Welcome to ‘Social Movements and Social Change’! This course will engage your interests while also building on, and progressing, your skills in writing, teamwork, participation, critical thinking and theoretical application.

Social movements can be loosely defined as groups of people, or organizations, combining their efforts to try and affect social change – while focusing on particular political or social issues. Social movements can vary greatly in scope, context, and impact.

Within sociology many researchers have delved into analyzing social movements and identifying patterns across various movements. Within this large body of research, some of the areas of focus that have developed over time include: the conditions/contexts under which people are likely to participate in social movements, the likelihood of movements being successful in creating social change, and the differing effects that social movements have on society and the world at large.

In this course, we will review social movement theories and learn to apply them through analysis. We will also critically consider various definitions of social movement success and failure, ‘who’ controls the creation of these definitions and ‘why’. Throughout this process we will gain a working-knowledge of the history and ongoing action of several key social movements.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you will be able to:

• understand and apply major theoretical perspectives and key concepts in the study of social movements,
• critically interpret, evaluate and discuss sociological empirical evidence,
• demonstrate improved analytic, writing, public speaking, and discussion skills,
• have successfully researched the sociology literature on a topic regarding sociology of social movements and summarized/synthesized its findings.

Course Readings

Most of the course readings will be in the form of articles published in peer-reviewed journals. These are available from the McMaster library’s online holdings. A couple of the readings are chapters from peer-reviewed, edited books. These will be posted to our Avenue to Learn course site. If you have any trouble accessing a required resource, I encourage you to reach out to myself or a librarian for assistance.

The following book is available for purchase at Titles Bookstore. This is not a required text, but strongly suggested as it is a valuable writing guide. If you choose not to purchase this text, please ensure you have access to a writing guide containing details about either APA or ASA citation style. The use of proper writing format and etiquette (grammar, spelling, citations etc.) throughout all course assignments and communications is expected.
**Please note that all assigned readings must be completed by the beginning of class on the day they are listed.**

**Course Requirements**
This seminar will require active and ongoing participation of all students.

Graded assignments include:

**Weekly reading and participation**
Students are expected to arrive at every class having completed the weekly assigned readings and be prepared to participate in discussion. This preparation includes preparing a brief summary of the readings, including relevant questions/topics to discuss. As the semester progresses, if seminar participation is lacking, I may choose at any time to implement mandatory weekly response papers for submission. In addition, I may choose to request a response paper be completed regarding in-class activities, such as viewing a documentary. These will be included in the reading/participation portion of your grade.

**In-class exams**
There will be two in-class exams. These exams will cover the assigned readings, discussion content and any other in-class resources provided (such as documentaries or presentations). They will assess comprehension of the literature, knowledge of key concepts, ability to critically evaluate the course material, and knowledge of evidence presented throughout the semester. The detailed format of these evaluations will be outlined in-class prior to the exam date.

**Group research project**
The group research project will begin during the first week of class and end with a finished product at the end of term. You will be working in small groups (3 or 4 people each) and be working toward a final paper and group presentation. Your goal is to work together in choosing a social movements topic/research question, and then gather, review and critically analyze relevant sociological literature and data in order to answer your selected research question. Group work time will occasionally be provided in-class, but work outside of class will also be necessary.

This project will be submitted in four components:
- Research proposal: February 3
- Data collection summary: March 9
- Research paper: March 30
- Research presentation: April 6

Further information will be provided regarding each stage of the project, including required elements and expectations. Handouts will be provided in-class, as well as electronic copies posted on Avenue to Learn.

**Avenue To Learn**
In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the
technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss with the course instructor.

**Assignments Submission and Deadlines**
Assignments must be turned in electronically to Avenue to Learn by the deadline on the course schedule. This course will use the originality-checking feature in Avenue to Learn to screen all assignments for plagiarism (see below). All pages must be numbered and have 1" to 1.25" margins on all sides. All text should be double-spaced in an easy-to-read 12-point font. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will be reflected in a decreased mark for the assignment.

**Grading**
Grades will be calculated according to the following formula:

- Seminar participation: 15%
- Research proposal: 10%
- Data collection: 5%
- In-class exam 1: 20%
- In-class exam 2: 20%
- Final seminar paper: 20%
- Research presentation: 10%

**Review of Marks**
I work diligently to mark all assignments fairly, however if you should disagree with the mark you receive on an assignment or exam then I will certainly review it. If you wish to have a mark on an assignment or exam reviewed you must follow the steps outlined below.

