**SOC 343: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS**
Department of Sociology, University of Alberta
Tuesday /Thursday, 3:30-4:50pm
Tory 1-5
Prerequisite: SOC 100 or consent of instructor

**Course Description:**
This course explores social, political and cultural change through collective mobilization in a local, national and international context. Studies include a myriad of forms of collective action such as riots, rebellions, social movement organizations or protests. The course examines numerous debates on the nature of collective action including: What leads people to act collectively? What is the nature of this collective action – what form does it take? How do people develop protest tactics (and how do we evaluate the success/failure of these actions)? What are effective strategies for social change? The course emphasizes interdisciplinary learning, historical sociology and combines theoretical with empirical studies of collective action.

**Professor:** Dr. Dominique Clément
Twitter @ HistoryOfRights
Facebook: HistoryOfRights
www.HistoryOfRights.ca

Office: Tory 4-24
Office Hours: Thursday, 2:15-3:15pm (or by appointment)
Email: dominique.clement@ualberta.ca

**Grading**

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<tr>
<th>Grading</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case study</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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*I do not discuss grades or course content by email. Contact the Teaching Assistant or visit during office hours.*

**Teaching Assistant:** Angela Wilson
Office: see eClass
Office Hours: see eClass
Email: angela.wilson@ualberta.ca
eClass: Grades are posted on eClass, and there is course content on the site. All assignments should be submitted electronically on eClass and hardcopy at the Sociology office Tory 5-21 [there is a slot near the office door to deposit papers]

**Late Assignment Policy:** Late assignments will be penalized by 5% per day (10% weekends) and the evaluation for late assignments will only consist of a final grade (no comments). None will be accepted after seven days, and students will be given a grade of ‘0’ for that assignment. Extensions will only be provided in exceptional circumstances (e.g., computer problems are not accepted).

**Sick Policy:** The University’s policy on sickness/absence prohibits professors from requiring notes from your doctor. If you are unable to complete an assignment due to illness, write a formal letter to the professor stating why you were unable to submit the assignment (you do not need to be specific – for instance, you can simply indicate that you were ill – and please keep the letter brief, only a few sentences). Attach the letter to the paper, and submit the paper to the professor. Your formal grade will be adjusted after the paper is evaluated. Papers submitted under this policy will be returned without written comments (only a letter grade).

**University Policies:**
Policy about course outlines can be found in [Course Requirements, Evaluation Procedures and Grading](#) of the University Calendar.

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online [www.governance.ualberta.ca](http://www.governance.ualberta.ca)) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

“Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s)."
Textbooks Available at the UofA Bookstore (and Amazon.ca):


Most of the articles in this course are available electronically through the library catalogue. Search the title of the book or the *name of the journal* (not the title of the article) on the library website. **I strongly recommend that you download/print the articles in the first week of classes to avoid restrictions on how many people can download the article at the same time.**

Search the *name of the journal* or the *title of the book* (NOT the title of the article or chapter) on the library website under “periodical title” (journal) or “title” (book).
Week 1 (January 9, 11): Introduction

Follow postings on Twitter or Facebook. I will share current news relating to human rights and social movements:

Twitter @ HistoryOfRights Facebook: HistoryOfRights

*Required Readings for this course includes the weekly newspaper articles (NOT the Newspaper Clippings folder) on eClass.*

Sign up for the Case Study Assignment on eClass.

Week 2 (January 16, 18): What is a social movement?

Staggenborg, chapters 1 to 3.


Week 3 (January 23, 25): Resources and Mobilization

Staggenborg, chapter 4 to 5.


Week 4 (January 30, February 1): Collective Identity

Staggenborg, chapters 6 to 7.


Week 5 (February 6, 8): Framing

Staggenborg, chapters 8 to 9.

Week 6 (February 13, 15): Strategies for Change

Staggenborg, chapters 8 to 10.


Week 7 (February 20, 22): Reading Break

**Reading Break: Classes cancelled**

Week 8 (February 27, March 1): Mid-Term Exam

**Mid-Term Exam (Staggenborg textbook): Thursday, 1 March**

Week 9 (March 6, 8): Policing Social Protest


**Week 10 (March 13, 15): Terrorism**


**Week 11 (March 20, 22): Transnational Advocacy Networks**


**Week 12 (March 27, 29): Seminar**


**March 27:**

Tutorial Group A: **Room Tory 4-4** (Professor)

**March 29:**

Tutorial Group B: **Room Tory 4-4** (Professor)

Tutorial Group C: **Room Tory 6-4** (TA)
Week 13 (April 3, 5): Seminar


April 3:
Tutorial Group C: Room Tory 4-4 (Professor)

April 5:
Tutorial Group A: Room Tory 4-4 (Professor)
Tutorial Group B: Room Tory 6-4 (TA)

Week 14 (April 10, 12): Term Paper

10 April: Term Paper prep

12 April (no class): Term Paper Due, eClass & hardcopy @ Tory 5-21
Mid-Term Exam

The mid-term exam is a review of the Staggenborg/Ramos textbook. No other readings will be included in the mid-term exam. It is a multiple-choice exam.
Term Paper

Submit a hardcopy of the Term Paper to the Sociology Office (Tory 5-21) as well as an electronic copy on eClass.

