Course Description:

This course examines historic and contemporary social justice struggles in the United States, both nationwide and local. We will learn about social movements through classical texts, journal articles, documentary movies, and guest speakers.

The objective of this class is to provide the student with an understanding of social movements over the last half century in the United States. We will examine history from the perspective of everyday people and marginalized communities, which have collectively organized to resist repression and further social justice causes. We will learn about local social movement organizations through guest speakers and class discussion. This class will provide a more holistic understanding of our society and history, by examining those moments often excluded and overlooked in traditional text books. Based upon assigned readings, classroom discussions, and critical writing assignments, we will develop a solid understanding of the ways social movements develop, how they are socially constructed, and the ways in which they impact our lives.

Classroom behavior:

Use respectful language in the classroom and when addressing classmates. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. The use of cell phones, lap tops, and any text messaging devices will not be tolerated. Shut your cell phones off before entering the classroom. If you need to make a phone call or send a text message, leave the classroom to do it. If caught using such devices, you will be asked to leave the classroom. Raise hands and speak in turn. Be conscience of the amount you speak in relation to the rest of the class. This class will be based on a great deal of discussion, so everyone should participate equally.
Requirements:

25% Summaries
25% 10 page paper in three drafts (3)
25% Participation (paper presentation, discussion leader, general discussion)
25% Attendance

Summaries—For each class period, you are to bring a summary of the readings for that current day. You should also include any documentaries or guest speakers from the previous class period. This summary needs to be a minimum of one page; however, it can be much longer.

Paper—A 10-page paper is required (12p font, Times New Roman, double spaced). This paper will be turned in gradually, in segments. This is because a good paper requires lots of forethought, planning, reading, research, thinking, draft writing, feedback, and revision. Many people try and kid themselves by saying they work well under pressure, and can write a good paper the night before. Let me assure you, this is not true. The first draft will be a two-page detailed paper outline written in essay form, with a list of six (6) sources properly referenced in Chicago Manual Style (author-date). The second draft will be four pages long and include twelve (12) sources. The final paper will be due, and include twelve (12) citations in a reference list. If you turn in a paper that does not have a reference list, it will not be accepted. If you turn any drafts or papers in late, a penalty of an entire grade will be given. You are encouraged to turn drafts and papers in early. Sources include: a book, academic article, newspaper article. Internet sources are not allowed.

The format of the paper: 12 point font, Times New Roman, and one inch margins. On the front page in the upper left hand corner, write your name, class title, professor name, and which draft of the paper it is (Paper outline, 1st draft, final paper). Place a title in the center of the page that is bold and larger text, and begin the opening paragraph a few lines down, on the first page (i.e. do not include a title page). The final page of the paper should be page 10, and then the reference list begins on page 11. Use the Chicago Manual of Style (author-date) as a model for reference lists and in-text citations.

Participation/attendance—You are required to show up to class prepared. Attendance and participation (discussing, etc.) are part of your final grade. If you cannot attend class, please arrange to gather the information that you missed from your classmates. You are responsible for covering the reading and the lecture presentations. This class is based upon a great deal of discussion. You are required to contribute to the discussion in an equal manner, however, make space for others to speak. You are also required to give a 5 minute (maximum--timed) presentation based upon part of your paper towards the end of the semester.

The participation grade will be based upon leading a class discussion, presenting your final paper, and general participation. Attendance is recorded and 25% of your final grade. Please do not miss class.
Textbook:

Grades:
94-100 = A
90-93 = A-
87-89 = B+
84-86 = B
80-83 = B-
77-79 = C+
74-76 = C
70-73 = C-
60-69 = D
59-0 = F

Schedule:

**Monday, May 5** (week 1)
- Introduction to class and syllabus overview
- What is a social issue, demand, movement, and tactic?
- Movie: Howard Zinn: You Can’t Be Neutral on a Moving Train

**Wednesday, May 7**

**Monday, May 12** (week 2)
- Choosing a research topic
- *Social Movements* “Recruits to Civil Rights Activism,” pp. 55-63.
- Movie: Berkeley in the 60s
Wednesday, May 14

- Movie: Berkeley in the 60s
- Social Movements “Generating Commitment Among Students,” pp. 94-102.
- Student Organizations: Women’s Studies Student Association (WSSA) and Triota

Monday, May 19 (week 3)


Wednesday, May 21

- Paper proposal due
- Social Movements “Sustaining Commitment Among Radical Feminists,” pp. 103-115.
- Community Organization: Miami Clinic Access Project

Monday, May 26 (week 4)

Memorial Day

Wednesday, May 28

- Movie: Made in LA

Monday, June 2 (week 5)

- Paper draft #2 due
- Movie: The Miami Model
- Student Organization: United Students Against Sweatshops

Wednesday, June 4

• *Social Movements* “The Dilemmas of Identity Politics,” pp. 335-344.
• *Community Organization*: Miami Workers Center

**Monday, June 9** (week 6)

• *Community Organization*: Take Back the Land
• *Take Back the Land* (book)

**Wednesday, June 11**

• *Social Movements* “Another Look at Farmworker Mobilization,” pp. 283-300.
• *Community Organization*: Student/Farmworker Alliance

**Monday, June 16** (week 7)

• *Final Papers due*
• *Social Movements* “The Media in the Unmaking of the New Left,” pp. 301-311.
• *Movie*: The Yes Men

**Wednesday, June 18**

• *Final student paper presentations*