

COURSE SYLLABUS: COMPARATIVE SOCIAL MOVEMENTS SINCE THE 1960S*

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Sociology 6 (20469)
Spring 2019 3 Credits

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** Satisfies IGETC & CSU-GE Breadth Requirements for Transfer to UC & CSU; and is applicable to the BCC AA-T Degree in Sociology. Available for Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass.*

MEETING TIME/PLACE: Tues 6 - 8:50 pm BCC 032.

Why study Social Movements?

Ever wonder why some “Occupy” activists hide their identities in “black bloc” while others practice classic civil disobedience? Or why some environmentalists form big, professional, bureaucratic organizations like Greenpeace, while others form leaderless resistance movements such as Earth First? Or why some members of the LGBT community promote themselves as a “quasi-ethnic” group while others stress how similar they are to mainstream Americans? Or why the Equal Rights Amendment (for women) failed in 1974 while the Christian Right exploded across America in the 80s and 90s? If so, you should consider taking this class on comparative social movements since the 1960s.

Course Description:

After spending a few weeks going over social movement theory, we’ll examine the history and practice of the following U.S. social movements: SDS & the Black Panther Party, the Women’s Movement; the Gay & Lesbian Movement; the Environmental Movement; and the New American Right (i.e., Neo-conservatives & Christian Fundamentalists). For each of the above we’ll first examine the historical conditions that gave rise to that movement, then discuss the individual strengths, weaknesses, tactics and strategies of that movement, then watch a documentary about the movement to apply the theory we learned in a group discussion. Lectures are delivered in PowerPoint, and the class slides can be downloaded online.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Correctly apply the sociological concepts and theories learned in the course to written text or multi-media content.
2. Describe and assess the tactics, strategies, impact, resources, opportunities, and the organizational form of a selected social movement organization – using the course concepts and theories.

Course Objectives:

- 1) Describe how sociology uses theory and methods to study social movements.
- 2) Interpret primary and secondary sources and compose essays which use those sources as appropriate for support.
- 3) Evaluate key events, experiences, and the structural and political causes of major social movements since the 1960s within the U.S.
- 4) Compare and appraise the contemporary and historical micro- and macro-social dynamics in which social movements have operated (with specific attention to gender, ethnicity, race, class, culture, ecology, and sexual preference).
- 5) Explain how organizational, cultural, structural, and political factors cause social movements to succeed and fail.

Course Requirements: the ability to take short weekly quizzes online.

1) Readings:

a) Required Textbook: *Social Movements*, 2e. Staggenborg, Suzanne. 2015. Oxford University Press. Abbreviated below as SM: on reserve in the library; new in bookstore for about \$40, or \$7.50+ for used 2010 1st edition @ www.amazon.com.

b) Articles posted on Canvas:

- Ian Pirie’s “Power and Protest - Social Movement Theory”.
- “Historical Timeline: History of the Born Gay Debate & Theories of Sexual Orientation” (8/15/2013)
- Delli Carpini, M. X. (2000). “Black panther party: 1966-1982. In I. Ness & J. Ciment (eds.), *The encyclopedia*

of third parties in America (pp. 190-197). Armonke, NY: Sharpe Reference.

c) Class Slides: the PowerPoint slides can be downloaded from the course Canvas site at <http://portal.peralta.edu> for free (about 49 pages). About 5 cents a copy (B&W) at Krishna Copy Center, 2001 University Ave, @ Milvia. Note: these slides are just as important as the textbook so you should print them up and take notes on them at class.

2) Course Assignments & Grading Policy:

a) **Exams (100 pts):** 3 multiple-choice exams will be given (and I'll drop the lowest exam **if** you take and complete all 3 exams, and **if** you miss no more than 20% of classes). Questions come from the lectures, readings, class slides, discussions, and the videos, and review sheets are only provided in class or office hours (I don't email them). Nothing can be brought to the exam besides a #2 pencil and a green, 100-item (50 per side) scantron sheet (buy at bookstore). No retakes allowed.

Exam Makeup Policy: You may make up either of the first 2 exams without a documented hardship (i.e., hospital report, doctor's note, court docket, etc.) during my office hours provided it occurs within 1 week of the exam. However, you'll lose 1.5 letter grades without an officially documented excuse. People with official excuses that can't do the regular makeup will take a different version during finals week.

