

Sociology 8250
Call Number: 25088
Fall 2007
Wed 5:45-8:45pm
Baldwin, 114A

Dr. Patricia Richards
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GRADUATE SEMINAR ON SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Course Description:

This course is designed as an introduction to major sociological approaches to the study of social movements. In the first two sections of the course, we will use theoretical readings and cases studies to explore the two dominant social movement studies paradigms among U.S. American sociologists: structural and cultural approaches. In the third section, we will consider "the state" and its relationship to movements. In the final section of the course, we will explore theoretical approaches and empirical questions that go beyond dominant structural or cultural approaches.

Required Readings

Books:

Political Process & the Development of Black Insurgency by Doug McAdam
It Was Like a Fever: Storytelling in Protest and Politics by Francesca Polletta
Contentious Lives by Javier Auyero
Bearing Witness against Sin by Michael P. Young
Marketing Democracy: Power and Social Movements in Post-Dictatorship Chile by Julia Paley
How long, how long by Belinda Robnett
Separate roads to feminism by Benita Roth

Articles and Chapters:

Required articles and chapters are listed in the bibliography of this syllabus. Some are available through JSTOR/electronic journals; the others will be made available in the mailroom

****Please note: I initially planned to assign books by Jasper, Bickham-Mendez, and Baiocchi in addition to those listed here. The bookstore may still be carrying those books, but we will **not** be reading them and you are **not** required to purchase them for this course.*

Course Requirements: Students are required to attend all classes, complete all readings, participate actively, and to lead discussion on one or more occasions (depending on class size). Students have the option of taking two take-home examinations on the readings and discussions (12-15 pages each), or writing one term paper (25-30 pages).

The term paper option is intended for students with substantial background in the study of social movements, who would like to pursue a particular theoretical issue or case study in depth. Topics must be approved by October 3, and an outline/rough draft is due October 17. The final paper is due the last day of class, December 5.

The examination option is for students who want to develop a broad background in the study of social movements. Exam questions will cover only the assigned readings. You will be given approximately five questions but will be expected to write on only one of them. You will be given the opportunity to write your own exam question, subject to my approval. Exam questions will be distributed one week before they are due in class. Exams due dates: Oct. 17 and Dec. 5.

Final grades will be based on the paper or examinations (80%) and seminar presentations and participation (20%).

A Note to Auditors: Graduate students may audit this class (with my permission). However, auditors must agree to attend all sessions, complete the assigned readings, and participate in class discussion. Auditors may be called upon to lead one or more seminar discussions, depending on class size.

Course Schedule:

Aug 22: Introduction to Course
Precursors to SM theory

U.S. American Structural Approaches

Aug 29: Political Process and the Civil Rights Movement
Reading: McAdam and chapter by Goodwin and Jasper (see bibliography)

Sep 5: No Class

Sep 12: Collective Action Frames
Reading: Selected Readings (see bibliography)

Cultural Approaches

Sep 19: Storytelling
Reading: Polletta & additional chapter by Polletta (see bibliography)

Sep 26: Biography
Reading: Auyero

Oct 3: Emotions
Reading: Young

Oct 10: Strategy & Culture
Reading: Selected Readings (see bibliography)
Guest Discussion Leader: Liz Cherry

First Exam Distributed in Class

Oct 17: Taking Stock

First Exam Due Today in Class

The State

Oct 24: Theorizing the State
Reading: Selected Readings (see bibliography)

Oct 31: Social Movements and the State
Reading: Paley

Other Approaches

Nov 7: Adding Gender into the Mix
Reading: Robnett

Nov 14: Race, Class, & Gender
Reading: Roth

Nov 21: No Class (Thanksgiving Break)

Nov 28: Publics
Readings: Selected Readings (see bibliography)
Second Exam Distributed in Class

Dec 5: Conclusion of Course
Second Exam or Final Paper Due Today

Bibliography of Assigned Articles and Chapters
(subject to change)

Political Process:

Goodwin, Jeff and James M. Jasper. 2004. "Caught in a Winding, Snarling Vine: The Structural Bias of Political Process Theory." Pp. 3-30 in *Rethinking Social Movements: Structure, Meaning, and Emotion*. Oxford: Rowman and Littlefield.

Framing:

Snow, David A., et al. 1986. "Frame Alignment Processes, Micromobilization, and Movement Participation" *American Sociological Review* 51(1986): 464-481. **JSTOR**.

Benford, Robert D. and David A. Snow. 2000. "Framing Processes and Social Movements: An Overview and Assessment." *Annual Review of Sociology* 26(2000): 611-639. **JSTOR**.

Marx Ferree, Myra and David A. Merrill. 2004. "Hot Movements, Cold Cognition: Thinking about Social Movements in Gendered Frames," pp. 247-261 in *Rethinking Social Movements: Structure, Meaning, and Emotion*. Oxford: Rowman and Littlefield.

Gamson, William A. and Andre Mondigliani. 1989. "Media Discourse and Public Opinion on Nuclear Power: A Constructionist Approach." *American Journal of Sociology* 95(1): 1-37 **JSTOR**.

Smith, Christian. 1996. *Resisting Reagan: The US Central American Peace Movement*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Chapter 8: Negotiating Strategies and Collective Identity

Chapter 9: Fighting Battles of Public Discourse

Storytelling

Poletta, Francesca. 2004. "Culture is not just in your head," pp. 97-110 in *Rethinking Social Movements: Structure, Meaning, and Emotion*. Oxford: Rowman and Littlefield.

Culture & Strategy:

Readings TBA

The State:

Simon, Roger. 1982. *Gramsci's Political Thought: An Introduction*. London: Lawrence & Wishart.
Chapter 2: Gramsci's Concept of Hegemony

Hall, Stuart. 1996 [1986]. "Gramsci's relevance for the study of race and ethnicity." in *Stuart Hall: Critical Dialogues in Cultural Studies*, edited by D. Morley and K.-H. Chen. New York: Routledge.

Gordon, Colin. 1991. "Governmental Rationality: An Introduction," Pp. 1-51 in *The Foucault Effect*. G. Burchell, C. Gordon and P. Miller, editors. University of Chicago Press.

Pringle, Rosemary and Sophie Watson. 1998. "'Women's Interests' and the Post-Structuralist State." in *Feminism and Politics*, edited by A. Phillips. New York: Oxford University Press.

Park, Yun-Joo and Patricia Richards. 2007. "Negotiating Neoliberal Multiculturalism: Mapuche Workers in the Chilean State," *Social Forces* 85(3): 1319-1339. **Electronic journals**

Publics

Fraser, Nancy. 1997. "Rethinking the Public Sphere," in *Justice Interruptus*. New York: Routledge.

Emirbayer, Mustafa and Mimi Sheller. 1999. "Publics in History," in *Theory and Society*. 28: 145-197. **JSTOR**.

Calhoun, Craig. 2002. "Imagining Solidarity: Cosmopolitanism, Constitutional Patriotism, and the Public Sphere," in *Public Culture* 14(1): 147-171. **Electronic journals**

More TBA