The paper should include a bibliography, title page, citations and page numbers. Use Cambria, 12 font, double-spaced. Any formal citation style is permitted.

The paper should draw on the readings in the course outline and lectures for weeks 1 to 14 (but not Staggenborg/Ramos or Wood books; you can also disregard the Reading List on eClass). The exam is a series of short-answer questions. Each answer should be no more than 300 words and should include references to specific authors and lectures. Do not use quotes. Use footnotes or endnotes to reference additional lectures or readings that are relevant to the question.

1. What are social movements?
2. What is the distinction between Resource Mobilization Theory, Political Opportunity Theory and New Social Movement theory?
3. What is “framing” and how does it contribute to collective action?
4. What factors determine strategies for social change?
5. How do networks facilitate the emergence of social movements?
6. How does policing affect social movement mobilization?

The Term Paper should be based on the lectures and readings for the entire course (excluding the textbooks). A strong paper will draw on as much of the course content as possible. The evaluation will focus on how the paper draws on the lectures and the readings in the course. Do not use quotes.
Sample (partial) Answer:

*What is a social movement?*

Social movements are a purposeful political challenge for change, the presence of multiple instances of collective action with noninstitutional tactics, the involvement of social movement organizations/networks of organization, and the need for a large-scale collective identity.¹ Collective action becomes *contentious* or a *challenge* when it is used by people who lack regular access to institutions, who act in the name of new or unaccepted claims, and who behave in ways that fundamentally challenge others or authorities.² Social movements can emerge when sufficient resources collect around a grievance, when openings in the political system create opportunities for mobilization, when a grievance is effectively framed as an injustice or in the emergence of an identity around a grievance.³ In the case of terrorist organizations such as Al-Qua’Ida, the organization emerged from social movements.⁴ Another form of social movement is the Transnational Advocacy Network. TANs form global alliances between foreign and domestic social movement organizations (SMOs) and are especially effective when domestic SMOs operate in repressive societies such as the Grandmothers of the Plaza de la Mayo in Argentina during the 1970s/80s.⁵ In the case of the environmental movement….⁶

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¹ Wilkes 2006, 512.
² See Tarrow definition in Lectures, week 2.
³ Johnston and Noakes, 2005; Meyer 2004; Polletta and Jasper 2001. See also Lectures, weeks 2, 3, 5, 6.
⁴ Lecture, week 9; Obserschall 2004; Sutton and Vertigans, 2006.
⁵ Lecture, week 10.
Case Study Presentation

Sign-up on eClass by the end of Week 2 for your presentation.

The case study is a 5 minute presentation to the class of a social movement organization or protest event. Each presentation will be strictly limited to 5 minutes. The objective is to collectively explore the diversity of social movements around the world.

The presentation should address three issues:

- What are the origins of this movement, organization or protest event?
- What type of frames were used?
- What strategies or tactics were employed?

The presentation is only five minutes. Be prepared in advance to ensure that all three questions are adequately addressed in this short time frame. Presenters should demonstrate a good grasp of their case study. Sources for the presentation might include (but not limited to):

- Newspapers articles (digital newspapers @ library catalogue) – see also the newspaper clippings resource on eClass
- Magazine articles (e.g, Macleans)
- Facebook, Twitter, blogs and other social media
- Organization or event websites and materials

Students have the option of choosing a movement, protest event or case study other than those listed on eClass. Please consult the professor in advance to confirm your choice.
Sample Mid-Term Exam Questions

1. According to Charles Tilly, which of the following was a key factor in facilitating the emergence of the social movement?
   a. Nationalism
   b. Capitalism
   c. Generational change
   d. Feminism

2. According to Charles Tilly, which of the following was a key factor in facilitating the emergence of the social movement?
   a. Nationalism
   b. Capitalism
   c. Generational change
   d. Feminism

3. Which of the following is a selective incentive?
   a. Collective identity
   b. Resources
   c. Employment
   d. Education

4. The Maple Spring movement in Quebec was an example of which of the following?
   a. Master frames
   b. Spinoff movement
   c. Tactical innovation
     i. Initiator movement

5. Which of the following played a critical role in the 1960s in shifting Indigenous activism towards service provision and political action?
   a. White paper of 1969
   b. State funding
   c. Media
   d. New Left
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Why is Quebec tuition half of BC or Ontario? Because every time Quebec tries to raise tuition the streets look like this.

March 22  April 22  May 22
JUNE 22
Casseroles Night in Canada
Casseroles contre la hausse
125 CITIES IN CANADA AND BEYOND AND GROWING

Casseroles Night in Canada
#CasserolesNightinCanada

Photo: Alain Roberge, La Presse, Montreal, March 22, 2012