

SOCIOLOGY OF THE SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

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Attendance is compulsory and students' participation will be encouraged.

All the teacher's presentations (on power point) plus the bibliography (pdf) are to be found on "CAMPUS VIRTUAL". At the end of each presentation there is a compulsory reading list for all students. The compulsory texts can be found on-line after its corresponding presentation. If those readings fail to generate a well-informed debate in class, a test might ensue.

1. Assessment:

A) compulsory readings leading to debates (or specific tests) amount to 30% of the final mark,

B) voluntary readings (the journal articles, either provided by the teacher, or found by the student in accordance with the teacher) amount to 30% of the final mark

C) the remaining 70% (A) - 40% (A + B) will be decided in a final test (notice that a 50% minimum has to be obtained in A, B and C in order to pass the subject).

PROGRAMME

Introduction: How to Approach the Subject Sociology of the Social Movements?

1. What is and What is not a Social Movement?

Differences between Civil Society Actors: Movements, Interest Groups and Parties. Main Concepts.

2. Main Approaches and Theories: Introducing the Classical Models.

3. The Recruitment Process: Becoming an Activist

Reasons to Join, Stay on and Drop out. The Freedom Summer Project.

4. Modern Approaches: The Resource Mobilization Approach. Rationality in the Social Sciences. The Collective Action Paradox

5. Modern Approaches: the Political Process Theory. Policing Styles

Collective Action in Democratic Contexts: Policing protest. Collective Action in Non-democratic Contexts: Risks and Repression.

6. Modern Approaches: Social Constructivism. Emotions and Frames
7. The Attempt at a Global Synthesis. The Dynamics of Contention (DoC) Project
8. Modern Approaches: the New Social Movements Theory
9. The Consequences of Social Movements
What do they achieve (if they achieve Anything at all)? Intended and Unintended Consequences, Backlashes. How to study the Political Outcomes.
10. A Movement in Flesh and Blood: the Civil Rights Movement

If time available

More Social Movements: Women and Feminists; Gays and Lesbians; Pacifists and Environmentalists; Violent and Awkward Movements; and more...

Future Trends: More or Less Mobilization? Europeanization, Transnationalization of the Protest?

ORAL PRESENTATIONS (GUIDELINES)

- 1) Power point or any other similar format; time is approx. 20' (not counting the subsequent debate).
- 2) Written text, not exceeding 10 pp (pictures, tables, or graphics not included), on which the ppt is based, will be delivered on the same day of the presentation:
 - A research question/s, introduced at the beginning, should orient the content of the text.
 - Critical reading and analysis of three journal articles.
 - Combine theoretical arguments with empirical evidence (the usage of additional evidence, whenever needed and suitable, is recommended: websites, leaflets, propaganda and electoral results, political speeches, number of demonstrations, survey data, membership rates...); relatively easy to find on the Internet.
- 3) Finally, a tentative conclusion linked to the initial question/s will be introduced as well as questions leading to generate a debate in class (this debate will not focus on opinions but on the arguments, theoretical material and empirical evidence provided).