

Syllabus for SOC 247: Contemporary Social Movements

Spring 2023

Instructor: Ramin Jabbarli (Raminj@uw.edu)

Meeting time and location: T, TH 2:30 PM - 4:20 PM,
Smith Hall 405

Office hours: By appointment

Course Description:

This course focuses on the mechanism of social protest and movement as a machine of social change in societies.

This course will introduce theoretical perspectives explaining social movements' emergence, stability, decline, and protest participation in democratic and autocratic regimes. This course allows students to examine the origins, trajectories, and effects of social movements in various countries, along with the cases from the United States. Although the course's assigned readings are primarily theoretical, they will help students to understand the dynamics of social movements in different cases. Especially to examine why some social movements fail to mobilize people while others successfully mobilize people.

Course Objectives:

- Students will be able to articulate key sociological theories of social movement.
- Students will learn how to apply social movement theories to social movement cases.
- Social movement theories will be examined critically.
- Western and non-western cases will be explored.
- Students will be familiarized with different types of grievances and possible social change.
- Students will learn how to participate in collective action and the importance of social movements in social change.

Assignments and Grading:

Final grades will be determined based on the percentage of points earned on quizzes, weekly reading memos, and leading discussion. Grade percentages will be converted to final numeric grades on a standard scale summarized in the table to the right.

Total points for the quarter will be distributed as follows:

Weekly reading memos	30%
Presenting Class Materials and Leading Discussion	20%
Participation	20%
Final Paper	30%

Total	100%
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Reading memos (30%)

Students will complete a short weekly reading memo, 2-3 double-spaced pages. These memos will help students understand the required readings' core concepts and theories. Reading memos are graded credit/no credit. Students will receive credit if they thoughtfully attempt to engage with the readings. There are ten weekly memos in this course. Weekly memos must be submitted via canvas as a Word or PDF by Thursday, 2:30 pm. The memo for the first week is due by Friday midnight.

Presenting Materials and Leading Class Discussions (20%)

Starting from the third week, a small group of students will present the assigned readings briefly and lead the discussion on Thursdays. Leading students should prepare open-ended questions for each assigned reading to facilitate discussions in the class. All students are expected to come to the class with questions and comments. The discussion will not be merely theoretical. In addition to discussing the theories, students will apply them to the ongoing or recent collective actions and social movements.

Participation (20%)

Students are expected to participate by expressing their thoughts, commenting, and asking questions in class, especially when a group presents class materials and leads discussion. We may also have some in-class activities, such as short writing assignments, or I may ask you to post your questions or thoughts on the canvas discussion board.

Final Paper (30%)

A paper of about 8-12 pages is a requirement for this course. You may choose any case from western or non-western societies that refers to social movement and political protest. The expectation is the application of at least two of the social movement theories introduced in this course to explain the chosen case. There are many cases in the world to explore through your theoretical lens. Examples are the environmental, peace, antinuclear, Anti-Vietnam, feminist and student movements, labor movements, nationalist movements, ethnic movements, and the Arab spring. You may also choose to consider historical cases. I strongly recommend choosing a case related to your own life and experience. For instance, a student from an ethnic minority may choose to write about the ethnic rights movement.

Due dates for the paper:

Possible Points: 100

April 23rd: Possible points 10

By the end of the fourth week, students should choose their case and submit two pages of writing explaining the case and the people's grievances in the movement.

June 2nd: Final Paper
Possible points 90

The rubric for the final paper will be posted on the course's canvas page.

Email Responses and Timing:

I'll respond to your emails within 48 weekday hours. If you have more than two questions, office hours might be more helpful. If office hours do not work for you, please let me know to set an alternative time to meet.

Academic Dishonesty:

Students are expected to abide by established regulations on student conduct. Any student found violating the rules of student conduct will be removed from the class per state policy, and appropriate disciplinary action will be pursued. For more on the University of Washington Student Code, please see:

<http://www.washington.edu/cssc/student-conduct-overview/student-code-of-conduct/>

Plagiarism is attempting to pass off someone else's work as your own. It is not acceptable. If a case is identified, the student will receive no credit for the assignment in question, and the case will be advanced to the College of Arts and Sciences Disciplinary Committee. For more on the Sociology Department's approach to plagiarism, please visit: <https://soc.washington.edu/information-academic-honestyplagiarism>.

Students caught cheating during a quiz or exam will receive a score of "0" for that quiz or exam.

Academic Accommodations:

If you have a documented permanent or temporary physical, psychological or sensory disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations under the law, then you should be aware of the UW Disability Resources for Students Office.

For more information, visit the following website for the DRS Office:
<http://www.washington.edu/students/drs/> 4

Religious Accommodations:

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for the accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about requesting accommodation, is available at Faculty Syllabus Guidelines and Resources. Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request form available here:

<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>

Basic Needs Statement:

If you find yourself in need of health services, housing, food, or other basic resources, please use the resources listed below and/or visit the Resources page on the Sociology Department's website.

- Concerned with your own safety or the safety of others? Call SafeCampus at 206-685-7233
- Emergency Aid: <http://www.washington.edu/emergencyaid/seattle/>

- Campus Food Pantry: <http://www.washington.edu/anyhungryhusky/get-food/>
- Counseling Center: <https://www.washington.edu/counseling/about/>
- Short Term Loans: <http://www.washington.edu/financialaid/types-of-aid/loans/short-term-loans/>
- Office of Student Financial Aid: <https://www.washington.edu/financialaid/contact-us/>
- Health and Wellness office: <http://depts.washington.edu/livewell/>
- Hall Health: <http://depts.washington.edu/hhpccweb/>
- Hall Health Mental Health: <http://depts.washington.edu/hhpccweb/project/mental-health-clinic/>
- Sexual Assault Resources: <http://www.washington.edu/sexualassault/>
- Q Center (for queer community, including questioning):
<http://depts.washington.edu/qcenter/wordpress/>
- Disability Resources for Students: <http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrs/>
- Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity: <http://www.washington.edu/omad/>
- International Student Center: <https://iss.washington.edu/>
- Undocumented Student Resources: <https://www.washington.edu/admissions/undocumented/>

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Theory of Collective Action

Tuesday: March 28th

Required reading: Olson, Mancur. 1982. The Rise and Decline of Nations. Economic Strength, Stagflation, and Social Rigidities. New Haven & London: Yale University Press, pp. 17-35.

