

## **Syllabus**

Social Movements, Social Change and Work  
37:575:357:CI  
Summer 2020

**NOTE: Some assignment details of this syllabus are subject to change during the course.**

### **Course Instructor:**

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### **Learning Objectives**

As a result of engaging in the course, students will:

1. Analyze the social and historical contexts which have shaped their experiences and perspectives of the world.
2. Understand social movements and their relationship to changes in the world of work.
3. Identify the relationship between social movements and power.
4. Make qualitative judgments of 1 social movement.

Objectives above relate to the following overall SAS learning outcome goal Contemporary Challenges:

- d. Analyze contemporary issues of social justice.

### **Course Requirements**

#### **Reading and Video Assignments**

All required and suggested reading and audio/visual assignments are uploaded into the online course shell.

Students will be expected to read uploaded materials and watch videos linked within the course.

#### **Writing Assignments**

1. Introduction and Personal Turning Point

Organized in 3 parts, students are required to offer a biography, identify and describe a social issue/problem and elaborate on a social issue that has had an impact on shaping their opinions/ideas/attitudes. Recommended Maximum 1000 Words

2. Changing Forms of Employment and the Impact on Workers

Organized in 2 parts, students reflect on required text and video associated with the topic of informal economies and answer questions; students choose 2 sections of a required website to investigate and present 4 key concepts about informal work that they learned from the sections.

3. My Social Movement

Students write about the social or political issue they feel most passionately about; search the internet for a social movement organization that responds to their chosen issue; explain reasoning for choosing the organization; develop a description of the movement/organization and analyze its effectiveness according to instructor created guidelines. Recommended Maximum 1500 words

#### **Asynchronous Forums**

There are 3 forums during the semester.

Students engage in an academic dialogue associated with topics being addressed within units I and II. A minimum of 4 comments per forum is required. Forums are asynchronous. Students can participate

at anytime of the day within the time parameters of the forum’s first comment by and general open period.

Students are responsible for creating back and forth dialogues within each forum area. The instructor supports the creation of dialogues by presenting questions/topics that are most relevant to the topical area being address during the week. Critical thinking and collaborative processing of information is expected as well as ongoing student participation in forums.

### Unit Quiz

The assessment for knowledge gained in Unit III: Movements and Power is a quiz that consists of short answer questions. A study guide for preparation for the quiz is provided.

### Grading

A final grade is based on a 1000 point system. Each assignment is worth a specific number of points. Total points accumulated determines final course grade.

<b>Outstanding</b> 1000 - 900 Points = A	<b>Good</b> 899 – 870 Points = B+ 869 – 800 Points = B	<b>Satisfactory</b> 799 – 770 Points = C+ 769 – 700 Points = C
<b>Poor</b> 699 - 670 Points = D+;	669 - 600 Points = D;	599 and below = F

Item % of Grade	Assignment and Associated Points
<b>Writing Assignments</b> 50%	Introduction to social issues and Personal Turning Point - 100 points Informal Economy Writing assignment – 100 points My Social Movement - 300 Points
<b>Quiz</b> 20%	Unit III: Social movements and Power - 200 points
<b>Forums</b> 30%	Asynchronous Threaded Discussions - 300 points
<b>100%</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

### Policies & Procedures

#### Class Sessions

- The course week begins on **Wednesdays** for all weeks except week 1 where students are given an extra day to become oriented to the course and the online venue.
  - Students are expected to enter the course for the first time the first day of the semester, Tuesday, May 26th.
  - The last day students will be expected to log into the course prior to final grades being posted is Friday, July 17th.
- A weekly message will be sent to each student as well as uploaded into the course. Weekly messages are also filed in document sharing each Wednesday. Information about content or assignment procedure is available within the weekly message.
- Each week is 7 days in length. Students may enter the course and engage in coursework at any time 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## Due Dates

1. All assignments, unless otherwise indicated on the calendar, must be completed by **Tuesdays 11:59 pm Eastern Time**. A course calendar identifying each due date is available in the course shell.
2. **Late Assignments**  
Writing Assignments  
The 3 writing assignments detailed in the Course Assignments section of the syllabus (p 1) will be accepted up to 24 hours late (from 12:01 am Wednesday morning to 11:59 Wednesday night). A penalty for late submission will be incurred. When an assignment is up to 24 hours late a 15% late penalty will be assessed.

It is in the student's best interest not to be late on a writing assignment.

No written assignment will be accepted after 11:59 pm Wednesday. No exceptions. It is in the best interest of the student not to submit a late assignment.

