POLS 355- Social Movements

Spring 2013
3 Credit Hours

Class: MWF, 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. in Faner 3512
Instructor: William P. Stodden
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Office: Faner 3180
Phone: 453-3185
Website: SIU Online
Office Hours: 10:00- 11:00 MW, 1 p.m.- 2:00 p.m TR (or by appointment)

1 Course Overview and Objectives

This course will examine social movements and their influences on political and social change. The subject matter of this course significantly overlaps the fields of sociology and political psychology, and as a result, will perhaps be both more and less positivist than a traditional political science course. On the one hand, as we study individuals in social movements, we will ask questions like “Why do individuals join, remain in, or ultimately leave social movements?” or “How do symbols of social movements and individual utility calculations affect participation by individuals?” These types of questions frustrate efforts at quantitative analysis, because they focus on individual levels of analysis, and therefore, must seek to take into account individual reasons for participation or not. On the other hand, we do know things about the ways that groups of people behave when in a group. Group behavior is quite predictable. As we generalize out from individuals, we will see that there are fairly common patterns of behavior which we can then use to predict outcomes.

This class will be theory-based, and then we will use the theory we acquire to explain different political phenomena which we can actually observe. In the end, you will be able to competently understand and discuss a broad range of human actions in the context of social movements. You should also gain some insight into how social movements affect public policy, both domestically and internationally.

2 Textbooks

The following books are required for this class:


These books will be available from any one of the local book stores, or may be ordered online. Della Porta will be our primary textbook, but readings will be drawn from Goodwin and Jasper and from Skocpol.

### 3 Course Format

This course is designed primarily to facilitate survey instruction in Social Movements. Since we will be using a textbook, a reader and a monograph, you will be exposed to a variety of different resources in your pursuit of knowledge on this topic.

It is my intention to make each of the sessions as engaging as possible for as many as possible. To accomplish the study of this topic, I will employ a mix of lectures, discussions and group simulations. We will also practice clear written communication, which is an essential skill in evaluation and explanation of political phenomena. I will make all reasonable efforts to incorporate feedback, which I will ask for on a regular basis, into the class.

There will be a significant, but manageable reading load for this course. It is expected that for each credit hour of this course, you will do anywhere from 2-3 hours per week outside of class, in addition to normal. If you do not feel that you are prepared to actively read your assignments, you may want to reconsider your choice to join this class. All readings will come from either the required textbooks or from online readings which I will assign from time to time. Students will be expected to read the assigned text each day before class and come to class prepared to discuss it.

To facilitate reading, this semester, I will assign written summaries each week. More information on these summaries is below. We will also compose a group-based semester paper due just before finals.

### 4 Components of the Final Grade

#### 4.1 Assessment

The class will vote on the distribution of the percentages for this class:

1. **Written Summaries** (15%) Over the Semester, you will be required to submit five (5) two-page summaries of the week’s topic. These summaries will relate the week’s reading assignment to the topic. Before the break for MLK’s Birthday, you will submit a list of seven weeks you would like to write on, and I will make individual assignments based off of this list.

2. **Attendance and Participation** (50%) This grade will consist of points for attendance and participation in class.
3. Semester Paper and Group Presentation (15%) You and your discussion group will compose a final semester paper on a social movement of your choice, and then present your findings to the class. This paper is due on the Friday May 3 at the beginning of class.

4. Mid Term Exam (10%) The midterm exam will be a mixture between multiple choice and one page essay, written in-class. The midterm exam will be taken in-class.

5. Final Exam (10%) The final exam will consist of two sections:
   - An in-class cumulative Multiple Choice test to be administered at the scheduled final exam time, and
   - A take-home cumulative essay, due at the beginning of the scheduled final exam time, for which you will spend the entire semester preparing.

6. Extra Credit In addition to the formal grades, I will offer opportunities for extra credit. More will be discussed below.

### 4.2 Grading Scale

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 and Above</td>
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<td>80-89.9</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60 - 69.9</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>59.9 and Below</td>
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### 4.3 Grading Procedure

In an effort to ensure that all grading is conducted as objectively and as scientifically as possible, all grades will be assigned by a publicized rubric that I will create for each assignment or exam. You will have access to all rubrics in advance of completing the assignment or exam. In order to get full credit on any assignment or exam, you should make sure that you have hit every point on the rubric.

### 4.4 Attendance and Participation

Attendance is required and will be taken everyday, for many reasons. The most important of these is that there is no way you can possibly learn this material if you are not present in class. The policy on absences and tardiness is stated explicitly below. In the first few weeks, I will call roll each day.