Please be aware that when a mark is reviewed, the new mark may be higher, lower or the same as the original and the reviewed mark will be final.

If you wish to request that a mark be reviewed, please write a brief, detailed description of the rationale for your request. This description will need to be submitted, along with the original marked assignment, to me through email (baileka@mcmaster.ca) within two weeks of when you received the mark. Any requests for review submitted after the two-week window has passed will not be considered.

**Late Assignments and Absences**
The McMaster Student Absence Form is a self-reporting tool for undergraduate students to report absences that last up to 3 days. This form allows students to request accommodation for any missed academic work. This tool cannot be used during any final examination period. You may submit a maximum of one Academic Work Missed request per term. It is your responsibility to follow up with your professor immediately regarding the nature of the accommodation. If you are absent more than 3 days, exceed 1 request per term, or are absent for a non-medical reason, you must visit the office of the Associate Dean of your Faculty. You may be required to provide supporting documentation. Any disruption this causes to turning in assignments on time, completing exams, and so forth, must be addressed directly with your professor as soon as possible.

For late assignments without approved excuses, you must make arrangements directly with your professor to submit the assignment. Assignments will be marked down 5 percentage points for each day it is late, including weekend days and holidays.
Accommodations
I am committed to making appropriate accommodations for students' observance of religious holidays. Please contact me as early in the term as possible to make individual arrangements.

I am also committed to working with students with disabilities to make individualized accommodations according to your specific needs. All such arrangements must be made through the Student Accessibility Services department. Please drop by my office hours at the beginning of the term to make individual arrangements and to complete the necessary paperwork. All such arrangements will be kept confidential.

Email
Please consider email equivalent to any other form of written communication. Students are expected to follow rules of spelling, grammar and punctuation. In addition, please include a proper greeting, such as "Dear Professor Bailey,". Email failing to meet these standards, or containing questions that can be answered by referring to this syllabus or to Avenue to Learn, may not be answered may be returned unanswered. **I do not check the separate Avenue to Learn email, so please do not try to contact me that way.** All email communication must come from your mcmaster.ca email account. I will respond to email during the work week: Monday to Friday.

Course schedule

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<th>Week 1</th>
<th>6-Jan</th>
<th>Introductions</th>
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<tr>
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<td>What is a social movement?</td>
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<td>How do we understand the role of social movements in social change?</td>
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<td>When and how do they occur?</td>
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<th>Week 2</th>
<th>13-Jan</th>
<th>Resource mobilization, Political Process Theory</th>
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<th>Week 3</th>
<th>20-Jan</th>
<th>Participation and Mobilization</th>
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<td>Documentary – TBD</td>
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Week 4 27-Jan  **Identities, Emotion, Commitment**


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Week 5 3-Feb  **Framing and Ideology**


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Week 6 10-Feb  **Allies and Ties**


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Week 7 24-Feb  **In-class exam - 1 hour**

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Week 8 2-Mar  **Tactics and Strategies**


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Week 9  9-Mar  **Policing and Opposition**

Documentary: Freedom Road: A Documentary Series From Shoal Lake 40 – Part 4

**Data summary submitted by today.**

Week 10  16-Mar  **Media**

Documentary: Freedom Road: A Documentary Series From Shoal Lake 40 – Part 5

Week 11  23-Mar  **In-class exam**
4:00pm – Presentation: Dr Jeff Denis

Week 12  30-Mar  **Corporate activism**

**Group research papers due today.**

Week 13  6-Apr  **Project presentations**
Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained. In assignments, complete citations are required for all quotes and paraphrases. Consult the required writing style guide for information on how to properly cite the work of others.
2. Improper collaboration in group work. In this course, I encourage students to work together to understand concepts, discuss ideas, study for exams, etc. Improper collaboration would be defined as using the work of others to get out of doing your own work, claiming the work of others as your own, etc.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and the Avenue to Learn course website weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Course Modification Policy
The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of students to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Sociology Department Policies
The Sociology staff will not date-stamp assignments or monitor the submission or return of papers. Turn in assignments via Avenue to Learn. Students should check the web, the white board and the Undergraduate Bulletin board outside the Sociology office (KTH-627) for notices pertaining to Sociology classes or departmental business (e.g., class scheduling information, location of mailboxes and offices, tutorial information, class cancellations, TA job postings, etc.).

Computer use in the classroom is intended to facilitate learning in that particular lecture or tutorial. At the discretion of the instructor, students using a computer for any other purpose may be required to turn the computer off for the remainder of the lecture or tutorial.