

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Department of Political Science, Public Administration and Nonprofit Management
Advanced Topics in Comparative Government
POLS 4420, Sec 0, CRN 46686
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2014
Wednesday 2:00PM to 4:30PM, Fletcher Hall 416

Instructor: Vasabjit Banerjee

Office: Fletcher Hall, Room 417-I

Office Hours: Tuesday 11:30AM to 12:30PM; Thursday 11:30AM to 12:30PM; and appointment

Email: vasabjit-banerjee@utc.edu

Course Catalog Description: Selected topics in comparative government. On demand. Prerequisite: POLS 2000 or department head approval. May be repeated once.

Course Objectives: This course presents a broad introduction to social movements in different countries in Asia, Europe, Americas, and Africa. The course aims to achieve two specific goals: first, to introduce the core theories of the causes and processes of social movements; and, second, to analyse social movements across the world to comprehend their underlying common factors. The entire course centres on presenting competing theories that analyse social movements, in order to train you to use these conceptual tools to understand social movements.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Goodwin, Jeff and James M. Jasper. *The Social Movements Readers: Cases and Concepts*, 2nd ed. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

1. Discussions

Due to the small size of the class, you shall be graded on your participation in class, especially on topics and group exercises that may be provided by me. Be-aware that I am judging you regarding your knowledge of the assigned readings for that particular class, how well you connect it with prior readings, and your ability to construct new insights.

2. Attendance

You must endeavor to attend all classes. I do not take attendance, although I reserve the right to do so. Furthermore, at the end of a thematic set of readings, I shall mention their order of importance for the final exam.

Sickness and family emergencies must be reported prior to a class or within 24 hours of the missed class; proof of cause will be required.

3. Classroom Conduct

Ask yourself, “is my behavior acceptable in a business meeting?” If it is unacceptable there, then it is unacceptable in our class. Unacceptable behavior includes: sleeping in a class or putting one’s head down on the desk, reading newspapers or magazines, doing homework for other classes, using telephones, being on social media, and conducting conversations that interfere with class activities.

4. Assignments

You must do your assigned readings for the classes.

You must appear for the Final Exam.

You must make the two assigned presentations.

You must submit the three assigned papers.

The assigned papers must be: typed; in 12-point font size; Times New Roman in font style; double spaced; Page Numbered; with 1-1.25 inch margins; proofread for spelling and grammatical errors; and, stapled. They must also include, at the top right hand corner of the first page: the student’s name; my name; the course number; assignment title; and the date the assignment is turned in.

Written by: Charles Chaplin

Written for: Vasabjit Banerjee

Course: Advanced Topics in Comparative Government, POLS 4420

Assignment: Paper 1 – “Insert your Title Here”

Date: Month/Day/Year

5. **Academic Integrity:** “Plagiarism occurs when a person presents words, ideas, patterns of ideas, data, and other intellectual or creative work as the product of his or her effort.” (University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. “Academic Regulations”). This offence will result in an automatic F (or 0 points) on the particular project, and the docking of a full letter grade at the end of the semester (from A to B, B to C, etc.); it may also result in you failing the course. For details, consult the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga’s Student Handbook: <http://www.utc.edu/dean-students/pdfs/academics.pdf>.
6. **Students with Disabilities:** Students with visual, hearing, physical, and/or learning disabilities that may require modification of the curriculum, instruction, or assessment should contact me. Modifications and accommodations will be made after the student has presented documentation indicating qualification for services from the Disability Resource Center (Tel.: 425-4006; Room 102, Frist Hall). For more information on students with disabilities, go to their website at: <http://www.utc.edu/Administration/DisabilityResourceCenter>.

If you find that personal problems, career indecision, study and time management difficulties, etc. are adversely affecting your successful progress at UTC, please contact the Counseling and Career Planning Center at 425-4438 or <http://www.utc.edu/Administration/CounselingAndCareerPlanning/>.

EVALUATION:

Class Participation

20 Points

Participation and Preparedness

Presentations: 2 x 15 Points	30 Points
Papers	
Paper 1	50 Points
Paper 2	50 Points
Paper 3	100 Points
Final Exams	50 Points
Total	300 Points

Presentations and Papers

Presentation I: October 15

Paper I: October 22

Write a 6-8 page paper and make a presentation of your analysis. Your paper, due for submission the following week, should address the comments of the audience (your peers and mine). Furthermore, you must cite *at least 4 chapters from the required textbook in the paper.*

Choose a social movement in the United States or in another country. When did it happen and where; what actors were involved in making claims or as targets (groups, individuals, government); and, what were the outcomes of the movement.

Subsequently, apply the theories of deep and proximate causes on your selected social movement. Does the evidence lend support to one deep and one proximate cause or is it a mixture of various deep causes and proximate causes?

Presentation II: November 19

Paper II: November 26

Write a 6-8 page paper on the processes of the selected social movement and, if applicable, on the reasons for violence. Similar to the earlier paper, does the evidence support one or several of these theories? Make a presentation of your analysis. Your paper, due for submission the following week, should address the comments of the audience (your peers and mine). Furthermore, you must cite *at least 4 chapters from the required textbook in the paper.*

Final Paper: December 1

Write a 15-20 Page paper on your selected social movement, which presents the actors involved, cause/s, process/es, and outcome/s. This paper should combine the First and Second Papers that you have presented.

Classes

First Week: Introduction

Wednesday, August 20

Second Week: Research Methods

Wednesday, August 27

Mahoney, James and Gary Goertz. "A Tale of Two Cultures: Contrasting Quantitative and Qualitative Research." *Political Analysis* 14 (2006): 227-249.

Gerring, John and Rose McDermott. "An Experimental Template for Case Study Research." *American Journal of Political Science* 51.3 (2007): 688-701.

