

PSCI 3091: The Politics of Social Movements

Professor: Katherine Runge
Email: Katherine.Runge@colorado.edu
Office: KTCH 236
Office Hours: By appointment
Term: Summer A (6-04-18 – 7-06-18)
Time: M-F 2:30 pm – 4:05 pm
Location: EDUC 155

Course Overview

In this course, we will explore the theoretical and methodological underpinnings of social movements within the United States. Drawing from past and current social movements and civil unrest, we will apply these methods and theories to better understand the complexities within and surrounding social movements. This course is not meant to instill a particular political perspective, but is rather meant to give students the tools to critically evaluate these social movements when they see, hear about, and even participate in them.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Define 'social movement' and classify social movements from non-social movements
- Understand how social movements arise – and fall
- Identify social movement tactics and evaluate their effectiveness at obtaining social movement goals
- Classify types of social movements
- Outline the phases of social movements
- Critically analyze social movements and social commentary

Course texts¹

Required:

Edwards, Gemma. 2014. *Social Movements and Protest*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 978-0-521-14581-7.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, readings not within the required course text will be posted on the course Canvas page.

Grades

20% Attendance (2 freebie absences; 5 absences = automatic 0% in this category)

10% Participation

20% Discussion board

1 post per week (3% per post) 12%

2 responses per week (1% per response) 8%

35% Individual or Group Project (mtg each Friday)

- Podcast
- Edited video
- Art project
- Paper
- Other

15% Final exam

Final Grade Scale:

A	94-100
A -	90-93.9
B+	87-89.9
B	84-86.9
B-	80-83.9
C+	77-79.9
C	74-76.9
C-	70-73.9
D+	67-69.9
D	64-66.9
D-	60-63.9
F	Below 60

Assignment Information

Attendance

Because of both the condensed nature of this course and the type of content being covered, daily preparation and attendance is extremely important. Students are allowed 2 absences, no questions asked, during the course of the 5-week term. If a student missed 5 class periods, they will receive an automatic 0% in the attendance category.

Discussion Board

An important component of learning is taking the materials you have read and discussing their content and your thoughts on their content with peers. Therefore, students will be expected to post 1 discussion board thread per week for weeks one through four. These posts should be 250-300 words, and should include your thoughts on one (or more) readings for that day. This can include something you found interesting, or something you still have further questions about. Additionally, students will also be expected to post at least two responses to threads per week. These responses should be a minimum of 50 words and attempt to address the content of the original post. More information will be provided in a separate handout.

Individual or Group Project

During the course of the semester, one day a week will be set aside for students to work on an individual or group project concerning a past or present social movement. Students will present these projects in-class at the end of the semester. More information on this assignment will be on a separate hand-out.

Final Exam

The final exam will be administered during the last day of the course. Unless dictated by university policy, no make-up exams will occur.

Classroom & University Policies

The following provides a brief overview of the University's policies and procedures. Please refer to <http://www.colorado.edu/policies> to view the specific guidelines

Laptop and Electronics Policy

In this course, there will be several instances where students are required to utilize laptops or cellular devices. Please bring laptops and appropriate charging cables, if needed, to class each day. However, unless specifically indicated, cellphones should remain away and on silent.

Special Accommodations/Disability

I am more than happy to make special arrangements for students with documented disabilities that have been documented through Disability Services ([colorado.edu/disability services](http://colorado.edu/disability-services)). If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries guidelines under the Quick Links at the Disability Services website and discuss your needs with me. Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Please see full details at: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/observancereligious-holidays-and-absences-classes-andor-exams>. Please notify me about potential conflicts at least 2 weeks in advance of exams/due-dates.

Religious Observances

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments, or required attendance. See www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html.

Discrimination and Harassment

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. For purposes of this CU Boulder policy, "Protected Classes" refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-

492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at www.colorado.edu/odh

Academic Honesty

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of

academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Additional information regarding the Honor Code policy can be found online and at the Honor Code Office. If you violate the honor code, you will receive a "zero" on the assignment/portion of the course grade in question.

Professional Courtesy and Learning Environment

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran, status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information on classroom behavior policies you can visit the following websites: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html>
<http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student code>

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Course Schedule²

Week 1: How do we define a “Social Movement”?