For full attendance and participation points each day, you, the student must be in class, ready to begin taking notes or discussing when the class is scheduled to begin, and remain through the entire class, fully engaged, and actively learning. Lack of appearance without either prior and accepted arrangement or documentation from a doctor, the police, the funeral home or whatever will be counted as an un-excused absence. Tardiness without prior arrangement will result in loss of participation points for the class.
Excused absences do not count against one’s attendance grade for the day. Unexcused absences count against the day’s attendance and participation grade and will, eventually count against the final grade. Each day you are in class or your absence is excused, you will receive one point for attendance.

The class has adopted a 5 minute grace period for tardies, used in specific and extraordinary circumstances. The grace period is intended to cover the rare unforeseen circumstance, though it will be up to my discretion about whether or not a student is abusing this grace period or excessively disrupting the class. Excessive tardiness will result in the student being counted absent for the day, whether or not he or she actually finally shows up.

In addition to being present in class, when class begins, participation will be graded. The instructor will assess participation each day. Participation grades will be a combination of the quantity but more importantly the quality of your discussion in class. Discussion should reflect your knowledge and synthesis of the reading materials, the lecture and the other discussion. Participation in class, which includes answering when being called upon, contributing in a meaningful way to the discussion, and offering intelligent insights on your own, will be worth one point per day. Being unprepared for class each day, not paying attention to lecture and discussion, falling asleep in class, and etc., will result in the loss of the day’s participation point.

4.5 Written Summaries

At the beginning of the course, I will ask you to look at the syllabus and rank the topics in order of your preference, from 1-7 (note: you only need to rank 7 topics). This list will be due on January 18. From this list, I will assign you five (5) topics from the syllabus, upon which you, individually need to compose a two-page summary. This assignment will consist of

1. Composing a written overview of the week’s topic and reading(s), of two pages in length, no more no less, and
2. a set of at least 5 discussion questions on the topic.

This assignment is meant to evaluate your ability to summarize readings for the week in a concise way, and to ensure that reading is being conducted in class.

4.6 Semester Paper

You and your assigned discussion groups, which I will form during the second week of class, will be tasked with composing a research paper for the Semester, and then presenting your findings during the final week of class. The topic of this research paper will be a social movement of your choice. It can be from any location and/or time during the history of humankind, but your research of the topic must include academic source material, so try not to pick a fake/obscure movement because it is likely that you will not find academic sources on the subject.

In this assignment, you will perform the following tasks:
• Perform group-based research on a social movement that we do not explicitly cover in class. All topics must be pre-approved by me no later than the end of class on March 8.

• Compose a well-written 12-15 page essay describing this social movement. Describe the processes that brought this movement about. Talk about the main actors involved. Explain success and setbacks for this movement. Make sure you use the theory and subjects we talk about in class to relate your research back to the theory of social movements.

• Present your findings to the class in a 15 minute long, all-group presentation, where the presentations and the participation of each individual within the group will be evaluated.

I will provide you a rubric for this assignment after the Midterm exam, but you should begin thinking about it early in the semester.

4.7 Quizzes

Unannounced quizzes will be administered in this class. The quiz will be short answer format (1-5 words) and will be anywhere from one to 50 questions long. They will include questions which are germane to the class discussions or readings. Poor performance on these quizzes will affect your participation grade. So be prepared.

5 Extra Credit

There shall be ample opportunity to earn extra credit, which will be used toward improvement of either one particular assignment or toward the improvement of the final grade. To earn any extra credit, you must demonstrate a commitment to excellence in this class. Students may earn extra credit in the following ways:

• By visiting the SIUC Writing Center in the Library to improve your papers before turning them in
• By earning points on unannounced quizzes
• By fully and consistently attending and participating in class
• By outstanding participation in a class activity or a discussion

Extra Credit will be awarded along the following metric:

1. A documented visit to the SIUC Writing Center to get help proofing and revising a written summary will improve the grade on the paper by 10% of whatever you originally earned on the paper for which you visited the center. For example, if you earned an 80 out of 100 on a paper, a documented visit to the writing center will increase the grade to 88. If you earned a 100 out of 100 on the paper, a visit to the
writing center will increase the grade to 110. Extra credit will however be awarded once per paper, but may be awarded for each paper. Only one visit per group is necessary to earn extra credit on the group paper.

