

SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND PROTEST (SOC 596)

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Course Time: Tuesday 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Room: ANSO 2107

Course Description:

Social movements are important arenas for social change. By joining together, individuals can work to transform social values or norms, alter social policy, and change laws. This class will aim to further our understanding of social movements by examining how they develop, are sustained, and (sometimes) decline. We will begin by examining theories of social movements and look at the ways in which our understanding of social movements and those who participate in them has changed over time. We will also examine mobilization to social movements and ask why some people come to participate while others do not. For those who do participate, we will assess the effect of this participation on them as individuals. We will also examine the tactics and goals of social movements and police and state regulation of these movements.

This course focuses on theories of social movements and collective action through an examination of contemporary movements. The goal is for students to learn the analytic tools necessary to examine and more critically assess the role of social movements in our society. Students will engage in original research by interviewing activists or observing a protest event and write a paper applying the theoretical concepts we have learned in class to their data. The selected texts include articles from sociological journals and case studies of movements which will further our theoretical and conceptual understanding of social movements as a whole. Students will write weekly response papers in order to critically assess and engage with these readings.

Required Book and Additional Readings

1. McAdam, Doug. (1988) *Freedom Summer*. Oxford University Press: New York, NY.
2. All other readings listed in the reading schedule below are journal articles and book chapters available from the UBC library. Links to these articles will be provided on the course website.

Learning objectives and outcomes:

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain and apply the main theories and concepts used in class.
2. Apply the theories and concepts learned in class to better understand historical and modern social movement causes and campaigns.
3. Design a research project that incorporates a clear hypothesis, literature review, and data analysis on the topic of social movements.
4. Collect and analyze original qualitative or quantitative data to answer the research question posed in the course paper.
5. Critically analyze and evaluate published research.
6. Develop clear critical reading, thinking, and analytical skills.

Course Requirements:

Grading Summary

1. Response Papers (8 papers – 3% each)-----	24%
2. Examination-----	35%
3. Research Paper-----	35%
4. Paper Proposal -----	6 %

Response Papers

Students are expected to come to class prepared. Students must write **8 response papers** over the course of the term (one each day of regular class with one class off of your choosing – there is no response paper on the first day of class, the exam day, or the day the paper proposal is due). These response papers will be one page in length, typed and double-spaced. You may use the first few sentences to outline the main arguments of the reading. However, the main part of the response is to either provide a contemporary example, a comparison with another reading, or offer some other insight into the day's topic. The summaries and discussion questions are intended to stimulate conversation in class. They will be collected at the beginning of each class and will count as 24% of your final grade. You **cannot** hand the papers in by email - they must be handed in in class.

Course Paper

The paper for the class will be based on interviews with activists, the observation of a protest event, or the analysis of newspaper or social media data. Students will attend an event, conduct interviews, or analyze this data and then write paper tying it to the material we have learned about social movements generally in class. The paper is due on April 18th by noon. Students must bring a proposal of their paper topic to class on October 22 (worth 6%). Late papers will receive a penalty of 10 percent per day late.

Examination

The exam for this course consists of short answer and essay questions. Students are asked to synthesize their knowledge of key concepts, theories, and cases in order to demonstrate their

understanding of the course material. No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations. The exam is in class time on November 26.

Accommodation

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with Access and Diversity at Student Services. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let me know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism is a serious offense and will be treated as such. If you cheat or plagiarize, you will be formally reported to the Academic Integrity Program. It is your responsibility to know what constitutes plagiarism. If you are unsure, please consult the following site:

<http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/resource-guides/avoiding-plagiarism/>

Missed Exams and Late Assignments

Make-up exams will be granted with approved documentation only. If you have a conflict with one of the exam dates, it is your responsibility to discuss it with me at least one week before the regularly scheduled exam and provide documentation of the conflict. If approved by myself and Student Services, you will be allowed to schedule a make-up exam.

If you miss an exam date or the due date for an assignment due to illness or for any other unforeseen reason, you must provide notification of and documentation for the reasons for your circumstances within 48 hours. If your problem is medical in nature, you should be seen by your doctor or Student Health on the date of the exam or on the date the assignment is due. Academic concessions are granted only by the dean or director (or their delegate) and are a privilege, not a right. If you request an academic concession, you may be asked to provide additional information. For more information, see the Academic Concession section of the Academic Calendar.

Grade Appeals

Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments and should also retain all their marked exams in case they wish to apply for a Review of Assigned Standing. Students have the right to review their exams and other materials with me, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades.

Please understand that I take grading very seriously, and make every effort to provide you with a grade that honestly reflects the quality of your work. If you believe the grade does not adequately reflect the quality of your work, return the assignment to me with short, specific, written comments explaining why you think you deserve a higher grade. It is best to do this within a week of the time the test/assignment is returned.

Major Topics Covered in this Course

- 1: What is a social movement?
- 2: Theories of Social Movements
- 3: The Role of Organizations and Coalitions
- 4: Participation and Identity in Social Movements
- 5: The Media and Social Movement Tactics
- 6: Social Movements, the State, and the Police
- 7: Outcomes of Social Movements and Protest

CLASS SCHEDULE/ READING LIST

DATE	TOPIC	READING
Week 1 - Sept. 10	Introduction What is a social movement?	1:Tilly "Social Movements as Political Struggle"
Week 2 - Sept. 17	Stereotypes of Social Movements Deprivation Theories	1: Couch "Collective Behavior: An Examination of Some Stereotypes" 2: Wilkes "First Nations Protest"
Week 3 - Sept. 24	Resource Mobilization Theory Political Process Theory	1: McCarthy and Zald "Social Movement Organizations" 2: Jenkins "Farmworkers Movements" 3: McAdam "Political Process Model"
Oct. 1	NO CLASS	
Week 4 – Oct. 8	Framing Theory Applying the Theories	1: Rholinger "Framing the Abortion Debate" 2: McAdam <i>Freedom Summer</i> - Intro and Chapter 1
Week 5 – Oct.15	The Role of Organizations Coalitions in Social Movements	1: Murphy "Coalitions and the Development of the Global Environmental Movement"
Week 6 - Oct. 22	PAPER WORKSHOP	****Paper Proposal Due****
Week 7 – Oct. 29	Participation – Why do people engage? Participation – Commitment	1: Klandermans "Principles of Movement Participation" 2: Hirsch "Generating Commitment among Students" 3: Earl and Kimport "Digitally Engaged Activism"
Week 8 – Nov. 5	Social Movements and Identity	1: McAdam <i>Freedom Summer</i> – Chapter 2 and 3 2: Bernstein "The Strategic Use of Identity by the Lesbian and Gay Movement"
Week 9 - Nov. 12	The Role of the Media	1: McAdam <i>Freedom Summer</i> – Chapter 5 2: Smith et al. "From Protest to Agenda Building" 3: Crossley "Facebook Feminism"
Week 10 – Nov. 19	Strategies and Tactics	1: Morris "Tactical Innovation in the Civil Rights Movement" 2: Alinsky "Protest Tactics"
Week 11 -Nov. 26	EXAM	
Week 12 – Dec. 3	Policing Protest Defining Success	1: McPhail et al. "Policing Protest" 2: Gamson "Defining Success" 3: McAdam <i>Freedom Summer</i> - Chapter 6
Week 13 – Dec. 10	Paper Presentations – Part I	
Week 14 – Dec. 17	Paper Presentations – Part II	