

Soc 337: Collective Behavior and Social Movements
Fall 2007
Tuesday, Thursday 2:30-3:45
Tarbutton 218

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Course Description:

This course will introduce upper-division sociology students to the theoretical and empirical literature on collective behavior and social movements. Using a loose historical framework to investigate various research paradigms such as rational choice, resource mobilization, political process, and identity/NSM, we examine the development of theories linked to a variety of issues related to social movements and social movement outcomes (e.g., emergence of the first national social movements, growth of the social movement sector, mobilization and participation, social movement success and failure). We focus on U.S. and European social movements which include but are not limited to: civil rights, student, labor, anti-war, new Christian right, anti-abortion/pro-choice, feminist, latino/latina, environmental, disability, nuclear freeze, gay and lesbian, anti-globalization/G8, new age, self-help, survivalist, temperance (new and old), anti-tax, white supremacist and men's movement. While time constraints preclude covering the field of social movements in all its varied contexts, students will develop a general understanding of its theoretical development, as well as an appreciation for this unique sociological perspective.

Responsibilities, evaluation, and progress:

Students are responsible for reading and discussing the material each week. During one of those weeks, each student will prepare a summary of the readings including questions and criticisms (2-3 pages), distribute the summary, and lead the discussion. In addition, there will be four short summaries (2-3 pages each). In the summaries, students will respond to questions provided by the instructor. Questions will be drawn from the daily readings as well as from material located in the library, in library databases and on the internet. Lastly, there will be two exams. Grades are based on participation (10%), a discussion-lead (20%), summaries (25%) and the two exams (45%).

* Please Note:

There will be no make-up exams given nor will I accept summaries after the due dates. The material requires daily vigilance in the form of staying current with the readings and lectures. If you miss more than a couple classes, and cannot keep up with the work, officially withdraw before you are financially penalized by Emory.

Texts:

I. Emory Bookstore:

- Marx, Gary T. and Douglas McAdam. 1994. *Collective Behavior and Social Movements: Process and Structure*. Prentice Hall: New Jersey.
- McAdam, Doug. 1999 [1982]. *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970*. 2nd edition. Chicago : University of Chicago Press.
- J. Eric Oliver. 2005. *Fat Politics: The Real Story behind America's Obesity Epidemic*. U.K:Oxford.

II. Reader – available from professor

Course Outline and Calendar:

August 30

Syllabus and Introduction

September 4

Social Organization

Required Readings:

- (1) Bates, Frederick L. and Clyde C. Harvey. 1986. *The Structure of Social Systems*. Malibar, Florida: Krieger Publishing Co. Pp. 286-293, 142-145
- (2) Phelps, Edmund S. 1985. *Political Economy*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company. Pp. 3-30

September 6

Institutions, Organizations and Collective Behavior

Required Readings:

- (1) Marx, Gary T. and Douglas McAdam. 1994. *Collective Behavior and Social Movements: Process and Structure*. Prentice Hall: New Jersey. Chapter 1.

September 11

Fads, Fashion, Riots and other Processes

Required Readings:

- (1) Marx, Gary T. and Douglas McAdam. 1994. *Collective Behavior and Social Movements: Process and Structure*. Prentice Hall: New Jersey. Chapters 2-3
- (2) Miller, Peter. July 2007. "Swarm Theory." National Geographic:
<http://www7.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0707/feature5/>

September 13

Mass Movements

Required Readings:

- (1) Kornhauser, William. 1959. *The Politics of Mass Society*. Glencoe, Ill: Free Press. Chapter 5.
- (2) Marx, Gary T. and Douglas McAdam. 1994. *Collective Behavior and Social Movements: Process and Structure*. Prentice Hall: New Jersey. Chapter 4

September 18

Mobilizing Structures: Organizations, Resource Mobilization

Required Readings:

- (1) McCarthy, John D. and Mayer N. Zald. 1994 [1977]. "Resource Mobilization and Social Movements: A Partial Theory." Pp. 15-42 in *Social Movements in an Organizational Society*, edited by Mayer N. Zald and John D. McCarthy. New Brunswick: Transaction.
- (2) McAdam, Doug. 1999 [1982]. *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970*. Chicago : University of Chicago Press. Intro, Chapters 1-2.

September 20

Cases - Labor Movement

Required Readings:

- (1) Linhart, Robert. 1981. *The Assembly Line*. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press. Pp. 13-41

September 25

Resource Mobilization and Political Process

Required Readings:

- (1) McAdam, Doug. 1999 [1982]. *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970*. Chicago : University of Chicago Press. Chapters 3-4

Supplemental – On Reserve

- (2) Schwartz, Paul and Shuva Paul. 1992. "Resource Mobilization Versus Mobilization of People: Why Consensus Movements Cannot Be Instruments of Social Change." Pp. 205-223 in *Frontiers in Social Movement Theory*, edited by Aldon D. Morris and Carol McClurg Mueller. New Haven: Yale University Press.

September 27

Cases - Health Movements

Required Readings

- (1) J. Eric Oliver. 2005. *Fat Politics: The Real Story behind America's Obesity Epidemic*. U.K:Oxford.Part 1.

October 2

Cases - Health Movements

Required Readings

- (1) J. Eric Oliver. 2005. *Fat Politics: The Real Story behind America's Obesity Epidemic*. U.K:Oxford. Part II.

October 4

Tragedy of the Commons

Required Readings:

(1) Hardin, Garrett 1968. "The Tragedy of the Commons," *Science*, 162:1243-1248.

