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201910-SOCI-212.10-Social Dissent

Topic outline

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Course Materials

The following files are guidelines and resources to help you do well in the course.

[Participation](#) – 8%

[Reading Questions](#)

Questions on the week's reading (11) – 30%

[Social Movement Report](#) (Due September 20) – 5%

[Research Proposal](#) (Due October 16) – 10%

Research Essay (Due November 13) – 17%

Final Exam (December, 2018) – 30%

-  [Syllabus File](#)
-  [What are Social Movements? File](#)

Definitions of social movements needed for your first assignment.

-  [Social Movement Report File](#)

Description of the first assignment

-  [Research Proposal File](#)




Guidelines for how to write a [research proposal](#).

-  [Paper Format File](#)

Read this guide before writing your paper

-  [ASA Style Manual File](#)

Guidelines for the American Sociological Association citation style which you must use in your research assignment.

-  [Weekly Questions File](#)
-  [How to avoid plagiarism File](#)
-  [Participation File](#)
- [News forum](#)
- [Announcements Forum](#)

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1 -- 21st-Century Protest -- September 4

Readings:

- What are [social movements](#)?
- White, Micah. 2016. "[The Birth of Occupy](#)." in The End of Protest: a new playbook for revolution. Toronto: Knopf Canada.

Concepts: social movement, cycle of protest, public space, anarchism, democracy, direct democracy, austerity programs, pre-figurative politics

Questions:

- What are the key issues and events in the cycle of protest that began with the Battle of Seattle and ended with Occupy Wall Street?
- What are the common themes of this protest cycle?
- Why has this cycle of protest failed to change society?

Recommended Readings:

- Tremayne, Mark. 2014. "[Anatomy of Protest in the Digital Era: A Network Analysis of Twitter and Occupy Wall Street](#)." *Social Movement Studies: Journal of Social, Cultural and Political Protest* 13(1):110-26.
- Kerton, Sarah. 2012. "[Tahrir, Here? The Influence of the Arab Uprisings on the Emergence of Occupy](#)." *Social Movement Studies* 11(3-4):302–08.
- Castañeda, Ernesto 2012. "[The Indignados of Spain: A Precedent to Occupy Wall Street](#)." *Social Movement Studies: Journal of Social, Cultural and Political Protest* 11(3-4):309-19.
- Smith, Jackie, and Bob Glidden. 2012. "[Occupy Pittsburgh and the Challenges of Participatory Democracy](#)." *Social Movement Studies* 11(3-4):288–94.
- Costanza-Chock, Sasha. 2012. "[Mic Check! Media Cultures and the Occupy Movement](#)." *Social Movement Studies: Journal of Social, Cultural and Political Protest* 11(3-4):375-85.
- Rushkoff, Douglas. 2013. "[Permanent Revolution: Occupying Democracy](#)." *The Sociological Quarterly* 54:164-73.
- [Contemporary Social Movements Forum](#)

2 -- 21st-Century Protest -- September 11

Readings:

- McNally, David. 2016. "[Neoliberalism and its Discontents: Austerity and Resistance in an Age of Crisis](#)." in *A World to Win: Contemporary Social Movements and Counter-Hegemony*, edited by William K. Carroll and Kanchan Sarker. Winnipeg: ARP Books. [Bibliography](#).

Concepts: neoliberalism, austerity, social welfare, economic inequality, market individualism, solidarity, labour movement, infrastructure of dissent

Questions:

- What is neoliberalism? How is it related to austerity?
- How have governments been able to pursue austerity against the will of the majority of their populations?

Recommended Readings:

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3 -- The Labour Movement: History and Theory -- September 18

Readings:

- Bantjes, Rod. 2007. "[Workers of the World Unite!](#)" in *Social movements in a global context Canadian perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.

Concepts: bourgeoisie, proletariat, petty bourgeoisie, class movements, labour movement, liberalism, capitalism, communism, social democracy

Questions:

- How, according to Marx, could powerless workers radically change their society?
- To what extent were Marx's predictions correct? What did he get wrong?

Recommended Readings:

- Marx, Karl, and Friedrich Engels. 1848. *Manifesto of the Communist Party*. London.
- Sran, Garry, Michael Lynk, James Clancy, and Derek Fudge. 2013. [Unions Matter](#). Ottawa: Canadian Foundation for Labour Rights.

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4 -- The Labour Movement: 21st Century -- September 25

Readings:

- Bantjes, Rod. 2007. "Workers of the World Unite!" in *Social movements in a global context Canadian perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.
- Ness, Immanuel. 2016. "[Introduction: The New International Working Class](#)." in *Southern Insurgency: The Coming of the Global Working Class*. London: Pluto Press.

Concepts: union density, precariat, solidarity networks, community unionism, anti-sweatshop movement, minimum wage movement

Questions:

- What new strategies could help the labour movement overcome the effects of economic globalization and the flexibilization of work: declining union density and increasing precarity?

