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:
1 GBCA Collective Behavior and Collective Action – David Miller
2 SMAC Social Movements in Advanced Capitalism – Steven M. Buechler
3 RSM Rethinking Social Movements - Ed Jeff Goodwin and James Jaspen

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 Guine” – (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)
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!!!!