



CURRICULUM GUIDE: OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code	SOCI 220	Course Title	Social Movements and Social Change			
Credit Value	3	Department	Social Sciences			
No. of weeks	14	Hrs. per week	<i>Lecture</i>	<i>Tutorial</i>	<i>Laboratory</i>	<i>Total</i>
			3	0	0	3
Course Description	<p>Social movements are an important means by which ordinary people in civil society organize to shape public policy and bring about social change. They typically represent attempts by the normally powerless to challenge entrenched institutions and dominant members of society.</p> <p>This course will examine some current and historical social movements in which people have joined together to struggle for or against social change. Examples of activist collective behaviour will be drawn from many places and times but course materials will focus largely on contemporary movements in North America.</p>					
Prerequisite(s)	ENGL 100, SOCI 100 or SOCI 103					
Initial Articulation Targets	<i>UBC</i>	<i>SFU</i>	<i>UVic</i>	<i>UNBC</i>	<i>TRU</i>	
	SOCI 2nd (3)	SA 2XX (3)	SOCI 316 (1.5)	SOSC 2XX (3)	SOCI 2XX0 (3)	
	For updated information on the transferability of this course, please consult the BC Transfer Guide, www.bctransferguide.ca					
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the underlying social conditions that lead to the emergence of social movements. Demonstrate a sociological understanding of the nature of social movements in post-industrial society, including the motivations, mobilization strategies and organizational tactics of activists that enable them to pursue their objectives and gain influence. Highlight the risks and struggles involved in challenging and attempting to transform societal values, policies and laws. Articulate the major theoretical explanations of social movements and the forces giving rise to them. Differentiate social movement activism from institutional politics as alternative means of effecting social change. Evaluate the outcomes of different types of social movements, including the comparative merits of revolutionary versus evolutionary approaches to social change. Write critically about the need and prospects for new social movements amidst the uneven pressures of economic inequality and globalization. Write an acceptable term paper that examines a case study of one contemporary social movement, addressing some of the key conceptual terms raised in the course. Identify 					



	some of the key features of contemporary demographic change, and describe how they differ from traditional demographic characteristics		
Content	<p>Core topics – all of the following will be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions and types of social movements. • Sites and axes of oppressions in the contemporary world. • Brief survey of the historical rise of social movements in the Western world, including contemporary Eastern variants. • Theoretical conceptualizations of movements and counter-movements. • Origins, recruitment processes, tactics and organization in the mobilization of social movements. • Relationship of social movements to the state and the media. • Globalization factors impinging on the emergence, sustainability, success and decline of social movements. • Examples of social movements: civil and human rights, gender, feminist, labour, environmental, anti-poverty, peace, refugee, student, and animal rights movements. • Explore the impact of social media on recent social movements. <p>Additional topics may also be covered, at the discretion of the instructor.</p>		
Methods of Instruction	Lectures, classroom discussions, audiovisual materials		
Required Textbook(s)	<p>The following textbook(s) is/are required, or approved equivalent(s).</p> <p>Piven, Frances Fox and Richard Cloward. <i>Poor People's Movements: Why they Succeed, How they Fail</i>. New York: Vintage Books, 1979</p> <p>Staggenborg, Suzanne. <i>Social Movements</i>. 2nd Ed. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2011.</p>		
Required Equipment and Technology	<p>Students are required to have a computer with internet access.</p> <p>The following resources are provided by the College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office 365 • Student email 		
Homework Hours	At minimum, students can expect one hour of homework for every hour of instructional time.		
Evaluation	<i>Component</i>	<i>% Value</i>	
	Assignment 1	20%	
	Assignment 2	20%	
	Midterm examination	20%	
	Final examination	30%	
	Participation	10%	
Completion Requirements	The minimum grade to pass this course is D (50%). Unless otherwise stated, a minimum grade of C- (55%) is required for this course to fulfil a prerequisite.		
Course Designer(s)	Bob Ratner, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia	Consultant(s), if applicable	



Dean's Approval	Barbara Moon, Ph.D., Dean of Arts and Sciences, Alexander College	Dean's Approval Date	October 15, 2014
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	October 15, 2014	First Term Offered	Spring 2016
Last Review Date	February 3, 2022	Next Review Date	February 3, 2027
Revision History	August 1, 2014. Revised by Bob Ratner February 3, 2022 – English prerequisite increased from ENGL 098 to ENGL 099, effective from Spring 2022 term. September 1, 2024 – English prerequisite increased to ENGL 100		