Recommended Readings:

- Standing, Guy. 2012. "The Precariat: From Denizens to Citizens?" *Polity* 44(4):588–608.
- Della Porta, Donatella. 2015. "Social Structure: Old Working Class, New Precariat or Yet Something Different?" in *Social Movements in Times of Austerity*. Cambridge: Polity.

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5 -- Class and Social Change: The Co-op Movement -- October 2

Readings:

- Bantjes, Rod. 2007. "State and Co-operative Movements." in *Social movements in a global context Canadian perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.

Concepts: petty-bourgeois class, co-operative, co-optation, capitalism, monopoly capitalism, economic democracy, decentralized democracy, bureaucratization, civil society, non-governmental organization, populism: authoritarian and democratic, co-operative commonwealth

Questions:

- In what ways did the co-operative movement attempt to democratize society?
- What was the difference between the ideals of the co-operative movement and the ideals of the welfare state? How did the co-operative movement nonetheless contribute to the success of the welfare state?
- What social conditions favour democratic, as opposed to authoritarian "populism?"

Recommended Readings:

- Betz, Hans-Georg. 2013. "A Distant Mirror: Nineteenth-Century Populism, Nativism, and Contemporary Right-Wing Radical Politics." *Democracy and Security* 9(3):200-20. doi: 10.1080/17419166.2013.792250.
- Dix, Robert H. 1985. "Populism: Authoritarian and Democratic." *Latin American Research Review* 20(2):29-52.

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6 -- Right-Wing Populism -- October 9

Readings:

- Kundnani, Arun. 2016. "[The Right-Wing Populism That Drove Brexit Can Only Be Fought With A Genuinely Radical Alternative.](#)" *Alternet*.
- Swank, Duane, and Hans-Georg Betz. 2003. "[Globalization, the welfare state and right-wing populism in Western Europe.](#)" *Socio-Economic Review* 1(2):215-45.

Concepts: populism, nationalism, racism, xenophobia, immigration, social insecurity, social inclusion

Questions:

- How does a strong welfare state inhibit the rise of right-wing populism? What other social conditions could inhibit the rise of right-wing populism?
- How is it that people can be persuaded to mis-recognize the actual causes of their own social insecurity?

Recommended Readings:

- Greven, Thomas 2016. "The Rise of Right-Wing Populism in Europe and the United States: A Comparative Perspective." Washington: Friedrich Ebert Foundation. Retrieved 2 Jaurary, 2017. (http://www.fesdc.org/fileadmin/user_upload/publications/RightwingPopulism.pdf).
- [Research Proposal Assignment](#)

7 -- Astroturf Populism -- October 16

Readings:

- Woolley, Samuel C. 2016. "Automating Power: Social Bot Interference in Global Politics,." *First Monday* 21(4). (<http://firstmonday.org/article/view/6161/5300>).
- Cadwalladr, Carole. 2018. "I Made Steve Bannon's Psychological Warfare Tool': Meet the Data War Whistleblower " *The Gaurdian*. Retrieved: August 29, 2018 (<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/mar/17/data-war-whistleblower-christopher-wylie-faceook-nix-bannon-trump>).

Concepts: Astroturf; propaganda; hegemony free speech; public sphere; democracy

Questions:

- What are the implications of "high-tech" astroturf for free speech?
- What are the implications of "high-tech" astroturf for democracy?

Recommended Readings:

- Lundskow, George. 2012. "Authoritarianism and Destructiveness in the Tea Party Movement." *Critical Sociology* 38(4):529-47. doi: 10.1177/0896920511434218.

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8 -- Terrorism -- October 23

Readings:

- Bantjes, Rod. 2007. "Terrorism and the 'War on Terror'." in *Social movements in a global context Canadian perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.

Concepts: terrorism, theatre of violence, propaganda of the deed, state repression, state terror, surveillance, colonialism, state legitimacy, structural adjustment programs, Islamism

Questions:

- What are the similarities and differences between the Catholic resistance to capitalist modernization in the early 20th century and the Islamic resistance to capitalist modernization in the early 21st century?
- In what ways is the definition of terrorism political?
- What state interests can be served by amplifying the risk of terrorism?
- Is the war on terror also a war on legitimate dissent? Does anti-terror legislation go too far in revoking democratic rights?

Recommended Readings:

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9 -- Alter-Globalization -- October 30

Readings:

- Ayres, Jeffrey M. 1996. "[Political Process and Popular Protest: The Mobilization against Free Trade in Canada.](#)" *The American Journal of Economics and Sociology* 55(4):473-88.
- Big Noise Films. 2000. *This Is What Democracy Looks Like*

Concepts: free trade, economic globalization, civil society, direct action, civil disobedience, diversity of tactics, public space

Questions:

- Who was represented by civil society? What reason did each constituency have for opposing economic globalization?
- Many opponents of free trade saw it as an attack on the welfare state. How valid was their argument?
- What argument do the film makers make about the nature of violence and the use of it by the state, global corporations and protesters?
- How is non-violent civil disobedience supposed to work? How effective was it at Seattle?
- What is public space? Why is it valuable to social movements? How was it put at risk in Seattle?

