

Course Profile - Department of International Relations

Course Number: POLS 321	Course Title: Social Movements
Required / Elective: Elective	Pre / Co-requisites: -
Catalog Description: The role of social movements in bringing about political change in a globalizing world. Theoretical and empirical issues in the study of religious, ethnic, environmentalist, anti-globalist and feminist movements. New forms of organization, tactics and political ideas prompted by new social movements, rising since the 1960s.	Textbook / Required Material : The reading pack compiled by the instructor
Course Structure / Schedule: (3+0+0) 3 / 6 ECTS	
<p>Extended Description:</p> <p>This course provides an overview of how social movements have developed throughout the surge of the nation state, how they have been transformed towards a focus on culture and identity following 1960's, and how they are influenced by processes of globalization. Besides looking into the history of social movement activism, the course also discusses different theoretical approaches to social movements. How and why do social movements emerge? How do they organize? How do they act? How do they frame their claims? What is the role of values and identities in social movement activism? These are some of the questions through which different theoretical approaches to social movements will be discussed. The course underlines the transformation of social movement activity from national to the transnational and global level, and the effects of this process.</p>	
Design content: None	Computer usage: Not required
<p>Course Outcomes:</p> <p>By the end of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and understanding of the theoretical discussions on social movements • Understand the relation between social change, economic development and social movement activism • Understand the relation between democratization, democracy and social movement activism • Analyze the ways in which globalization influences social movement activism both in terms of structural and motivational resources. • Employ the theoretical perspectives on social movements in the analysis of a social movement of their choice • Think, write and speak more clearly about issues surrounding social movements, drawing on both from the disciplines of sociology and political science 	
Teaching methods: Lectures and class discussion	
Course Outline	

Week	Topics
1	Introduction
2	What is a social movement? Historical transformations in social movements
3	Democracy, democratization and social movements
4	Democracy, democratization and social movements
5	Theoretical perspectives on social movements: Collective behavior, resource mobilization, political process approaches
6	Theoretical perspectives on social movements: Framing, culture, identity
7	The post-1960 movements: 'New' social movements?
8	New social movements
9	Repertoires of action, tactics, strategies
10	Moving from national to transnational
11	Globalization and social movements
12	Globalization and social movements
13	Current issues in social movement discussion: The role of new media, the Arab Spring and beyond
14	Case studies and student presentations
15	Overview and conclusion

Assessment methods:

Class attendance and participation: 15%

Response paper: 10%

Presentation: 15%

Midterm exam: 25%

Final exam: 35%

Contribution of Course Learning Outcomes to Program Outcomes

	Program Outcomes	*Level of Contribution				
		1	2	3	4	5
IR1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of International Relations and be able to apply them to historical and current events		x			
IR2	Understand the historical processes of political structures and institutions					X
IR3	Be able to follow the world political conjuncture					X

IR4	Grasp the structures and functions of international/regional/intergovernmental organizations			X	
IR5	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects				X
IR6	Understand the international legal framework		X		
IR7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on international relations			X	
PS1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of Political Science and be able to apply them to historical and current events				X
PS2	Understand the historical processes, structures, and functions of political institutions			X	
PS3	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects				X
PS4	Understand the mechanisms of political change (such as voting, lobbying, political movements, legal reforms, revolution, etc.)				X
PS5	Possess knowledge about those fundamental issues that shape political and societal life (such as race, gender, class, environment, security, religion, identity, etc.)				X
PS6	Acknowledge that political phenomena can be explained differently by different schools of thought			x	
PS7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on politics			X	
8	Think independently, creatively, and critically				X
9	Be an entrepreneur and take initiative				
10	Have self-confidence				X
11	Have the ability to carry out systematic comparisons and rightly differentiate similarities and differences			X	
12	Be open-minded and prepared to work together with people from different cultures and groups				X
13	Be aware and a follower of social responsibilities as well as political rights and freedoms			x	
14	Internalize work ethics and behave accordingly				X
15	Be able to speak and deliver presentations in front of public				X
16	Understand, read, and write in English				X

17	Have the ability to observe, analyze, and report					X
18	Be able to implement the principles and methods of scientific research			x		
19	Understand and interpret statistical data					
20	Be prone to team work				x	
21	Possess computer and technological literacy					

*1 Lowest, 2 Low, 3 Average, 4 High, 5 Highest

Student workload:

Reading	67 hrs
Lectures	35 hrs
Class discussion	7 hrs
Written assignments	20 hrs
Research and presentation	15 hrs
Examinations	6 hrs

TOTAL 150 hrs (25x6) 6 ECTS

Prepared by : Instructor

Revision Date : 11.11.2013