

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

THEORIES AND APPROACHES IN STUDYING SOCIAL CONFLICTS - 54701

Last update 15-09-2017

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: conflict management & resolution

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Eitan Alimi

Coordinator Email: eitan.alimi@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday 15:30 to 16:30

Teaching Staff:

Prof Eitan Alimi

Course/Module description:

The course is about one of the most basic and central social and political phenomena in human history: Conflict. It focuses on a particular conflict component -- conflict behavior -- as treated and discussed in both classical writings and contemporary research.

Course/Module aims:

In depth familiarity with and knowledge of central approaches and theories in the study of conflict dynamics, in general, and conflict behavior, in particular.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. increased familiarity with the basic concepts in the field, 2. to use approaches and theories to analysis of instances of conflict behavior, 3. to evaluate critically the strengths and weaknesses of theories in the field.

Attendance requirements(%):

80%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal and active participation

Course/Module Content:

- * Basic Concepts
- * Between Political Order and Social Justice
- * Individual Calculations - Rationalist Approaches
- * Mass Behavior - Irrationalist Approaches
- * Group Calculations - Psycho-sociologist Approaches
- * Group Competition - Political Approaches

Required Reading:

Bernard, Jessie (1957) "Parties and Issues in Conflict," *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, No. 1, pp: 111-121

Mack, Raymond W. and Richard C. Snyder (1957) "The Analysis of Social Conflict - Toward an Overview and Synthesis" *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, No. 1, pp: 121-148

Tilly, Charles. (2004) *Social Movements, 1768-2004*, Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers, Ch. 1

Della Porta Donatella and Mario Diani (1999) *Social Movements: An Introduction*, Oxford and Malden: Blackwell, Ch. 1 and 7

Tinder, Glen (1995) *Political Thinking*, Boston, MA: Harper Collins, Ch. 4

Lipset, Seymour. M. and Earl Raab (1970) *The Politics of Unreason*, N.Y.: Harper & Row, Ch. 1

Rule, James (1988) *Theories of Civil Violence*, Berkeley & L.A.: University of California Press, Ch. 1 (Hobbes, the Utilitarians, and Olson)

McCarthy, John D. and Zald, Mayer N. (1977). "Resource Mobilization and Social Movement: A Partial Theory", *American Journal of Sociology* 82(12):12-41

Bosi, Lorenzo. (2007) "Social Movement Participation and the "Timing" of Involvement: The Case of Northern Ireland Civil Rights Movement," *Research in Social Movements, Conflict, and Change* 27:37-61

Rule, James (1988) *Theories of Civil Violence*, Berkeley & L.A.: University of California Press, Ch. 3 (Le-Bon, Park, and Kornhouser)

Hoffer, Eric (1989) *The True Believer*, Manhattan, N.Y.: HarperPerennial, Part 2

Useem, B. (1985) "Disorganization and the New Mexico Prison Riot of 1980," *American Sociological Review* 50:667-688

Rule, James (1988) *Theories of Civil Violence*. Berkeley & L.A.: University of California Press, Ch. 5 (Parson and Smelser)

Gurr, Ted R. *Why Men Rebel*, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1970, Ch. 2

גילבר, ג. 1992. "התפתחויות דמוגרפיות וכלכליות כגורמים לאינתיפאדה." אצל: ג. גילבר, א. ססר. בעין הסכסוך: האינתיפאדה. תל-אביב, הקיבוץ המאוחד.

Rule, James (1988) *Theories of Civil Violence*. Berkeley & L.A.: University of California Press, Ch. 6 (Tilly)

Zald, Mayer N. and Useem, B. (1994) "Movement and Countermovement Interaction: Mobilization, Tactics, and State Involvement," in Mayer N. Zald and John D. McCarthy, *Social Movements in an Organizational Field*, New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers

Jenkins, Craig J. and Perrow, C. (1977) "Insurgency of the Powerless: Farm Worker Movements (1946-1972)," *American Sociological Review* 42:249-268

McAdam, D. (1999) *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency 1930-1970*, Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, Ch. 3

Additional Reading Material:

אלימי, א. 2008. "לקרוא לילד בשמו - על השונה (והדומה) בין תנועות חברתיות ובין קבוצות אינטרס." חברה אזרחית ומגזר שלישי בישראל, כרך 2, מספר 2.

וולפספלד, ג. "פעילות פוליטית בישראל - המקרה של ימית", מדינה, ממשל ויחסים בינלאומיים, 22, 1984, עמ' 39-50

Schattschneider, Erik E. (1975) *The Semisovereign People*, NY: The Dryden Press, Ch. 1

Hirsch, Eric L. (2003) "Generating Commitment Among Students," in *The Social Movements Reader*, Jeff Goodwin and James Jasper (eds.), Malden, MA: Blackwell, pp.94-102

אלימי, א. "נמר של נייר: הזדמנויות פוליטיות, תודעה פוליטית ומחאה פוליטית - החברה הישראלית האינתיפאדה", מדינה וחברה, 6(1), 2007, עמ' 157-185.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 90 %

Presentation 10 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

Small changes in the readings are possible, based on progress with teaching materials.