(2) Hardin, Russell. 1982. *Collective Action*. Baltimore, MD.: Johns Hopkins University Press. Pp. 16 – 37.

Supplemental

(3) Marwell, Gerald and Pamela Oliver. 1984. "Collective Action Theory and Social Movements Research." In *Research in Social Movements, Conflict and Change*, ed. Louis Kriesberg. JAI Press, pp 1-27.

October 9

Fall Break

October 11

Recruitment, Participation and Ideology

Required Readings:

(1) Snow, David A., E. Burke Rochford, Jr., Steven K. Worden and Robert D. Benford. 1986. "Frame Alignment Processes, Micromobilization, and Movement Participation." *American Sociological Review* 51: 464-481.

Supplemental – On reserve

(1) Johnston, Hank. 1995. "A Methodology for Frame Analysis: From Discourse to Cognitive Schema." Pp. 217-246 in *Social Movements and Culture*, edited by Hank Johnston and Bert Klandermans. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

(2) Gamson, William. 1992. "The Social Psychology of Collective Action." Pp. 53-76 in *Frontiers in Social Movement Theory*, edited by Aldon D. Morris and Carol McClurg Mueller. New Haven: Yale University Press.

October 16

Social Movement Environments

Required Readings:

(1) Marx, Gary T. and Douglas McAdam. 1994. *Collective Behavior and Social Movements: Process and Structure*. Prentice Hall: New Jersey. Chapters 5-6

October 18

Cases – Civil Rights

Required Readings:

(1) McAdam, Doug. 1999 [1982]. *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapters 5-9

October 23

Cases – Student/ Anti-War

Required Readings:

(1) Miller, James. 1987. *Democracy is in the Streets: From Port Huron to the Siege of Chicago*. New York: Simon and Schuster. Chapters 13-61

** Take Home Exam Today – Due October 30

October 25

New Social Movements: Introduction

Required Readings:

- (1) Marx, John H. and Burkhart Holzner. 1975. "Ideological Primary Groups in Contemporary Cultural Movements." *Sociological Focus* (8) 311:329.
- (2) Offe, Claus. 1985. "New Social Movements: Challenging the Boundaries of Institutional Politics." *Social Research* (52) 817:880

Supplemental – On reserve

- (1) Taylor, Verta and Nancy E. Whittier. 1992. "Collective Identity in Social Movement Communities: Lesbian Feminist Mobilization." Pp. 104-129 in *Frontiers in Social Movement Theory*, edited by Aldon D. Morris and Carol McClurg Mueller. New Haven: Yale University Press.

October 30

No Readings

November 1

Social Movements, Culture and Identity

Required Readings

- (1) Swidler, Ann. 1995. "Cultural Power and Social Movements." Pp. 25-40 in *Social Movements and Culture*, edited by Hank Johnston and Bert Klandermans. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Supplemental – On reserve

- (1) Fine, Gary Alan. 1995. "Public Narration and Group Culture." Pp. 85-106 in *Social Movements and Culture*, edited by Hank Johnston and Bert Klandermans. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

November 6

Cases – Environmental Movement

Required Readings

- (1) Lichterman, Paul. 1996. *The Search for Political Community*. Cambridge, G.B.: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 1-47.

November 8

Cases – Feminist Movement

Required Readings:

- (1) Ryan, Barbara. 1992. *Feminism and the Women's Movement : Dynamics of Change in Social Movement, Ideology and Activism*. New York : Routledge. Pp. 9-51

November 13

No Readings

November 15

Disability movements

Required Readings:

- (1) Johnson, Harriet McBryde. 2003. Unspeakable Conversations. *The New York Times Magazine* February 16, 2003.
- (2) Barnartt, S.N. and Scotch, R.K. 2001. Disability protests : Contentious politics 1970-1999. Washington, D.C. : Gallaudet University Press. Chapter Two

Supplemental

- (1) Baynton, Douglas, C. " Disability and the Justification of Inequality in American History" in *The New Disability History: American Perspectives*. Eds. Paul K. Longmore and Lauri Umamsky. NY: New York UP, 2001. pp. 33-57.

November 20

Cases –Gay Rights

Required Readings:

- (1) Rimmerman, Craig A. 2002. *From Identity to Politics: the Lesbian and Gay Movements in the United States*. Philadelphia, PA : Temple University Press.

November 22

Holiday

November 27

Institutions, Organizations and Social Movements (revisited)

Required Readings:

- (1) Sewell, Jr., W. H. 1992. A Theory of Structure: Duality, Agency, and Transformation. *American Journal of Sociology*, 98, 1-29

November 29

Cases – The New Right

Required Readings:

- (1) Hardisty, Jean. 1999. *Mobilizing Resentment: Conservative Resurgence from the John Birch Society to the Promise Keepers*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press. Chapters 1-2

December 4

Cases – Organizations and Social Movements

- (1) Armstrong, E. (2002). Crisis, Collective Creativity, and the Generation of New Organizational Forms: The Transformation of Lesbian/Gay Organizations in San Francisco. Pp. 337-359 in *Research in the Sociology of Organizations* edited by Michael Lounsbury and Marc Ventresca. JAI Press.

December 6

Religion and Social Movements

Required Readings:

- (1) Young, Michael. 2002. "Confessional Protest: The Religious Birth of U.S. Social Movements." *American Sociological Review* 67 660-688.

December 11

Review Discussion

** Take Home Exam– Due December 17