Syllabus

Sociology of protest movements in Israel and around the world - 53120

Last update 14-09-2016

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: sociology & soc. anthropology

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Mr. Ron Dudai

Coordinator Email: rdudai@yahoo.com

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday 16:00-17:00

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Ron Dudai
Course/Module description:
The course offers a sociological analysis of social movements and their struggles for political and social change, one of the prominent phenomena in contemporary society. We'll address issues such as: the growth, development and decline of social movements; how are demands and struggle-strategies form; what are the ideological and tactical dilemmas social movement face; the influence of using litigation for social change; the tensions between institutionalization and radicalism; identity construction in movements; the role of social media in contemporary movements; the influence of policing and social control on protest movement; when do social movements turn to violence; and how can we assess the influence of protest movement on the political and social realms. The course will combine between building a theoretical framework and the study of specific case-studies, from Israel including the Black Panthers and the 2011 Social Protest, and from the world including the American Civil Rights Movement and the contemporary Occupy movements.

Course/Module aims:
Understanding key concepts and main theories in the sociology of social movements; examining some key examples of social movements protests in Israel and elsewhere; understanding the strategic dilemmas of social movements and the inter-relationships with the litigation and the legal field, culture and identity, the media, and the counter-reaction of the authorities; developing critical independent thinking and the ability to apply the insights learned in the course to analysis of additional case-studies.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
1) Understand the key concepts in the study of social movements.
2) Understand the main theoretical approaches in the analysis of social movements (e.g. resource mobilization, political opportunities, cultural approaches)
3) Be able to apply the theoretical and comparative knowledge to case-studies of growth, operation and decline of specific social movements
4) Be able to identify and analyze dilemmas and tensions in the activities of social movements

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture
Course/Module Content:
- What are social movements
- The growth, development and decline of social movements
- Who joins social movements and why
- The development and change of struggle tactics
- How are "social problems" constructed
- Using litigation for social change
- When do social movements turn to violence
- The influence of policing and social control on social movements
- Institutionalization and radicalization
- Unorganized protest
- Evaluating the influence of social movement on politics and society

Required Reading:
- "Tnuvothcheriot u-Meazvuat ha-Politiot". Tamar Herman, 2011.
- "What if she is from the FBI?". The Effects of Covert Forms of Social Control on Social Movements. Cunningham, D. & Noakes, J. (2008). "What if she is from the FBI?: The Effects of Covert Forms of Social Control on Social Movements. Surveillance and Governance: Crime Control and Beyond, 175-197.
- "Rights Choices: Dilemmas of Human Rights Activism". Journal of
Human Rights Practice 6(3):389-398


Additional Reading Material:


Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 80 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 20 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: