

Dr. Kesho Scott
Spring 2005
Grinnell College
SOC 240 Social Movements in the 20th Century
M/W/F 11:00-11:50 in ARH 302

Office Hours M/W 2:15-4:15 T 4:05-4:30
or by appointment
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Purpose of the Course: This survey of contemporary social movements focuses on the processes of social and cultural change, collective group behavior, and the process of reform and revolution. We will be examining definitions and theories of reform, revolution, and social movements and make comparative analyses of the goals, ideologies, and development of them primarily inside and beyond the boundaries of the United States. *Our central paradigms will be within the contexts of race, class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and nationality.*

Definition of Social Movement: “Social movements are of importance because they actively and deliberately intervene in history. Their members are not content to be passive playthings of social forces; instead, they attempt to influence the course of human events by collective action. Many social movements, of course, can fail in their objectives, but others have brought about social changes—some minor, some far-reaching. Unlike most other forms of collective behavior, social movements may last for many years or even decades. Unlike other forms, too, social movements are fairly well structured. Their members are not scattered, unorganized individuals but rather people consciously acting together in accordance with a shared belief system, or ideology. The ideology provides a criticism of existing social conditions, a concept of the movement’s purpose, a distinction between “us” and “them” and a program for action.”

Ian Robinson, 1977

Required Texts:

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| 1 | GBCA | <u>Collective Behavior and Collective Action</u> – David Miller |
| 2 | SMAC | <u>Social Movements in Advanced Capitalism</u> – Steven M. Buechler |
| 3 | RSM | <u>Rethinking Social Movements</u> - Ed Jeff Goodwin and James Jasper |

RR Reserved Readings: (on Blackboard) PLEASE COPY ALL ARTICLES!

- 1 “Revolution and Evolution” – James and Grace Lee Boggs
- 2 “Revisiting the Russian Revolution” – (Boggs)
- 3 “The Chinese Revolution: Putting Politics in Command” – (Boggs)
- 4 “The Liberation of Guinea” – (Boggs)
- 5 “People’s War of Vietnam”- (Boggs)
- 6 “Cuban and Nicaragua Revolution” (Margaret Randall)
- 7 “The Cultural Analysis of Social Movements” (Hank Johnson and Bert Klandermans)

Requirements: [Must keep up with readings]

- 1 Attendance, active participation/discussion, homework and film reviews 15%
- 2 Mid Exam [objective and essay] 35% (Weeks 1-8)
- 3 Final Research Paper [10-15 pages, **Instructor-Approved Topic**] 35%
- 4 Group Presentations (Weeks 4-8) 15%

Class Mechanics:

- All papers will be **returned within two weeks** after due date.
- Do not turn in any assignments through email.
- Use a “buddy system” to keep up with the class assignments when absent.
- **Expect** emails from instructor regarding assignments and course schedule changes.
- Instructor reserves the right to add or delete any part of this syllabus.

Week 1: Origin of Human and Societal Change

Jan 24 Introduction of Course: Objectives and Requirement. Lecture: Subjective, Objective, Historical Change, Definition of social movement? [Concepts and Definitions] and **Film**

Jan 26 (CBCA) Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2

Jan 28 (CBCA) Chapters 3 and 4

Week 2: Collective Behavior in Individual and Institutional Life

Jan 31 (CBCA) Chapters 7 and 8

Feb 2 (CBCA) Chapters 10 and 11

Feb 4 (CBCA) Chapters 12 and 13

Week 3: Migration, Protest, and Social Movements as Collective Behavior or Action

Feb 7 (CBCA) Chapters 9 and 14

Feb 9 (CBCA) Chapters 15 and 16

Feb 11 (SMAC) Review Introduction and Chapter 1

Week 4: How Does Social Movements Happen in Advanced Capitalism?

Feb 14 (SMAC) Chapters 2 and 3

Feb 16 (SMAC) Chapters 4 and 5

Feb 18 (SMAC) Chapters 6 and 7

Week 5: Rethinking Social Movements Again and Again

Feb 21 (SMAC) Chapter 8 and Epilogue

Feb 23 (RSM) Chapter Introduction and Chapter 1

Feb 25 (RSM) Chapters 2 and 3

Week 6: What are Some Limits to Social Movements Change?

- Feb 28 (RSM) Chapter 4
- Mar 2 (RSM) Chapters 5 and 6
- Mar 4 (RSM) Chapters 7 and 8

Week 7: What are Some New Aspects of Social Movements' Change?

- Mar 7 (RSM) Chapters 9 and 10
- Mar 9 (RSM) Chapters 11 and 12
- Mar 11 (RSM) Chapters 13 and 14

Week 8: Why New Reflections on "Old" Social Movements?

- Mar 14 (RSM) Chapters 15
- Mar 16 (RR) "Cultural Analyses of Social Movements (Johnson and Klandermans)
- Mar 18 **MID EXAM (In class, Part I Objective Exam 50 minutes, Part II Take Home)**

[SPRING BREAK MAR 18 – APR 3]**Week 9: What is Beyond the Russian Revolution?**

- Apr 4 (RR) "Revolution and Evolution" and "Revising the Russian Revolution" and "The Chinese Revolution: Putting Politics in Command" – Boggs
- Apr 6 Applications
- Apr 8 Grinnell Library visit

Week 10: What does Guine and Vietnam Teach us About Revolutionary Process?

- Apr 11 (RR) "The Liberation of Guine" (Boggs)
- Apr 13 (RR) "The People's War in Vietnam (Boggs)
- Apr 15 Applications

Week 11: What Can We Learn When Revolution Happens in Spanish-speaking and Non-white Places?

- Apr 18 (RR) "Preface" and "Cuban Revolution" (Randall)
- Apr 20 (RR) "Nicaraguan Revolution" and "Bring it all Together" (Randall)

Apr 22 Applications

Week 12: What are the Many Faces of Reform Movements?

Apr 25 Conservative Movements

Apr 27 Open Session on Contemporary Movement: _____

Apr 29 **Film** and Applications

Week 13: How do we Link the Local with the Global Social Movements?

May 2 Indigenous Movements

May 4 Transnational Movements

May 6 **Film** and Applications

Week 14: What is the Role of Cultural Formation in Collective Behavior and Action?

May 9 Cultural Movements

May 11 Grassroots Movements

May 13 **Bring it all together:** Future Projections for Reform, Revolution, and Social Change in the 21st Century

Week 15—Exam week

Final Research Paper Due: Wednesday, May 18th by noon!! NO FINAL EXAM!!!!!!

****SCHEDULE FOR FINAL RESEARCH PAPER:**

Week 9 (Due April 8th): Topic approved, outline of paper, and focus of paper: Theoretical Question and its Application to the Movement

Week 10 (Due April 15th): Literature Review, Theoretical Perspective Applied, and History of Movement

Week 11 (Due April 22nd): Leaders, Members, and Mobilization

Week 12 (Due April 29th): Goals, Strategies, Tactics, Events, Strengths, and Weaknesses

Week 13 (Due May 6th): Outcomes: Individual and Institutions, Application of Course Terms and Concepts, Summary and Projections

Week 14: I will only review first drafts of paper from May 9th – May 13th if turned in before 4:00pm on May 11th!!!!