

**SOC479H1S**  
**Social Movements**  
**January-April 2017**  
**Department of Sociology**  
**University of Toronto**

Instructor: Robert Brym  
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Student mentor: Anna Slavina  
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Class meetings: noon-2 pm, Mondays, Sidney Smith Rm 2120  
Brym's office hours: 2-3 pm, Mondays, or by appointment (Sociology, Rm 266)  
Slavina's office hours: 11 am-noon, Mondays, or by appointment (Sociology, Rm 225A)

Prerequisites: SOC200H and SOC202H. Students without these prerequisites can be removed at any time and without notice.

### **Overview**

The early 2010s witnessed an outburst of social movement activism domestically and abroad. In Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen, movements associated with the 2010-11 Arab Spring overthrew authoritarian regimes. They helped to inspire the 2011-12 Occupy movement, whose protests against economic inequality were even more widespread geographically than the Arab uprising was. The ultimate political significance of the Occupy movement remains unclear but some observers hold that recent domestic movements such as the 2012 Maple Spring in Québec (and its encore in 2015) and even the crippling month-long strike by U of T TAs in 2015 adopted some of the élan, the outlook and the tactics of their transnational predecessor.

The scope and variety of protest activity in the early 2010s has heightened interest in the globalization of social movements. Globalizationists claim that transnational ties among social movements are becoming denser, levels of protest are increasing, and protests tend increasingly to break out in transnational clusters. This course will critically assess these and related claims.

### **Article**

Undergraduate students are largely consumers of ideas but graduate students and students in professional school learn to become producers of ideas. This course is designed to facilitate the transition. Accordingly, the course will give you the opportunity to apply and develop what you have learned from reading and discussing the works of others by contributing to the preparation of a publishable, jointly authored article with the instructor. You will be able to contribute to the conceptualization of the article, the literature review, the data analysis and the write-up.

The order of authorship of the joint article will reflect the significance of the contribution of each author as judged by the instructor. Ties will be listed in alphabetical order by surname.

The class article will test three key aspects of the globalization thesis:

1. Over time, increasing transnational movement power is evident in increasing levels of participation in demonstrations across countries.
2. Over time, network ties among transnational social movement members have become increasingly numerous relative to network ties among members of other transnational organizations, thus increasing relative movement power.
3. Over time, increasing transnational movement connectedness is evident in increasing simultaneity of demonstrations across countries.

The class will be divided into working groups, each focusing on a different aspect of the project.

### **Course Organization**

Classes will meet on Mondays, 12-2 pm, in Sidney Smith Rm 2120.

Two types of activities will take place during classes. First, the instructor and designated students will critically summarize assigned readings and initiate discussion about them. This type of activity will take up most of the first half of the course. During this period, we will complete the main readings listed below. Second, the instructor and designated students will devise, discuss, defend, and refine decisions concerning the class research project. This type of activity will take up most of the second half of the course.

Anna Slavina, a senior graduate student, will act as a student mentor in this course. She will be available for consultation regarding the joint article during her office hours, 11 am-noon, Mondays, or by appointment in Sociology, Rm 225A.

Robert Brym, the Instructor, will hold office hours 2-3 pm, Mondays, or by appointment in Sociology, Rm 266.

### **Readings**

Required readings, listed below, include two books, three journal articles, one unpublished article and five book chapters. The two books should be purchased from Indigo (<https://www.chapters.indigo.ca/en-ca/>) or Amazon (<https://www.amazon.ca/>). Please make sure you buy the latest editions, as indicated below. The journal articles are available through the U of T library system (<https://onsearch.library.utoronto.ca/>). Other articles will be made available through the U of T portal or distributed in class.

#### *Books*

Castells, M. 2015 [2012]. *Networks of Outrage and Hope: Social Movements in the Internet Age*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Cambridge UK: Polity

Tilly, C. and Wood, L. 2013 [2004]. *Social Movements, 1768-2012*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. London: Routledge

### *Articles and chapters*

- Brym, R., Birdsell Bauer, L. and McIvor, M. 2013. "Is industrial unrest reviving in Canada? Strike duration in the early 21st century." *Canadian Review of Sociology* (50, 3) 227-38
- Brym, R., Bročić, M., Nevin, A., Pettinicchio, D., Slavina, A., Caron, C., Redquest, E., Cheung, E., Picard, A. 2016. "The effects of structure, culture and agency on university student activism in high- and low-activism settings." Unpublished manuscript. Toronto: Department of Sociology, University of Toronto
- Brym, R., Godbout, M., Hoffbauer, A., Menard, G. and Zhang, T. 2014. "Social media in the 2011 Egyptian uprising." *British Journal of Sociology* 65(2): 266-92
- Brym, R., Roberts, L. and Strohschein and Lie, J. 2016 [2003]. "Collective action and social movements." *Sociology: Your Compass for a New World*, 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian ed. Toronto: Nelson, pp 526-48
- Morozov, E. 2011. *The Net Delusion: The Dark Side of Internet Freedom*. New York: Public Affairs (pp TBA)
- Smith, J. and Wiest, D. 2012. *Social Movements in the World System: The Politics of Crisis and Transformation*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, pp 1-17 and 45-72
- Uba, K. and Ugglá, F. 2011. Protest actions against the European Union, 1992–2007. *West European Politics* 34(2): 384-93