Extra Credit Assignments:

b) Extra Credit Assignment: Social Movement Research Paper: (9 pts.):

Students can research a movement organization (SMO) and write a 5-8 pg. essay examining its member ship, organizational structure, network affiliation, tactics, strategies, goals, impact, and which course theories best explain the SMO. Or, if you're a current member of an SMO and would like to do an observational analysis of that SMO, ask me for the assignment.

-Paper due 4/30/19 in class. No late papers without an officially documented excuse (i.e., doctor, court, etc.), and no emailed papers unless you are legally visually impaired.

c) **Extra Credit "Online Reading Quizzes" (6 pts):** In the 2.5 days before the date at which each chapter is first listed for discussion in class, log into the course Canvas shell at <http://portal.peralta.edu> (see page for logon instructions) and take your chapter reading quiz. See Canvas for the official quiz due dates, and quiz dates may be extended if the class gets behind schedule.

You have 5 minutes to answer 6 questions, and there are no retakes or make ups for missed quizzes so be sure to use a reliable web connection, and don't take the quiz at the very last minute because sometimes the Canvasserver goes down. Also, individual quizzes that score less than 40% will not count.

Students with documented disabilities requiring extra time on the quizzes can get this if you show me your DSPS documentation; however, anyone exceeding their allotted extra time will get a 0 on the quiz.

If you don't have an internet connection you can take the exams at the BCC computer lab or your local library. Students having trouble using Canvas can get help at the computer lab, or during my office hours. Note: the quizzes work best in IE, Mozilla/Firefox, or Safari, and are not meant to be taken on smart phones.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory so students get dropped for missing the first week of class (if they don't contact me with an acceptable documented excuse), or for missing **over 4 weeks** of class by Attendance Verification in late April - unless acceptable officially documented excuses are provided for at least half of those absences (i.e., medical notes, hospital forms, court documents, car towing bill, etc.). Please see page 25 of the BCC 2017-19 Catalogue for my authority to do this. However, students who miss over 4 weeks and present valid official documents will be dropped if they continue missing class. Also, students signing up after classes start are marked "absent" for previously missed classes, and students who leave during class without permission get marked absent. Being "present" = clearly letting me know you're present during role call, or signing in on the sign up sheet. However, students can be late 2x without being marked absent if they let me know during the break, but after that students who arrive late will be recorded as attending ½ a week. Finally, students must get copies of any missed lecture notes from another student.

Note: Any changes to the syllabus or class deemed necessary will be announced in class. See me after class or in my office hours if you are having trouble understanding the syllabus.

Grading Scale: A: 90-100 points; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: 0-59.

Classroom Rules:

- 1) If you have a documented disability please register with PSSD office in room 261 (510-981-2812) ASAP to arrange for any special accommodations, and see me after class if you need materials in a different format.
- 2) Students who disrupt the class (i.e., chatting with friends, monopolizing discussions, disrespecting others, using cell phones or digital devices, etc.) will get a warning upon each disturbance. Upon the 3rd warning I will ask the Dean to drop you from the course (per pp. 352-53 of the BCC 2017-19 Catalog).
- 3) No cell phones, laptops or digital devices may be used in class, nor may students place book bags or purses on their desks in front of them. Students caught using cell phones or digital devices will face the penalties in #2 above. If you are expecting an emergency cell phone call place your phone on vibrate and take it outside.
- 4) If you take issue with any classroom rules/policies/assignments you must discuss it with me in private after class or at my office hours. Class rules/policies/assignments will not be debated in the classroom.
- 5) Students caught cheating on an exam will receive a 0 on that exam, and it can't be dropped.

Note: By returning to class you are acknowledging that you consent to the policies in this syllabus.

Note: Any changes to the syllabus or class deemed necessary will be announced in class. See me after class or in my office hours if you are having trouble understanding the syllabus.

Grading Scale: A: 90-100 points; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: 0-59.

3) Class Readings, Assignments & Exam Dates:

1/22 (Topic 1): Introduction to instructor, course goals and syllabus; what is sociology? the basics of sociology; the origins of social movements (SMs); defining SMs; the relationship of SMs to society; components of SMS.

1/29 (Topic 2) Tactics, strategies & organization: tactics, strategies & organizational forms; why do SMs succeed and fail?

Read: SM Chap. 1.

2/5, 2/12 (Topic 3) Theories of SMs: collective behavior theories; resource mobilization, political process & synthesis theories; new SM theory; new directions in SM theory.