Thursday: March 30th

Required reading: Opp, Karl-Dieter and Wolfgang Roehl. 1990. "Repression, Micromobilization, and Political Protest." *Social Forces* 69:521-548.

Week 2: The Resource Mobilization Perspective

Tuesday: April 4th

Required Reading: McCarthy, John D., and Mayer N. Zald. 1977. "Resource Mobilization and Social Movements." *American Journal of Sociology* 82:1212-1241.

Thursday: April 6th

Required reading: Klandermans, Bert. 1984. "Mobilization and Participation. Social Psychological Expansions of Resource Mobilization Theory." *American Sociological Review* 49:583-600.

Week 3: Political Opportunities and Threats

Tuesday: April 11th

Required reading: Tarrow, Sidney (2011). "Threats, Opportunities, and Regimes" (pp.157-180) in *Power in movement: social movements and contentious politics* (Rev. & updated 3rd ed.). Cambridge University Press.

Thursday: April 13th

Required reading: Osa, Maryjane ; Corduneanu-Huci, Cristina. 2003 "Running uphill: Political opportunity in non-democracies." *Comparative Sociology*, Vol.2(4), pp.605-627

Week 4: Identity and Political Participation

Tuesday: April 18th

Required Reading: Klandermans, Bert. 2014. "Identity Politics and Politicized Identities: Identity Processes and the Dynamics of Protest " *Political Psychology* 35(1):1-22.

Thursday: April 20th

Tilly, C., & Tarrow, S. (2015). "Lethal Conflicts" in *Contentious politics*. Oxford University Press, Incorporated. PP. 169-189.

Week 5: Framing and Political Participation

Tuesday: April 25th

Required Reading: Snow, David, Robert Benford. 2000. "Framing Processes and Social Movements: An Overview and Assessment." *Annual Review of Sociology* 2000 26:1, 611-639

Thursday: April 27th

Required Reading: Ketelaars, Pauline. 2016. "What Strikes the Responsive Chord? The Effects of Framing Qualities on Frame Resonance among Protest Participants." *Mobilization* 21(3): 341–360.

Optional Reading: Snow, David, Robert Benford, Holly J. McCammon, Lyndi Hewett, and Scott Fitzgerald. 2014. "The Emergence, Development, and Future of the Framing Perspective: 25+ Years Since "Frame Alignment"." *Mobilization* 19(1):23-45.

Week 6: Racial and Ethnic Inequality and Middle Class

Tuesday: May 2nd

Required Reading: Amir Hassanpour, The Nationalist Movements in Azerbaijan and Kurdistan, 1941-6 in John Foran, Ed. A Century of Revolution: Social Movements in Iran (1994).

Thursday: May 4th

Required Reading: Rosenfeld, Bryan. 2020. "The Autocratic Middle Class." PP: 1-28.

Week 7: New Social Movements

Tuesday: May 9th

Required Reading: Johnston, Hank, Enrique Laraña, and Joseph R. Gusfield. "Identities, Grievances, and New Social Movements." In *New Social Movements: From Ideology to Identity*, edited by Hank Johnston, Enrique Laraña, and Joseph R. Gusfield, 3–35. Temple University Press, 1994.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt14bst9g.3>.

Thursday: May 11th

Required Readings: Milkman, Ruth. 2017. "A New Political Generation: Millennials and the Post-2008 Wave of Protest." *American Sociological Review*, Vol. 82(1) 1–31.

Optional Reading: Melucci, Alberto. "A Strange Kind of Newness: What's 'New' in New Social Movements?" In *New Social Movements: From Ideology to Identity*, edited by Enrique Laraña, Hank Johnston, and Joseph R. Gusfield, 101–30. Temple University Press, 1994.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt14bst9g.7>.

Week 8: Dynamics of Contention

Tuesday: May 16th

Required reading: Tarrow, Sidney (2011). "Mechanisms and Processes of Contention" (pp.183-194) in *Power in movement: social movements and contentious politics* (Rev. & updated 3rd ed.). Cambridge University Press.

Thursday: May 18th

Required reading: Tarrow, Sidney (2011). "Cycles of Contention" (pp.195-2014) in *Power in movement: social movements and contentious politics* (Rev. & updated 3rd ed.). Cambridge University Press.

Week 9: Revolution

Tuesday: May 23rd

Required Reading: Goldstone, Jack. *Revolutions: A Very Short Introduction*. Pages 1-40.

Thursday: May 25th

Required Reading: Goldstone, Jack. *Revolutions: A Very Short Introduction*. Pages 90-103 and 117-130.

Week 10: Transnational Social Movements

Tuesday: May 30th

Required reading: Tarrow, Sidney (2011). "Transnational Contentions" (pp.234-258) in *Power in movement: social movements and contentious politics* (Rev. & updated 3rd ed.). Cambridge University Press.

Thursday; June 1st

Required Reading: Tsutsui, Kiyoteru and Christine Min Wotipka. 2004. "Global Civil Society and the International Human Rights Movement: Citizen Participation in Human Rights International Nongovernmental Organizations." *Social Forces* (83)2: 587-620