Third Week: Materialist Deep Causes – Institutional and Class Structures

Wednesday, September 3

Huntington, Samuel P.. "Political Development and Political Decay." *World Politics* 17.3 (1965): 386-430.

Weiner, Jonathan M.. "The Barrington Moore Thesis and its Critics." *Theory and Society* 2.3 (1975): 301-330.

Fourth Week: Materialist Deep Causes – Inequality

Wednesday, September 10

Gurr, Ted. "A Causal Model of Civil Strife: A Comparative Analysis Using New Indices." *The American Political Science Review* 62.4 (1968): 1104-1124.

Sayles, Marnie L.. "Relative Deprivation and Collective Protest: An Impoverished Theory?" *Sociological Inquiry* 54.4 (1984): 449-465.

Saleh, B.. "An Econometric Analysis of Palestinian Attacks: An Examination of Deprivation Theory and Choice of Attacks." *European Journal of Social Sciences* 7.4 (2009): 17-29.

Fifth Week: Cultural Deep Causes: Collective Identity

Wednesday, September 17

Polletta, Francesca and James M. Jasper. "Collective Identity and Social Movements." *Annual Review of Sociology* 27 (2001): 283-305.

Jasper, James M.. "Emotions and Social Movements: Twenty Years of Theory and Research." *Annual Review of Sociology* 37 (2011): 285-303.

Pearlman, Wendy. "Emotions and the Micro-Foundations of the Arab Uprisings." *Perspectives on Politics* 11.2 (2013): 387-409.

Sixth Week: Cultural Deep Causes – Frames and Ideology

Wednesday, September 24

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

Norget, Kristin. "The Politics of Liberation: The Popular Church, Indigenous Theology and Grassroots Mobilization in Oaxaca, Mexico." *Latin American Perspectives* 24.5 (1997): 96-127.

Seventh Week: Proximate Causes – Resource Mobilization and Social Networks

Wednesday, October 1

McCarthy, John D., and Mayer N. Zald. "Resource Mobilization and Social Movements: A Partial Theory." *American Journal of Sociology* 82.6 (1977): 1212-1241.

Snow, David A., Louis A. Zurcher, Jr., Sheldon Ekland-Olson. "Social Networks and Social Movements: A Microstructural Approach to Differential Recruitment." *American Sociological Review* 45.5 (1980): 787-801.

Eighth Week: Proximate Causes – Political Opportunity and Structures

Wednesday, October 8

Kitschelt, Herbert P.. "Political Opportunity Structures and Political Protest: Anti-Nuclear Movements in Four Democracies." *British Journal of Political Science* 16.1 (1986): 57-85.

Meyer, David S.. "Protest and Political Opportunities." *Annual Review of Sociology* 30 (2004): 125-145.

Diani, Mario. "Linking Mobilization Frames and Political Opportunities: Insights from Regional Populism in Italy." *American Sociological Review* 61.1 (1996): 1053-1069.

Ninth Week: Presentation I

Wednesday, October 15

Tenth Week: Social Movement Processes – Social Movement Organizations

Wednesday, October 22

Paper I Due

Dobbin, Frank R.. "Cultural Models of Organization: The Social Construction of Rational Organizing Principles." Ed., Diana Crane. *The Sociology of Culture: Emerging Theoretical Perspectives*, Diana Crane. Oxford: Basil Blackwell. Pg. 117-141.

Zald, Mayer N., and Roberta Ash. "Social Movement Organizations: Growth, Decay and Change." *Social Forces* 44.3 (1966): 327-341.

Eleventh Week: Social Movement Processes – Repertoires of Contention

Wednesday, October 29

McAdam, Doug. "Tactical Innovation and the Pace of Insurgency." *American Sociological Review* 48.6 (1983): 735-754.

Tilly, Charles. "Social Movements as Historically Specific Clusters of Political Performances." *Berkeley Journal of Sociology* 38 (1993-1994): 1-30.

Eleventh Week: Protest Cycles
Wednesday, November 5

Oliver, Pamela E. and Daniel J. Meyers. "The Coevolution of Social Movements." *Mobilization* 8.1 (2003): 1-24.

Almeida, Paul. "Opportunity Organizations and Threat-Induced Contention: Protest Waves in Authoritarian Settings." *American Journal of Sociology* 109.2 (2003): 345-400.

Twelfth Week: Social Movements and Political Violence – Socio-economic Causes
Wednesday, November 12

Piazza, James. "Rooted in Poverty? Terrorism, Poor Economic Development, and Social Cleavages." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 18.1 (2006): 159-177.

Newman, Edward. "Exploring the 'Root Causes' of Terrorism." *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* 29.8 (2006): 749-772.

Thirteenth Week: Presentation II
Wednesday, November 19

Fourteenth Week: Social Movements and Political Violence – Socio-psychological Causes
Wednesday, November 26

McCauley, Clark and Sophia Moskalenko. "Mechanisms of Political Radicalization: Pathways Toward Terrorism." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 20.3 (2008): 415-433.

Crenshaw, Martha. "The Psychology of Terrorism: An Agenda for the 21st Century." *Political Psychology* 21.2 (2000): 405-420.

Fourteenth Week: Summing Up Social Movements
Wednesday, November 19

Paper II due

McAdam, Doug, Sidney Tarrow, and Charles Tilly. "Towards an Integrated Perspective on Social Movements and Revolution." Eds., Marc I. Lichbach, and Alan Zuckerman. *Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture, and Structure*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Fifteenth Week: Thanksgiving Break
Wednesday, November 26 (No Class)

Sixteenth Week: Final Paper Due
Monday, December 1

FINAL EXAMINATION: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5: 1-3PM