

## **SOC 294: RESEARCH SEMINAR ON SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND CULTURE**

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Office Hours: Wed 1-3 and by appointment

Spring 2012  
SSMS 3017  
Thursday 2-4:50

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course examines theory and research on social movements, political protest, and other forms of collective action with an emphasis on readings that examine the cultural dimensions of social movements. The goal is to examine: 1) major theoretical perspectives for analyzing social movements and other forms of collective action; and 2) current research and theorizing that integrates cultural and structural analyses of social movements.

This seminar is designed for students with different backgrounds and levels of familiarity with the literature and research in the field of social movements.

### **RECOMMENDED READING:**

The following book is recommended as an overview for students with little or no background in the area of social movements.

Snow, David A. and Sarah A. Soule. 2010. *A Primer on Social Movements*. New York: W.W. Norton.

### **REQUIRED READING:**

Blee, Kathleen. 2003. *Inside Organized Racism*. University of California Press.

Ferree, Myra Marx. 2012. *Varieties of Feminism: German Gender Politics in Global Perspective*. Stanford University Press.

Ghaziani, Amin. 2008. *The Dividends of Dissent: How Conflict and Culture Work in Lesbian and Gay Marches on Washington*. University of Chicago Press.

Reger, Jo. 2012. *Everywhere and Nowhere: Contemporary Feminism in the United States*. Oxford University Press.

Rupp, Leila and Verta Taylor. 2003. *Drag Queens at the 801 Cabaret*. University of Chicago Press.

Whittier, Nancy. 2009. *The Politics of Child Sexual Abuse: Emotion, Social Movements, and the State*. Oxford University Press.

In addition, other articles will be posted on Gauchospace and Eres (electronic reserves). All articles are on Gauchospace unless noted "Eres." See:  
<http://eres.library.ucsb.edu/eres/default.aspx>

**RECOMMENDED GENERAL READING (NOT REQUIRED):**

Goodwin, Jeff and James M. Jasper. 2009. *The Social Movements Reader: Cases and Concepts*. Wiley-Blackwell.

Della Porta, Donatella and Mario Diani. 2006. *Social Movements: An Introduction*. Blackwell.

Johnston, Hank and Bert Klandermans. 1995. *Social Movements and Culture*. University of Minnesota Press.

McAdam, Doug and David A. Snow. 1997. *Social Movements: Readings on their Emergence, Mobilization, and Dynamics*. Los Angeles, CA: Roxbury Publishing Company.

Snow, David A., Sarah Soule, and Hanspeter Kriesi, eds. 2004. *The Blackwell Companion to Social Movements*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Tarrow, Sidney. 1998. *Power in Movement: Social Movements and Contentious Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:**

Students' evaluations will be based on the following:

1. **CLASS PARTICIPATION AND WEEKLY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:** For the seminar to be a success, students should attend regularly, keep up with the assigned readings, read other students' papers prior to class when relevant to the assignment, and make regular and thoughtful contributions to classroom discussions. Class participation will count 10 points.
2. **FACILITATION OF DISCUSSION OF READINGS:** For each class session, 2 students will be responsible for preparing short (2-3) page reaction papers to the readings, as well as a series of questions for class discussion. Each student will be responsible for posting their reaction papers to Gauchospace prior to the class meeting. Students will use these papers to facilitate a discussion of the readings for that class session. These papers should, at minimum, address and evaluate the theoretical and substantive contributions of the assigned readings, discuss how the readings relate to each other and to prior readings, and consider what questions are raised and what approaches or answers are suggested. The papers should not be mere summaries of the readings, but rather critical reactions to them. Each student will prepare reaction papers for 2 class sessions. This is worth 20 points (10 per session).
3. **FINAL PAPER:** To accommodate students' varied backgrounds and stages in the graduate program, students will have several options on which their final grade

will be based. The goal is to tailor assignments to students' academic goals. Class members may write a research proposal, focused literature review, or research paper due on June 14. Proposals should include a statement of the research question/s, literature review, theoretical rationale, and discussion of research methods/data sources, with all of these grounded in existing debates and literature on social movements. The proposal may be for a master's thesis, doctoral dissertation, journal article, or conference paper. Research papers might include master's theses, revisions of master's theses, candidacy exams, dissertation chapters, and papers prepared for publication in journals or edited volumes, and papers revised from other courses. Students may also write a focused review of the social movement literature as it relates to their interests. Students interested in writing another type of paper for their final should discuss this with me at the beginning of the quarter. The final paper is worth 70 points.