Recommended Readings:

- Bantjes, Rod. 2007. "Coalition Politics." in *Social movements in a global context Canadian perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.

10 -- Student Resistance to Neoliberalism -- November 6

Readings:

- Bégin-Caouette, Olivier, and Glen A. Jones. 2014. "[Student organizations in Canada and Quebec's 'Maple Spring'](#)." *Studies in Higher Education* 39(3):412-25.

Concepts: neoliberalism, coalitions, civil society organizations, infrastructure of dissent, resource mobilization theory, commodification of education, debt as social control

Questions:

- Why did students in Quebec (who had the lowest tuition fees) rise up in protest while students in the rest of Canada remained passive?

Recommended Readings:

- Spiegel, Jennifer Beth. 2016. "Performing "in the Red": Transformations and Tensions in Repertoires of Contention During the 2012 Quebec Student Strike." *Social Movement Studies* 15(5):531-38. doi: 10.1080/14742837.2016.1196126.
- Solty, Ingar. 2012. "[Canada's "Maple Spring": From the Quebec Student Strike to the Movement Against Neoliberalism](#)." in *Socialist Project*.

- Williams, Jeffrey J. 2008. "Student Debt and The Spirit of Indenture." *Dissent: A Quarterly of Politics and Culture* 55(4):73-78.

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11 -- State Opposition to Civil Society -- November 13

Readings:

- Phillips, Susan D. 2013. "[Restructuring Civil Society: Muting the Politics of Redistribution.](#)" in *Inequality and the Fading of Redistributive Politics*, edited by Keith Banting and John Myles. Vancouver: UBC Press.

Concepts: collective identity, privatization of identity, mass society, neoliberalism, pluralism

Questions:

- Why do neoliberal states attempt to undermine civil society?
- What are the social consequences of weakening civil society?

Recommended Readings:

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12 -- Resisting State Repression -- November 20

Readings:

- Starr, Amory, Luis A. Fernandez, and Christian Scholl. 2011. "[Antirepression: Resisting the Social Control of Dissent.](#)" in *Shutting Down the Streets*. New York: New York University Press.

Concepts: pre-emptive policing, total social control, antirepression, surveillance, sousveillance,

Questions:

- Do modern techniques of surveillance and control mark the end of social protest as we have known it?

Recommended Readings:

- Starr, Amory, Luis A. Fernandez, and Christian Scholl. 2011. "Policing Alterglobalization Dissent." in *Shutting Down the Streets*. New York: New York University Press.
- Della Porta, Donatella. 2013. "Restricting Citizens' [Participation](#): The Policing of Protest." in *Can Democracy be Saved? : [participation](#), deliberation and social movements*. Cambridge: Polity.
- Graeber, David. 2008. "[Representation -- Part III: Mythological warfare](#)." *Direct Action: an ethnography*. Oakland, CA: AK Press.
- Bradshaw, Elizabeth A. 2013. "This is What a Police State Looks Like: Sousveillance, Direct Action and the Anti-corporate Globalization Movement." *Critical Criminology* 21:447–61.

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13 -- State Repression of Indigenous Dissent -- November 27

Readings:


- Crosby, Andrew and Jeffrey Monaghan. 2016. "[Settler Colonialism and the Policing of Idle No More](#)." *Social Justice* 43(2):37-57,108.

Concepts: colonialism, settler colonialism, state repression, criminalization of dissent

Questions:

- What conditions influence whether governments ignore, attempt to co-opt or to repress social movements?
- Is the policing of social dissent in Canada racist?

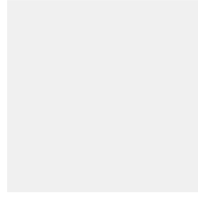
Recommended Readings:

- Jackson, Sarah J., and Brooke Foucault Welles. 2016. "[#Ferguson is everywhere: initiators in emerging counterpublic networks](#)." *Information, Communication & Society* 19(3):397-418.
- Hooker, Juliet. 2016. "Black Lives Matter and the Paradoxes of U.S. Black Politics: From Democratic Sacrifice to Democratic Repair." *Political Theory* 44(4):448-69. doi: 10.1177/0090591716640314.
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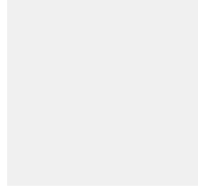


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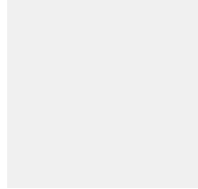


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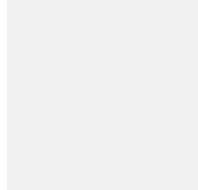


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Upcoming events

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[December exam schedule available](#)

[Friday, 28 September, 12:00 AM](#)

[Fall Study Day](#)

[Friday, 5 October, 12:00 AM](#)

[Thanksgiving Day, no classes](#)

[Monday, 8 October, 12:00 AM](#)

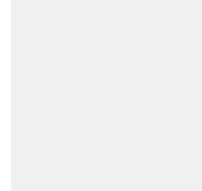
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