2. Each time you score perfectly on an unannounced quiz, you will earn half of one percent toward your final grade. If you take 10 unannounced quizzes and score perfectly on each of them, you could literally increase your final grade by 5 percentage points.

3. If you earn 95% of all attendance and participation points, you will automatically receive a 100 on the objective portion of your final exam, meaning you don’t have to take the multiple choice portion of the final exam. You will, however, still be required to take the essay portion of the final, regardless of how often you attend class.

4. Any other extra credit you earn as a result of winning in a simulation, or some strange mistake that I may make, or offering a particularly excellent insight in class room discussions.

Extra Credit will be tracked along with your grades. Except where specifically noted, extra credit will translate to a percentage which will be added to the participation score, and will be calculated into the final grade. For example, if you earn 6 extra credit points, you will improve your attendance grade by 6 percent. These are opportunities for you to improve your grades, and all students are encouraged to avail themselves of these opportunities.

6 Class Policies

6.1 Disabilities

It is the policy of this university and the instructor to assist those with disabilities. You should notify me as soon as possible of any disability that might impact your performance in this course. Disabilities Support Services can assist you with taking notes, testing, and other accessibility issues.

6.2 Emergency Response

SIU is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIU Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in every building on campus and in the Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. It is also available on BERTs website at http://www.bert.siu.edu/ and on the Department of Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.
6.3 Syllabus Change Policy

This syllabus is a tentative agreement. It is subject to change in one of two ways:

1. Agreement between Instructor and Class, negotiated in class, on initiative of the class, or
2. Will of Instructor, without input of class.

If any of the policies or schedules in the class are altered in either way, the changes will be announced by me in the next class, and via an all-class email over blackboard. All changes will go into effect immediately upon the delivery of this written notice. In addition, a written amendment to the syllabus will be provided online. It is your responsibility to keep up with any changes.

6.4 Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is of paramount importance. All students in this course are responsible for their own work. Additionally, if you notice a classmate violating this section, you have an ethical obligation to inform me as soon as possible, so that I may deal with the situation. I do not tolerate academic dishonesty, and neither should you. If you work hard and have earned your grade, there is no reason that less honest individuals should receive their grade by cheating.

The following points are examples of violations of our code of academic integrity. This short list is not exhaustive:

- Submitting another’s work as your own is prohibited and constitutes plagiarism.
- Using information from an external source (such as another student, book, article, Internet site, etc.) without proper citations also constitutes plagiarism.
- Cheating on tests, in any fashion, is strictly and explicitly prohibited and will result in being awarded a zero for the exam.

Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Code published in SIUC’s Student Conduct Code (Section II, Articles A and B). Violations of this code can lead to failure of the course and a hearing with the university’s judicial board to suspend you from the university. If you have any questions about anything in this section or anything resembling a breech in academic integrity, please do yourself a favor and ask me first, before we ever get to any issue. I will be more than happy to help you remain within the limits of this policy, or resolve a breech that has already been committed by another to the fullest extent of my ability.

6.5 Professional Discussion

Class discussions of the issues in political science can lead to strong feelings and heated debate. Because this is a college classroom, all discussion must be respectful and scholarly.
My policy is that egregious use of unacceptable comments will result in being asked to leave the class for the remainder of the day and loss of participation and attendance points.

What constitutes scholarly comments? Scholarly comments:

- are respectful of diverse opinions and open to follow up questions and/or disagreement. You don’t have to agree with any comment made, but if you disagree, you must still respect the right of a person to hold an opinion and to state it in a scholarly way.
- should engage ideas, and not people.
- are related to class and/or the course material
- focus on advancing the discussion about issues related to the course and/or course material rather than personal beliefs, and
- are delivered in normal tones and a non-aggressive manner.

And more importantly, what constitutes unacceptable comments? Unacceptable comments:

- are personal in nature. This includes attacks on a persons, appearance, demeanor, or political beliefs.
- include racist or sexist comments, or any other form of bigoted or hateful speech. Rule of thumb on this: If you wouldn’t say it to your professor in any other class, don’t say it in this class.
- include rudely interrupting the instructor or other students. If several people have things to say, please raise your hand and wait to be recognized.
- often use the discussion to argue for political positions and/or beliefs. If political discussions arise, they must be discussed in a scholarly way (see above).
- may include using raised tones, yelling, engaging in arguments with other students and being threatening in any manner.
- include ignoring the instructors authority to maintain the integrity of the classroom environment.