**FINAL GRADE:**

Review of the Literature Paper/Presentation	20
Class participation	10
Research Proposal or Paper	<u>70</u>
	100 points

**CLASS SCHEDULE:**

(Please note that the titles of articles are abbreviated)

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC AND READING
Week 1	April 5	<p><b>Conceptualizing Social Movements</b></p> <p>Snow and Soule, <i>Primer on Social Movements</i>            Taylor, "Culture, Identity, and Protest: Studying Social Movements as if People Really Matter"</p>
Week 2	April 12	<p><b>Major Theoretical Approaches: Resource Mobilization, Political Process, New Social Movements, and Constructivist Approaches</b></p> <p>McCarthy and Zald, "Resource Mobilization and Social Movements"            McAdam, "The Political Process Model" (Eres)            Jasper, "Caught in a Winding Snarling Vine"            Snow, "Framing Processes, Ideology, and Discursive Fields" (Eres)            Van Dyke, Soule, and Taylor, "The Targets of Social Movements"            Armstrong and Bernstein, "Culture, Power, and Institutions: A Multi-Institutional Politics Approach to Social Movements"</p>

Week 3	April 19	<p><b>Culture and Social Movements</b></p> <p>Melucci, “The Process of Collective Identity” (see “Social Movements and Culture” PDF)</p> <p>Taylor and Rupp, “Forging Feminist Identity in an International Movement: A Collective Identity Approach”</p> <p>Robnett, “We Don’t Agree: Collective Identity Justification Work in Social Movement Organization”</p> <p>Swidler “Cultural Power and Social Movements” (see “Culture and Social Movements PDF”)</p> <p>Johnson and Klandermans, “The Cultural Analysis of Social Movements” (see “Culture and Social Movements PDF”)</p> <p>Ghaziani, “An Amorphous Mist?”</p> <p>Polletta, “Culture and Movements”</p>
Week 4	April 26	<p><b>Political Context and Mobilization</b></p> <p>Reger, <i>Everywhere and Nowhere</i></p> <p>Taylor, “Social Movement Continuity: The Women’s Movement in Abeyance”</p> <p>Whittier, “Political Generations”</p> <p>Staggenborg and Lang, “Culture and Ritual in the Montreal Women’s Movement”</p> <p>Maddison and Martin, “Introduction to Surviving Neoliberalism”</p>
Week 5	May 3	<p><b>Discursive Context, Political Opportunities, Disruptions, and Threats</b></p> <p>Ferree, <i>Varieties of Feminism: German Gender Politics in Global Perspective</i></p> <p>Taylor, “Gender and Social Movements”</p>
Week 6	May 10	<p><b>Recruitment and Identity</b></p> <p>Blee, <i>Inside Organized Racism</i></p> <p>Bernstein, “Celebration and Suppression”</p> <p>Blee, “White-Knuckle Research”</p> <p>Leitz, “Oppositional Identities”</p>
Week 7	May 17	<p><b>Micromobilization: Networks, Framing, Grievances, Identity, and Emotion</b></p> <p>Whittier, <i>The Politics of Child Sexual Abuse: Emotion, Social Movements, and the State</i></p> <p>Robnett, “Emotional Resonance, Social Location and Strategic Framing”</p>

		Polletta, "Narrative and Identity in Protest" Taylor and Leitz "From Infanticide to Activism" (Eres)
Week 8	May 24	<b>Strategies and Tactics</b>  Rupp and Taylor, <i>Drag Queens at the 801 Cabaret</i> Taylor and Van Dyke, "Get Up: Stand Up" (Eres) Blee, "Social Movement Audiences" Childress and Friedkin, "Cultural Reception and Production"
Week 9	May 31	<b>Dynamics of Social Movements</b>  Ghaziani, <i>The Dividends of Dissent</i> Ghaziani and Baldassarri, "Cultural Anchors and the Organization of Differences"
Week 10	June 7	<b>How Movements Matter: Consequences of Social Movements</b>  McCammon et al., "Movement Framing and Discursive Opportunity Structures" Meyer and Whittier, "Social Movement Spillover" Taylor, Kimport, VanDyke and Andersen, "Same Sex Weddings, Culture, and Mobilization" Taylor and Zald, "The Shape of Collective Action in the U.S. Health Sector" Earl, "The Cultural Consequences of Social Movements" (Eres)
FINAL		FINAL PAPER DUE BY June 14