

Fall 9-1-1999

PSC 343.01: Politics of Social Movement

Paul L. Haber

University of Montana - Missoula, paul.haber@umontana.edu

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

Recommended Citation

Haber, Paul L., "PSC 343.01: Politics of Social Movement" (1999). *Syllabi*. 9217.
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/9217>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Course Syllabi at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

POLITICS OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Instructor: Professor Paul Haber
Political Science Department, course #343
Autumn 1999
Meets: TR 9:40 - 11:00 in LA 337
office hours in LA 355: TR 2:10 - 3:40 (and by appointment)

office phone: 243-4862

Books available for purchase in UC Bookstore:

1. John Gaventa, *Power and Powerlessness: Quiescence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley* (University of Illinois Press, 1980).
2. Frances Fox Piven and Richard Cloward, *Poor People's Movements: Why they Succeed, How they Fail* (Vintage Books, 1979).
3. Sara Diamond, *Roads to Dominion: Right Wing Movements and Political Power in the United States* (Guilford Press, 1995).
4. Kathleen Blee, ed., *No Middle Ground: Women and Radical Protest*. (New York University Press, 1998).

This is a course on 20th century social movements in the United States. What role have social movements had in shaping the politics of power, as reflected in public policy, electoral politics, relations of class, race, and gender, and people's understanding of the world and their place in it? We will repeatedly ask the question, why have particular movements and movement organizations succeeded to the degree they have, and why have they failed to accomplish more? Towards the end of the class, we will focus on how lessons of the past might be relevant for movements of the present and future.

No assumptions are made regarding students' familiarity with U.S. history, social movements, or social movement theory. I do, however, assume a willingness to work hard to understand the histories of various social movements and the complexity of competing theoretical approaches.

Grading:

Gaventa/Piven and Cloward paper 1/3
Diamond and Blee paper 1/3
Class attendance, typed statements, and contributions to class discussions 1/3

Students are required to read all assigned readings on time, and to come to class prepared to discuss them. All assigned readings must be read carefully and analytically *before* the class listed below for discussion. **Students are required to come to class with a typed question or statement regarding that day's reading.** These will be handed in. Students may miss three classes without explanation. After that, students must bring a typed statement explaining their absence. (Verbal notification, on the phone or in person, is not sufficient.) Make a serious effort to get to class on time. If you have a good reason for being late, convey it to me after class.

Students will discover that this course material is controversial, and open to differing interpretations. Students are encouraged to think critically about the material, and to subject the material to rigorous interrogation in class and in their written statements. Students who make efforts to support arguments with outside materials and perspectives will be rewarded.

It may well be necessary, from time to time, to rearrange assignments or alter the schedule. Any changes in scheduling will be announced in class. When you miss class, it is your responsibility to contact either the professor or another student to see what has been missed - and then to work hard to make it up by the next class.

READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Part I: Why are Social Movements so Difficult to Form: the Powers of Prevention

Gaventa, Preface and pp. 1-44 for September 2

Gaventa, pp. 47-83 for September 7 (Give special attention to the conceptual issues raised pp. 47-53, 61-76, 80-83)

Gaventa, pp. 84-121 for September 9 (Give special attention to the conceptual issues raised on pp. 84-96, 109-116.)

Gaventa, pp. 125-201 for September 14 (Give special attention to the conceptual issues raised on 141-145, 161-169, 192-195, 199-201.)

Gaventa, pp. 205-261 for September 16

Part II: Four Case Studies and a Theory

Piven and Cloward, pp. ix-37 for September 21

Piven and Cloward, pp. 41-92 for September 23

Piven and Cloward, pp. 96-175 for September 28

Piven and Cloward, pp. 181-211 for September 30

Piven and Cloward, pp. 211-258 for October 5

Piven and Cloward, pp. 264-301 for October 7

Piven and Cloward, pp. 301-359 for October 12

Paper Writing Workshop on October 14 no reading
bring written outlines or drafts and come prepared for discussion

Paper #1 due October 19 no reading

Part III: Movements of the Right

Diamond, pp. 1-65 for October 21

All day Saturday October 23 and the morning of Sunday October 24. Human Rights Conference sponsored by the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment & Montana Human Rights Network entitled Human Rights: Organizing For Justice in the New Millennium. Students are *strongly* urged to attend. The student registration fee is \$15.00 for the entire conference. For possible scholarships call (206) 233-9136 (call early). In addition, a limited number of students will be able to attend the conference free in exchange for working at the conference. Details will be forthcoming later in the semester.

Discussion of conference on October 26

Diamond, pp. 66-106 for October 28

Diamond, pp. 109-160 for November 2

Diamond, pp. 161-202 for November 4

Diamond, pp. 205-256 for November 9

Diamond, pp. 257-312 for November 16

Part IV: Radical Women

Blee, Introduction and Part I for November 18

Blee, Part II for November 23

Blee, Part III for November 30

Blee, Part IV for December 2

Paper Writing Workshop on December 7 no reading
bring paper outlines and come prepared for discussion

Paper #2 due December 9 (my office, by 5:00pm)