6.6 Absences and Tardiness

The following policies on Absence and Tardiness

- Excused Absence policy- There shall be no penalty for excused absences.
- Excuse for Absence policy- For an absence to be excused, the student must provide documentation from some legitimate source (doctor, coach, professor, police, etc., all of whom will happily write a note on official paper.) Absences may also be excused if students contact the instructor before class by email, though acceptance of emails as excuses is at the sole discretion of the instructor. The excused absence of one member of any group does not relieve the rest of the group from turning in their papers on time.
• Unexcused Absence policy- The class has decided that I should allow 4 excused absences before absence begins affecting their final grade. Any absence beyond the decided amount will result in the loss of one letter grade per additional absence after all extra credit is figured into the grade.

• Tardiness Policy- The policy for acceptance of excuses for absence also holds for tardies: excessive tardiness (by my determination) will result in the loss of participation points for the day. I do not tolerate excessive tardiness. It is disruptive and quite rude. Since I will be taking roll at the beginning of class, those who come to class after roll is completed will need to see me after class, or they will be counted absent.

6.7 Papers

The Policy on submission of Papers is as follows:

1. All papers, if they are to be graded, must be turned in as a hard copy to the instructor on Wednesday of the week you are assigned. Submission to online anti-plagiarism sites will not be necessary.

2. Email submissions of papers will not be accepted for a grade. However, they will be useful if a paper is due on a certain date, and the student runs into some unforeseen problem with printing or has an excused absence. The student may then submit the paper by email to prove that it has been completed on time and provide the hard-copy of the paper at the next class period.

See the rubric which I will provide beforehand for information about precisely what I would like on these papers.

Note: If you fail to turn in any one of these papers, you cannot get an “A” in this course.

6.8 Make-Up Exams and Assignments

I have adopted the following policies for make-ups.

• Make-up exam policy- I do not accept make-up exams. It is not fair to those who prepared for a test to allow some students to take the test after the assigned period. I will allow students to take tests before the scheduled test date, in emergency cases.

• 24-hour Grace Period- I will adopt a 24-hour grace period for papers. This grace period is meant to allow students to address technical problems, like printing. This grace period will only be extended to students who inform me, before class begins on the date that their paper is due, that they had some sort of difficulty. They must receive spoken confirmation from me that I have granted them the grace period. The student must then make every effort to get the paper to me as soon as possible. After the 24-hour grace period is over, I will treat the paper as late.

• Late Paper Policy- All late papers will receive a 10% penalty for each 24 hour period they are late.
6.9 Student Conduct

We are all expected to behave as adults and as professionals, and we all have the right to expect the same of our peers and fellow classmates, as well as the instructor. I have adopted the following policies on in-class behavior.

- Disruptive behavior in-class - Discussion among students not directed toward the class and outside of discussion periods is not permitted. Leaving before class ends is also not permitted without penalty. Egregious disruption of the class will cost the participation points for the day.

- Usage of Cell Phones and other electronic communications devices - Use of cellular phones and other electronic communications devices are not permitted. Texting is also not permitted in this class. I will make an exception in the event of an emergency. If there is some pressing reason that you need to keep your cell phone turned on, please notify me before class. Otherwise, cell phones, pagers, and PDA’s are to be kept off during class.

- Usage of Laptops - I permit the use of laptops for note taking purposes only. Students are on the honor system with regards to proper usage of these devices. Use of laptops for purposes other than taking notes during class, (such as web surfing, email, playing Bejeweled Blitz or other video games, etc.) will result in loss of participation points for the day. Laptops will not be permitted during tests.

6.10 Contacting the Instructor

You may contact me through email, visit the office during office hours, or call by phone. Email is better for shorter questions or questions that require clarification. Email is also acceptable to let me know if you will not be able to make it to class. If you call and don’t talk to me directly, assume that I haven’t heard anything. Don’t assume that voice mail will ever be checked.

7 Tentative Schedule and Itinerary

7.1 Important Dates and Deadlines

- Monday, January 14: First Day of Class
- Wednesday, January 18: Hand in list of topic choices
- Monday, January 21: NO CLASS (Martin Luther King Birthday)
- Friday, March 8: Topics for Semester Paper Due today
- Monday, March 11: NO CLASS (Spring Break)
- Wednesday, March 13: NO CLASS (Spring Break)
- Friday, March 15: NO CLASS (Spring Break)
• Wednesday, March 27: MIDTERM EXAM
• Friday, May 3: FINAL PAPERS DUE
• Wednesday, May 8, 12:50 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.- FINAL EXAM

7.2 Weekly Schedule

Note 1: Readings are signified by either SMI, SMR, SSR or OL. SMI = Della Porta and Diani, SMR = Goodwin and Jasper, SSR = Skocpol, OL = I will post these online.