Forums lock after 11:59 pm on Tuesdays, no comments can be posted. NOTE WELL: Missed Forum points cannot be made up.

### Unit III Quiz

The Unit III quiz will lock at 11:59 pm, Tuesday, July 7th. NOTE WELL: The quiz cannot be made up.

## Extra Credit

There is only 1 means to earn extra credit points. If a student begins a forum dialogue – begins a new thread – and then returns to the ongoing discussion which he/she began and interacts **in a substantive way** with 1 or more peers – up to 8 extra credit participation points can be earned per forum, depending on the quality of the contribution to the forum discussion. A maximum of 24 points can be earned during the semester.

## Checking Email

### Instructor's Email Checking Policy

Unless you receive advance notification, the instructor will check her email by 10:00 am EST on most workdays. If a student sends a comment or question, the instructor will answer the email within 24 hours.

### Students Email Checking Policy

It is the responsibility of the student to check for incoming course related messages AT LEAST 2 times a week. Once a week – on **Wednesday mornings** – the instructor sends each student a weekly message. In addition, students may receive messages from the instructor regarding a variety of topics throughout the semester. Forgetting or being unable to check your email is not an excuse! Email messages are always sent to the student's default email address for the course.

## Course Topics & Assignments by Week

### Unit I: Social Movement Basics

**Week 1:** Introduction & Personal Turning Point – May 26 – June 2.

**Learning objective:** Identify social issue and connect social influence to personal experience, outlook and behavior.

#### **Assignment:**

Review Week 1 page of course.

#### Videos

Instructor Presentations – Instructor Orientation to the Course; Instructor Introduction and Turning Point

#### Reading

Open University. The social construct of social problems. Adapted from Social Policy: Welfare, Power and Diversity, an archived course taught by The Open University.

Writing Assignment

Introduction to social issues & Personal Turning Point

**Week 2:** Social Movement Basics - June 3rd – 9th.

**Learning objective:** Understanding global links and inequalities.

**Assignments:**

Video

Francis, Nick and Marc ( 2006). Black Gold: wake up and smell the coffee. Idfa's delicatessen.

Reading:

Review week 2 page of course.

Web work

<http://www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/fairtrade/coffee/cooperatives.html>

<http://www.ica.coop>

<http://fairtradeusa.org>

Forum 1

Wake up and smell the coffee: the Fair Trade Movement's coffee growers' co-operatives.

**Unit II: Movements and Work**

**Week 3:** Economic Changes and Work: The Growth of the Informal Economy - June 10th -16th.

**Learning Objective:** Understand changing forms of employment and the impact on workers.

**Assignments:**

Video

Instructor Video Clip – Unit II Introduction

Build Rights Build Unions (Part 1 of 3)

Reading

Instructor Created Text - An Introduction to the Informal Economy

Web Work

Women in Informal Employment Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) website

Writing Assignment

Changing Forms of Employment and the Impact on Workers

**Week 4:** Topic continued from week 3 - June 17th – 23rd.

**Learning Objective:** Analyze key perspectives around informal work and labor union organization.

**Assignments:**

Video

Build Rights Build Unions (Parts 2 & 3)

Reading

Instructor Created Text - Labor Union Organization of Informal Work.

Forum 2

Informal Work

**Week 5:** Economic Collapse and Work: The National Movement of Recovered Companies of Argentina (ERT) - June 24th – June 30th.

**Learning Objective:** Examine relationship between movement and power from workplace to society.

**Assignments:**

Video

Lewis, A., Klein, N. (2006). The Take, First Run Features, 87 minutes.

Readings :

Review Week 5 page of course.

Forum 3

Economic Collapse and Work.

**Unit III: Movements and Power**

**Week 6:** Protests and Political Challenge - July 1st– 7th.

**Learning Objective:** Identify and analyze political purpose of social movements.

**Assignments:**

Video

Instructor Introduction – Politics and Power

Reading

Review Week 6 page of the course

Unit III Quiz

Social movements and power. Quiz closes at 11.59pm on 10 July.

**Unit IV: Movements and You**

**Week 7 & 8:** Researching and Describing a Social Movement - July 8th – 17th.

**Learning Objective:** Critically examine assumptions, methods and arguments and make qualitative judgment of a social movement.

**Assignments:**

Reading

Review Week 7 – 8 page of the course

Web

Independent research regarding selected social movement

Writing Assignment

My Social Movement – Final Project