
SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Professor Todd Madigan



Course Description

While individuals have always found ways to express their personal displeasure with the status quo, the act of organizing themselves in an effort to actually *change* their circumstances is an entirely different matter. These organized efforts by ordinary people have involved everything from marches, boycotts, and sit-ins to hostage-taking and suicide bombing; their goals and tactics are legion. In an effort to gain as broad a survey as possible—without sacrificing theoretical depth—we'll examine individual case studies involving an array of American social movements from over the past 60 years, and as we do, we'll call upon the writings of both social movement leaders (in order to understand their specific strategies and objectives) and social movement scholars (in order to understand more generally how social movements are structured).

Course Meeting Times

Tuesdays & Thursdays

9:30AM-10:45AM

All class meetings are online, and attendance is required.

Online Class Format

Our course will be conducted solely through Zoom. I'll send an announcement through Canvas five-to-ten minutes before the start of each class with a link to the meeting. (You don't need to have a paid subscription to Zoom to join the meeting. Just click on the link and follow the prompts.) We'll begin the synchronous (i.e., "live") class promptly at 9:30AM each Tuesday and Thursday.

Each class meeting will include a combination of lectures and small group discussions (these small group discussions will be facilitated through "breakout meetings"). It's critical that you attend these meetings with both audio and video enabled. You'll also want to make sure you have access to our readings during these live meetings, for you'll often need to refer to them during our discussions. I will expect you to participate in these discussions every class meeting, and this participation requires that you have completed the assigned readings.

Anything covered during our class lectures and discussions will potentially be encountered on an exam. Please come to class prepared to take notes.

Readings

This course is *reading intensive*; you should be prepared to complete approximately 50 pages of reading for each class. If you don't think you'll be able to keep up with this schedule, you should reconsider enrollment in the course.



Online Class Etiquette

SOC 328 is a full credit university course, and as such, I expect your complete and undivided attention during our class meetings. This means you should be situated in a location where you can participate, take notes, and refer to the readings (e.g., not driving, walking, working, etc.). Please also make sure your first and last names are linked to the device you use to access class. This allows your classmates and me to know who you are when you speak, and it also enables me to take accurate attendance and give you credit for attending class.

COURSEWORK

Attendance

Much of the learning during this course will come through lectures and discussions with your classmates. For this reason, attendance and participation during all virtual class meetings is critical. Graded attendance will be taken during each meeting (if you are present for the full class, you will receive full credit; if you are present for less than the full class—but for at least 45 minutes—you will receive half credit; otherwise, no credit). You may miss one class without losing any points (i.e., you will receive full attendance credit for the first class you miss).

GRADING

Attendance

26 classes @ 5 points each = 130

Examinations

3 exams @ 120 points each = 360

Discussion Posts

6 posts @ 30 points each = 180

Group Project

1 project @ 130 points = 130

Late Work Policy

I will accept discussion posts, exams, and projects up to 48 hours after their due date, but 10% will be deducted from the assignment's grade. I will not accept work more than 48 hours late.

Examinations

You will take three “in-class” examinations, the third being given on the final regularly scheduled day of class. The subject of these exams will be the material that has been covered during their respective sections (i.e., they will not be cumulative). The material will be drawn from the course readings, lectures, and discussions. (No attendance will be taken on exam days.)

Video Clips and Discussion

Approximately once every two weeks you'll watch a video clip (or two) that I've assigned on our discussion board. You'll then write a one-page response and post it on the discussion board. Your post will be graded based on its intellectual engagement with the video(s). Strong responses will identify and cite a couple key points made in the video(s) and how they relate to something we've read or discussed in class (you must also include citations for this material). In addition to your own post, I'll ask you to comment thoughtfully on at least two other classmates' posts on the discussion board.

Group Project

You will join with three classmates in interviewing at least two members of a social movement organization, then prepare and give a ten-minute presentation on that organization to the class. The presentation should include video of the social movement organization engaged in one of its activities and should not only describe the organization, its goals, and its tactics, but also offer some analysis using the concepts covered during the course.

PLEASE NOTE: The readings for each class are to be completed <i>before</i> the start of the class for which they are listed.		
WEEK 1	TUES. 8/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saul Alinsky “The Purpose” (from <i>Rules for Radicals</i>) • Paul Almeida “Social Movements: The Structure of Collective Action” (from <i>Social Movements: The Structure of Collective Action</i>)
	THURS. 8/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Baldwin “My Dungeon Shook” (from <i>The Fire Next Time</i>) • Aldon D. Morris “Tactical Innovation in the Civil Rights Movement” (from <i>The Social Movements Reader</i>)
WEEK 2	TUES. 8/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Luther King, Jr. “Letter from Birmingham Jail” (from <i>Why We Can’t Wait</i>) • Stokely Carmichael “Toward Black Liberation” (<i>The Massachusetts Review</i>) • Malcolm X “The Ballot or the Bullet”
	WED. 8/25	DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE
	THURS. 8/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huey P. Newton “The Founding of the Black Panther Party” (from <i>The New Huey P. Newton Reader</i>) • Huey P. Newton “Patrolling” (from <i>The New Huey P. Newton Reader</i>) • Huey P. Newton “In Defense of Self-Defense” (from <i>The New Huey P. Newton Reader</i>)
WEEK 3	TUES. 8/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saul Alinsky “Of Means and Ends” (from <i>Rules for Radicals</i>) • Robert J. Brym “Suicide Bombing” (from <i>The Social Movements Reader</i>)
	THURS. 9/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franklin Kameny “Kameny to President John F. Kennedy” (from <i>The Stonewall Reader</i>) • Dick Leitsch “The Hairpin Drop Heard Around the World” (from <i>The Stonewall Reader</i>) • Verta Taylor, Katrina Kimport, Nella Van Dyke, and Ellen Anderson “Tactical Repertoires: Same-Sex Weddings” (from <i>The Social Movements Reader</i>)
WEEK 4	TUES. 9/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan Stryker “The Difficult Decades” (from <i>Transgender History</i>) • Susan Stryker “The Millennial Wave” (from <i>Transgender History</i>)
	WED. 9/8	DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE

	THURS. 9/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Almeida “The Framing Process” (from <i>Social Movements: The Structure of Collective Action</i>) • Mancur Olson “The Free-Rider Problem” (from <i>The Social Movements Reader</i>) • Joshua Gamson “The Dilemmas of Identity Politics” (from <i>The Social Movements Reader</i>)
WEEK 5	TUES. 9/14	EXAM 1 – NO READING ASSIGNMENT
	THURS. 9/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constance Grady “The Waves of Feminism, and Why People Keep Fighting Over Them, Explained” (Vox) • Patricia Hill Collins and Sirma Bilge “What Is Intersectionality?” (from <i>Intersectionality</i>)
WEEK 6	TUES. 9/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Hirshman “Redefining Sex/1979-91” (from <i>Reckoning</i>) • Linda Hirshman “Feminism Reborn: Online, On Campus 2003-11” (from <i>Reckoning</i>)
	WED. 9/22	DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE
	THURS. 9/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Hirshman “Roger Ailes and Donald Trump: Republicans Corner the Market on Sex Abuse 2015-16” (from <i>Reckoning</i>) • Linda Hirshman “Pink Pussies at the Women’s March/2017” (from <i>Reckoning</i>)
WEEK 7	TUES. 9/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Hirshman “The Press Presses and the Dam Breaks: Harvey Weinstein 2017/18” (from <i>Reckoning</i>) • Linda Hirshman “#MeToo/2017-18” (from <i>Reckoning</i>)
	THURS. 9/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donatella Della Porta and Mario Diani “Collective Action and Identity” (from <i>Social Movements: An Introduction</i>) • Alexandra Stern “Red Pills for the Masses: Metapolitical Awakenings” (from <i>Proud Boys and the White Ethnostate</i>)
WEEK 8	TUES. 10/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandra Stern “Whitopia: Ethnostate Dreamin’” (from <i>Proud Boys and the White Ethnostate</i>) • Alexandra Stern “Cat Ladies, Wolves, and Lobsters: A Menagerie of Biological Essentialism” (from <i>Proud Boys and the White Ethnostate</i>)
	WED. 10/6	DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE

	THURS. 10/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexandra Stern “Normalizing Nationalism: Alt-Right Creep” (from <i>Proud Boys and the White Ethnostate</i>) Donatella Della Porta and Mario Diani “Individuals, Networks, and Participation” (from <i>Social Movements: An Introduction</i>)
WEEK 9	TUES. 10/12	FALL BREAK—NO CLASS
	THURS. 10/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark Bray “The Rise of ‘Pinstripe Nazis’ and Anti-Fascism Today” (from <i>Antifa</i>) Mark Bray “‘So Much for the Tolerant Left!’: ‘No Platform’ and Free Speech” (from <i>Antifa</i>)
WEEK 10	TUES. 10/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark Bray “Strategy, (Non)Violence, and Everyday Anti-Fascism” (from <i>Antifa</i>) Joshua Gamson “Defining Movement ‘Success’” (from <i>The Social Movements Reader</i>)
	THURS. 10/21	EXAM 2—NO READING ASSIGNMENT
WEEK 11	TUES. 10/26	GROUP PRESENTATIONS—NO READING ASSIGNMENT
	THURS. 10/28	GROUP PRESENTATIONS—NO READING ASSIGNMENT
WEEK 12	TUES. 11/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark Bray “Insight from Confusion” (from <i>Translating Anarchy</i>) Mark Bray “The Bane of Occupy Wall Street” (from <i>Translating Anarchy</i>)
	WED. 11/3	DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT 5 DUE
	THURS. 11/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark Bray “Why We Need a Revolution” Part I (from <i>Translating Anarchy</i>) Donatella Della Porta and Mario Diani “The Policing of Protest and Political Opportunities for Social Movements” (from <i>Social Movements: An Introduction</i>)
WEEK 13	TUES. 11/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donatella Della Porta and Mario Diani “Social Movements and Organizations” (from <i>Social Movements: An Introduction</i>) Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor “From Civil Rights to Colorblind” (from <i>From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation</i>)

	THURS. 11/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor “The Double Standard of Justice” (from <i>From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation</i>) • Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor “Black Lives Matter: A Movement, Not a Moment” (from <i>From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation</i>)
WEEK 14	TUES. 11/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christopher Lebron “Where Is the Love? The Hope for America’s Redemption” (from <i>The Making of Black Lives Matter</i>) • Christopher Lebron “The Radical Lessons We Have Not Yet Learned” (from <i>The Making of Black Lives Matter</i>)
	WED. 11/17	DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT 6 DUE
	THURS. 11/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic “Introduction” (from <i>Critical Race Theory: An Introduction</i>) • Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic “Hallmark of Critical Race Theory” (from <i>Critical Race Theory: An Introduction</i>)
WEEK 15	TUES. 11/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aric McBay “Full Spectrum Resistance” (from <i>Full Spectrum Resistance</i>)
	THURS. 11/25	THANKSGIVING BREAK—NO CLASS
WEEK 16	TUES. 11/30	EXAM 3—NO READING ASSIGNMENT