### **Data sources**

World Values Survey, 1981-2014

<http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp>

Transnational Social Movement Organization Dataset, 1953-2003 (ICPSR 33863)

[http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/soc101y/brym/TSMO\\_codebook.pdf](http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/soc101y/brym/TSMO_codebook.pdf)

[http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/soc101y/brym/TSMO\\_data.sav](http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/soc101y/brym/TSMO_data.sav)

*Yearbook of International Organizations Online*

<http://ybio.brillonline.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ybio/>

### **Reference works**

Babbie, E. and Benaquisto, L. 2014 [2002]. *Fundamentals of Social Research*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian ed. Toronto: Nelson

Keith, T. 2015 [2006]. *Multiple Regression and Beyond*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Routledge.

Strunk, W. Jr. and White, E. 2000 [1959]. *The Elements of Style*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: Allyn & Bacon.  
<http://www.jlakes.org/ch/web/The-elements-of-style.pdf>

### **Evaluation and Attendance**

Evaluation for the course will be based on:

- Formal in-class presentation(s) (25 percent). Students will be expected to critically summarize a set of assigned readings and raise questions for discussion and debate. The presentation should be about 20 minutes in duration. The written text of the in-class presentation must be submitted to the instructor via email ([rbrym@chass.utoronto.ca](mailto:rbrym@chass.utoronto.ca)) within 48 hours of the oral presentation in MS Word format. All presentations will take place and be graded before 13 March, the course drop date.
- Participation (25 percent). Students will be expected to attend all classes (except in cases of illness or personal or family crisis) and contribute to in-class discussions. The

participation grade will be awarded accordingly. Appropriate documentation must be submitted to the instructor in the event that attendance is not possible (see “Deadlines,” below).

- Contribution to the joint article (50 percent). In the second half of the class, students will be expected to contribute to at least one element of the joint article that best fits their interests and competencies. The elements include conceptualization, literature review, research design, data analysis and write-up. The written text of the contributions must be submitted to the instructor via email ([rbrym@chass.utoronto.ca](mailto:rbrym@chass.utoronto.ca)) in MS Word format. Contributions will go through two or more iterations. A single iteration involves submitting the contribution to the instructor and having the instructor comment on the contribution and return it to the student. Half of the grade for contributions to the joint article (25 percent) will be awarded by 26 March and half (25 percent) will be awarded after 26 March.

If a student does not wish to contribute to the joint article, s/he may opt to write an essay (about 5,000 words excluding notes, tables, and references) in consultation with the instructor.

### **Turnitin**

Normally, students will be required to submit written work to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site. Written assignments not submitted through Turnitin will not be assessed unless a student instead provides, along with their work, sufficient secondary material (e.g., reading notes, outlines of the paper, rough drafts of the final draft, etc.) to establish that the paper they submit is truly their own. The alternative (not submitting via Turnitin) is in place because, strictly speaking, using Turnitin is voluntary for students at the University of Toronto.

### **Accessibility**

If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> as soon as possible.

### **Deadlines**

Dates for presentations and submissions will be set by the instructor in consultation with students. Students who miss a presentation date or submission deadline must submit proper documentation from a physician or a college registrar within three days of the scheduled event. Late work will not be accepted without such documentation.

If you miss a presentation date or submission deadline, do not contact the instructor or a TA unless you have followed the steps described below. Telling the professor or TA why you missed a deadline or a test is insufficient.

- In case of illness, you must supply a duly completed Verification of Student Illness or Injury form (available at [www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca](http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca)). A doctor's note is not

acceptable. The form must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor and submitted with your work in class.

- If a personal or family crisis causes you to miss a presentation date or submission deadline, you must obtain a letter from your college registrar. The letter must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor and submitted with your work in class.

### **Plagiarism**

Cheating and misrepresentation will not be tolerated. Students who commit an academic offence face serious penalties. Avoid plagiarism by citing properly. Know where you stand by reading the “Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters” in the Calendar of the Faculty of Arts and Science at <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf>.

To remind you of the University’s expectations, and help you avoid accidental offences, you must include a signed Academic Integrity Checklist with every written submission. If you do not include the statement, your work will not be graded. The Academic Integrity Checklist will be found below.

## Academic Integrity Checklist for Submissions

Course code: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, affirm that this assignment represents entirely my own efforts.

I confirm that:

- I have acknowledged the use of another's ideas with accurate citations.
- If I used the words of another (e.g., author, instructor, information source), I have acknowledged this with quotation marks (or appropriate indentation) and proper citation.
- When paraphrasing the work of others, I put the idea into my own words and did not just change a few words or rearrange the sentence structure
- I have checked my work against my notes to be sure I have correctly referenced all direct quotes or borrowed ideas.
- My bibliography includes only the sources used to complete this assignment.
- This is the first time I have submitted this assignment (in whole or in part) for credit.
- This is the final version of my assignment and not a draft.
- I have kept my work to myself and did not share answers/content with others, unless otherwise directed by my instructor.
- I understand the consequences of violating the University's academic integrity policies as outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters.

By signing this form I agree that the statements above are true.

If I do not agree with the statements above, I will not submit my assignment and will consult the course instructor immediately.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student #: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_