Monday 6/4: Course Introduction

Tuesday 6/5: Defining Social Movements

- Edwards, Preface and Chapter 1

Wednesday 6/6: Social Movements as Collective Action

- Edwards, Chapter 2

Thursday 6/7: Social Movements as Individual Action?

- Edwards, Chapter 8 [EXCLUDE: p. 218-221 Section B]

Friday 6/8: *Group work day 1*

Week 2: How do we research Social Movements?

Monday 6/11: Justifying Social Movement Research

- Amenta et al. 2010. “The Political Consequences of Social Movements.” *Annual Review of Sociology* 36: 287-307. (Canvas)
- Gillion, Daniel Q. 2012. “Protest and Congressional Behavior: Assessing Racial and Ethnic Minority Protests in the District.” (Canvas)
- Petrow, Gregory A. 2016. “The Role of Social Movements in the Macro Political System.” *The New England Journal of Political Science* 9(2): 164-216. (Canvas)
- Wasow, Omar. Working Paper. “Nonviolence, Violence, and Voting: The Effects of the 1960s Black Protest Movements on White Attitudes and Voting Behavior.” (Canvas)

Tuesday 6/12: Methodological Choices, Pt. 1

- Della Porta, Donatella. 2014. “Social Movement Studies and Methodological Pluralism.” *Methodological Practices in Social Movement Research*. p. 6-26. (Canvas)

Wednesday 6/13: Methodological Choices, Pt. 2

- Tufekci, Zeynep and Christopher Wilson. 2012. “Social Media and the Decision to Participate in Political Protest: Observations from Tahrir Square.” *Journal of Communication* 62: 363-379. (Canvas)
- Taylor, Jami K. and Daniel C. Lewis. 2015. “The Advocacy Coalition Framework and Transgender Inclusion in LGBT Rights Activism.” From *Transgender Rights and Politics: Groups, Issue, and Policy Adoption*. (Canvas)
- Klandermans, Bert and Dirk Oegema. 1987. “Potentials, Networks, Motivations, and Barriers: Steps Towards Participation in Social Movements.” *American Sociological Review* 52(4): 519-531.

Thursday 6/14: Ethical Considerations

- Milan, Stefani. 2014. “The Ethics of Social Movements Research.” *Methodological Practices in Social Movement Research*.

² Schedule is subject to change at instructor's discretion.

- Miner, Horace. 1956. "Body Ritual among the Nacirema." *American Anthropologist* 58(3): 503-607. (Canvas)

Friday 6/15: *Group work day 2*

Week 3: How does Identity Matter?

Monday 6/18: The Role of Identity

- Edwards, Chapter 3
- Edwards, Chapter 8 p.218 – 221 (Section B)

Tuesday 6/19: The Evolution of Identity in Social Movements

- Edwards, Chapter 4

Wednesday 6/20: Navigating Multiple Identities

- <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/01/18/womens-march-more-inclusive-year/1038859001/>
- <https://www.them.us/story/white-gay-men-are-hindering-our-progress>
- <http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-news-and-politics/196754/intersectionality-makes-you-stupid>

Thursday 6/21: Ideological Identities – Guest Lecturer

Friday 6/22: *Group work day 3*

Week 4: Resources in Social Movements

Monday 6/25: Violence and Law-breaking in Social Movements

- Edwards, Chapter 7
- Abraham Lincoln. "The Perpetuation of our Political Institutions." (Canvas)
- MLK, Jr. "Letter from Birmingham Jail" (Canvas)
- Malcom X. "Message to the Grassroots." (Canvas)

Tuesday 6/26: National to Global Social Movements

- Edwards, Chapter 6

Wednesday 6/27: Concluding Thoughts

- Edwards, Chapter 9

Thursday 6/28: Current Events/ Topic Chosen by Students

Friday 6/29: *Group work day 4*

Week 5: Moving Forward

Monday 7/2: *Group work day 5*

Tuesday 7/3: *Group presentations*

Wednesday 7/4: **UNIVERSITY CLOSED – NO CLASSES**

Thursday 7/5: *Final exam review*

Friday 7/6: **FINAL EXAM (TIME)**