

SOC 405⁶⁰ Social Movements
Chaminade University of Honolulu
4:45 - 8:55pm Thursdays

Winter Term 1999
Pearl Harbor Bldg. 679
January 11 – March 24

Instructor: Dr. Richard Rohde
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Assigned Textbooks:

- Goldberg, Robert A. 1991 **Grassroots Resistance: Social Movements in Twentieth Century America**. Bowler Press. ISBN # 0-88133-896-6. Paperback.
- Scott, Wilbur J. 1993 **The Politics of Readjustment: Vietnam Veterans Since the War**. New York: Aldine de Gruyter. ISBN # 0-202-30405-1. Paperback.

Overview of the Course, Strategies, and Goals

Social movements are organized, collective activities undertaken by people to promote or resist social change. Social movements often occur in situations where social change is taking place and, in turn, they frequently encourage its occurrence. Social movements, such as the women's or civil rights or anti-war movements of the 1960s, or the earlier movements promoting the prohibition of alcohol or the establishment of women's suffrage or workers' labor rights, involve activities that to some extent occur outside the existing normative guidelines. Social movements are often stable and long-lasting and they can eventually become organizations, where the normative standards and members' behavior are quite conventional.

Traditional scholarship has focused on two broad types of social movements. Norm-oriented social movements maintain a narrow focus, seeking to change a specific law or practice. Value-oriented social movements attempt to significantly alter people's values, beliefs, and behavior. More recent studies have addressed "New Social Movements," such as emerging political parties in Europe, ethnic or nationalistic movements, movements promoting gay rights, fundamentalist religious activities, animal rights and ecology, and so forth. These new social movements differ from traditional forms; participant roles are not tied to class structure and they exhibit a decentralized plurality of ideologies. The central theme of new social movements reflects a collective search for identity, and focus on cultural and symbolic issues closely linked with issues of personal and intimate aspects of human life.

This course addresses the development of significant theoretical frameworks and schools of thought which have examined a range of social movements. Historical movements and traditional theoretical approaches will be contrasted with more recent, global manifestations of social change and the body of thought which has been developed and contributed to the

elaboration of these perspectives through critiques of traditional theory. The primary emphasis of this course, then, is to develop a shared body of concepts and theories which will facilitate, through group discussions, the achievement of our greater understanding and insight into the nature of contemporary social movements and related cultural experiences.

Examinations, Writing Assignments, and Attendance

There will be no formal examinations *per se*. Three papers are required. Students will be asked to informally and briefly present the findings of these respective papers so as to share your interests with your classmates.

- For paper # 1, due **Jan. 28**, please select an historical social movement which is of interest to you and describe the nature of the movement and its consequences for society. This **brief** paper should be 2-3 pages in length, and will account for **10 per cent** of your final grade.
- For paper # 2, due **Feb. 18**, please select a contemporary social movement, and provide a description based upon published sources (as well, if you desire, upon your own experience and/or opinions). The paper should be 3-5 pages in length, and will account for **20 per cent** of your final grade.
- For paper # 3, due **Mar. 18**, please select either a historical or a contemporary social movement. Provide an appropriate description based upon published sources, and incorporate an analysis of this movement using one or more of the various theoretical perspectives we will have addressed in class. This paper should be concise but thorough. It is expected that you will utilize a reasonable body of literature, and properly cite these sources in your paper. This third paper should be 6-8 pages in length, and will account for **35 per cent** of your final grade. The primary criteria is that the topic you select should be of meaningful, significant interest to **you**.

The remaining **35 per cent** of your final grade will be based upon attendance and weekly class discussions and/or participation assignments. Each student may be assigned on a weekly basis the task of preparing a verbal summary of a specific topic which is part of that week's readings. Students' informal summaries will serve to initiate class discussions about particular topics, and lay the groundwork for investigations of related issues. Being prepared for class, i.e., having read the assignment prior to class, is important so you can listen and/or participate intelligently and comment on videos and other related materials. The success of this class depends upon all of us sharing information, and deciding what it all means through discussion. Lectures will supplement, not reiterate, the information within the textbooks.

Grading Scale

Your grade for the course will be based on the following formula:

100+ points = A+ // 99-90 = A // 89-80 = B // 79-70 = C // 69-60 = D //

Reading Assignments

The following schedule outlines the topics to be covered in each class, and the respective reading assignments from Goldberg's **Grassroots Resistance: Social Movements in Twentieth Century America**, which will be addressed in that class.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
Jan. 14 class 1	Introduction to this Course Overview of Social Movements	Goldberg Ch. 1
Jan. 21 class 2	The Prohibition Era Workers United: Early Unionism	Goldberg Ch. 2 Goldberg Ch. 3
Jan. 28 class 3	The Ku Klux Klan and the "Invisible Empire" Class presentations & informal discussion of Paper # 1	Goldberg Ch. 4
Feb. 04 class 4	The Communist Party in America McCarthyism, The John Birch Society, and Reaganism in the 1980s	Goldberg Ch. 5 Goldberg Ch. 6
Feb. 11 class	SNCC and Voting Rights The Berkeley Free Speech and other Student Movements Compared	Goldberg Ch. 7 Goldberg Ch. 8
Feb. 18 class 6	The Women's Movement & Equal Rights Class presentations & informal discussion of Paper # 2	Goldberg Ch. 9
Feb. 25 class 7	Vietnam Veterans' Since the War Recognizing PTSD and Agent Orange	Scott Chs. 1-5
Mar. 04 class 8	The Vietnam Veterans' Social Movement: The Wall and Politics of Healing	Scott Chs. 6-9
Mar. 11 class 9	Contemporary Social Movements The Postmodern World in Change Class presentations & informal discussion of papers Paper # 3 Due	
Mar. 18 class 10	Class presentations & informal discussion of papers (cont'd) Summary and Course Conclusion	