to at least one (please choose a post that has fewer responses than the rest). Assess your peer's analysis and compare how he or she applied the definitions with your own analysis and application. How might the differences between your viewpoint and that of your peer affect the way you make decisions in a professional setting?

Resources

-  [Discussion Participation Scoring Guide.](#)

[\[u04d2\] Unit 4 Discussion 2](#)

The Middle Class

The United States has a robust and vocal middle class, but this is not the case in all countries. In some places, few people live between the socioeconomic extremes of wealth and poverty.

Explain the role of the middle class in society and any universal public values that became evident in your analysis of the middle class. Is a robust middle class necessary? Is it healthy? What are its prospects in the future global society? In answering these questions, reference the peer-reviewed sources you found in this unit's study. You can also refer to examples drawn from the primary source material you encountered in the Global Issue Resources interactive.

Response Guidelines

Read your peers' posts and respond to at least one (please choose a post that has fewer responses than the rest). How does your peer's perspective about the middle class compare with your own? Answer the following questions if they are relevant:

- Does your peer's writing contain any assumptions or faulty logic that should be questioned?

- Is it incomplete in any way?
- Can you expand upon the ideas presented or suggest variations?
- What points are made particularly well?

Resources