Note 2: This schedule is subject to change based on the discretion of the instructor, student needs, or to spend extra time highlighting certain concepts. I will announce any changes verbally and by mass email, but ultimately it is your responsibility to keep up with those changes.

Topic 1: Front Matter

• Jan 14- Introduction/ Syllabus/ Policy Discussion
• Jan 16- Lecture: What is a Social Movement? OL- Touraine 1985
   Diani 1992
• Jan 18- Discussion
   Topic Selections Due

Topic 2: Social Change

• Jan 21- NO CLASS (Martin Luther King Birthday)
• Jan 23- Lecture: Social Changes and Social Movements SMI- Chapter 2
• Jan 25- Readings
   I make Group Assignments SMR- Readings 2-5

Topic 3: Symbols and Collective Action

• Jan 28- Lecture: The Symbolic Dimension of Collective Action SMI- Chapter 3
• Jan 30- Readings SMR- Readings 14-16
• Feb 1- Discussion

Topic 4: Identity
• Feb 4- Lecture: Collective Action and Identity
  *SMI* - Chapter 4

• Feb 6- Readings
  *SMR* - Readings 25, 30, and 35

• Feb 8- Discussion

**Topic 5: Individuals and Networks**

• Feb 11- Lecture: Individuals, Networks and Participation
  *SMI* - Chapter 5

• Feb 13- Readings
  *SMR* - Readings 6, 8 and 9

• Feb 15- Discussion

**Topic 6: Organization**

• Feb 18 Lecture: Social Movements and Organizations
  *SMI* - Chapter 6

• Feb 20 Readings
  *SMR* - 19, 21, 22

• Feb 22- Discussion

**Topic 7: What Social Movements Do, Part 1**

• Feb 25- Lecture: Protest
  *SMI* - Chapter 7.1-7.4

• Feb 27- Readings
  *SMR* - Readings 7, 23, 24

• Mar 1- Discussion

**Topic 8: What Social Movements Do, Part 2**

• Mar 4- Lecture: Rational Decision-making and Social Movements
  *SMI* - 7.4-7.8

• Mar 6- Readings
  *SMR* - Readings 10, 11, and 20

• Mar 8- Discussion
SPRING BREAK Mar 9- Mar 17
Enjoy yourself, and Study for your Midterm

Topic 9: Social Movements and the Political System

- Mar 18- Lecture: The Policing and political aims of Protests
  \[SMI\] - Chapter 8
- Mar 20- Readings
  \[SMR\] - Readings 28, 29, 31, 33
- Mar 22- Discussion

Topic 10- Midterm

- Mar 25- Review for Midterm and Evaluation
- Mar 27- MIDTERM EXAM (Bring your Pencils)
- Mar 29- Review of Midterm Answers

Topic 11: Democracy and Change

- Apr 1- Lecture: Social Movements and Democracy
  \[SMI\] - Chapter 9
- Apr 3- Readings
  \[SMR\] - Readings 38, 39, and 40
- Apr 5- Discussion

Topic 12: On Social Movement Failure

- Apr 8- Lecture: Why Social Movements Fail
  \[OL\] - Jackson 1960
  Oegema and Klandermans 1994
- Apr 10- Readings
  \[SMR\] - Readings 13, 34, and 36
- Apr 12- Discussion

Topic 13: Social Revolution 1

- Apr 15- Social Revolution from a Structural Perspective
  \[SSR\] - Chapters 1 and 3
- Apr 17- Readings
  \[SMR\] - Readings 26, 27, 37
• Apr 19- Discussion

**Topic 14: Social Revolution 2**

• Apr 22- Lecture: Outcomes of Social Revolution
  
  **SSR**- Chapters 4 and 7

• Apr 24- Readings
  
  **OL**- Guevara 1965

• Apr 26- Discussion

**Topic 15: Presentations and Conclusion**

• Apr 29- Presentations by Groups 1 and 3
• May 1- Presentations by Groups 2 and 4
• May 3- Concluding Comments, Review for Final

**Topic 16- Final**

• Wednesday, May 8, 12:50 p.m.- 2:50 p.m. **FINAL EXAM- Make Sure you Bring Pencils!**