Read: SM Chap. 2; and "Power and Protest - Social Movement Theory" (on Canvas).

Video: "UC Davis Protestors Pepper Sprayed"

2/19 (Topic 4) Issues in the study of SMs: mobilization & recruitment; maintenance, growth & decline; strategies; campaigns; outcomes; media and SMs.

Read: SM Chap. 3. Video: "The Downfall of Anita Bryant".

2/26, 3/5 (Topic 5) The 1960s Protest Cycle (PC): rise/fall/significance of the PC; American Civil Rights movement; New Left student/Anti-War SMs; legacies of the PC; film/case study of the Black Panther Party.

2/26: Exam 1 (on Topics 1-4) – bring green 100 item BCC scantron sheet.

Read: SM Chap. 4; and "Black Panther Party 1966-1982" Carpini (on Canvas).

Videos: "M Savio-CBS Free Speech Movement"; "Savio machine speech"; "Black Power: Black Panthers".

3/5, 3/12 (Topic 6) Women's Liberation: the history of the Women's Movement (WM); second wave issues; feminist survival; third wave feminism; the global WM; the spread of the WM.

Read: SM Chap. 5. Videos: "The ERA - The Struggle of America's Silent Majority"; "Girls to the Front!".

3/19, 3/26 (Topic 7): LGBT Movement: the origins of the LGBT Movement; the Gay Liberation & Gay Rights Movements; equal rights campaigns; AIDs, queer politics & same sex marriage campaigns.

Read: SM Chap. 6; and "Historical Timeline: History of the Born Gay Debate" (on Canvas).

Videos: "Transforming History Retro Report"; "Anita Bryant Confronted In 1977"; "The Downfall of Anita Bryant"; "How We Got Gay"; discussion.

4/9, 4/16 (Topic 8) The Environmental Movement (EM): origins of the contemporary EM; individual vs. public interest;; public opinion on the EM; recruitment of active members; maintaining participation; debates on direction of the EM; environmental organizations & campaigns.

4/9: Exam 2 (on topics 5-7) – bring green 100 item BCC scantron sheet.

Read: SM Chap. 7.

Videos: “Stop Coca Cola Ad”; “Greenpeace, How to Change the World”; “Green is the New Red”.

4/23, 4/30 (Topic 9) The New American Right: origins & tactics of the New Right (NR); political opportunities & campaigns of the NR (i.e., anti- ERA, abortion, women’s roles; homosexuality, the environment); the rise & fall of the NR.

Read: SM Chap. 8. Videos: “Goldwater 64 Campaign Film, Choice”; “Of God and Caesar”.

4/30: Extra credit paper due in class (No late papers without an officially documented excuse).

5/7, 5/14 (Topic 10) Tactics & Strategies – Past/present/future: the evolution of 1960s SM tactics; new tactics; the rise & fall of the Occupy Movement (OM); debate on tendencies within the OM.

Read Chap. 10; “Does a Protest Size Matter?” (on Canvas).

Videos: “Social Media & Revolution in the Arab World”; “Confrontation Paris 1968”; “Occupy Tactics: Violence and Legitimacy in the Occupy Movement and Beyond”.

Final Exam: 5/21, 6-7pm (on Topics 8-10). Bring a Scantron Sheet.

4) Additional Information:

Where to Find each Type of Reading: Each type of reading uses a different type of symbol, which indicates where it is found. Below is a legend for each of these symbols:

- a) SM: means that this reading comes from the course textbook, *Social Movements, 2e*.
- b) “ ”: titles in quotation marks are articles posted on Canvas.
- c) Video: means this is a video documentary or movie clip that will only be shown in class.

See the Sociology Program Web Page at www.berkeleycitycollege.edu/wp/socsci/course-descriptions/sociology/ if interested in other sociology courses, or becoming a sociology major.

4) Important dates:

2/3: Last day to drop classes without a “W”;

2/8: Last Day to File for PASS/NO PASS;

3/15: Last Day to File Petitions for AA/AS Degree;

4/26: Last day to withdraw with a “W”.

5) Content Warning: Because this class examines intensely personal things in a critical fashion (i.e., race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and religion, etc.), and because it examines them from the perspective of different social groups and ideologies, you should only take this class if you are emotionally prepared to deal with difficult social topics.