

# **Social Movements: Theory and Practice**

**GOV 370S 38405**  
*Fall 2023*

**Instructor:** Shannon Bow O'Brien, PhD

**Meeting Time:** MWF 1-2pm

**Location:** CAL 100

This class is in a room which has Lectures Online enabled. All lectures will be recorded and available via Lectures Online (or recorded if necessary, by professor) on Canvas.

This class is using the Lectures Online recording system. This system records the audio and video material presented in class for you to review after class. Links for the recordings will appear in the Lectures Online tab on the Canvas page for this class. You will find this tab along the left side navigation in Canvas.

To review a recording, simply click on the Lectures Online navigation tab and follow the instructions presented to you on the page. You can learn more about how to use the Lectures Online system at  
<http://sites.la.utexas.edu/lecturesonline/students/how-to-access-recordings/>

You can find additional information about Lectures Online at:  
<https://sites.la.utexas.edu/lecturesonline/>.

**Assignments:** All Tests are IN PERSON this semester in the classroom during class time on the assigned dates

Paper Assignments will be turned in ONLINE in Canvas this semester

**Student Hours:** I only have scheduled(booked) 15-minute appointments (not drop in) this semester.

Online office hours work best to help as many students as possible.

Online: I will have scheduled (booked) 15-minute appointments on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30am-noon. The booking link will be in the announcements on Canvas.

Any in-person scheduled meetings will be in MEZ 3.226 (my office). These can be arranged by emailing me and making an appointment (based on availability).

**Email:** shannonbow@utexas.edu

*Be sure to include something about the Social Movements class in the subject line. I am teaching American Government, Social Movements and American Presidency this semester so an email saying 'question about class' needs to be more specific since I will have about 600 students between the three classes.*

Please routinely check Canvas for this class. I post Powerpoint slides, notes and information I feel are important to the class. In addition, we will post your grades online.

### **Course Description:**

This course is about social movements. Social movements involve groups of people organizing or coalescing around issues. This course is designed to be an introduction to the topic. Groups of people have been organizing together towards joint goals for centuries. People with differing opinions about actions, policies, and behaviors want to have their voice heard about their concerns. Social movements often develop when a large enough number of people with similar problems come together. Some movements are total failures. Some succeed and thrive and others succeed and subside. Still, many others fall somewhere between success and failure.

This course plans to introduce broad ideas about social movements, raise important questions, and help students develop a better understanding about them. Every movement is different, but elements within them can be categorized and understood. The analysis of these elements can give you the tools to look at movements or groups within society and make educated guesses about their long term viability.

The literature of social movements can be very theoretical and difficult to decipher. The class will only have 1 assigned book for the semester. This book is a compilation of many important articles, papers, and readings regarding social movements.

### **Required Readings:**

**There is ONE (1) book required for this course.**

The Social Movements Reader: Cases and Concepts, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Edited by Jeff Goodwin and James M. Jasper, Publisher: Wiley Blackwell, 2015 ISBN: 978-1-118-72979-3 (also available as an ebook)

Note: I am using the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. I used the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition in previous semesters. 25% of the readings were replaced between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> editions. Translation: Don't buy 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.

If I decide to skip specific readings in the sections, I will announce it on Canvas.

I also reserve the right to assign additional readings from time to time if I feel they are needed. Any additional readings will be added Canvas and also announced in class.

### **Longhorn Textbook Access (LTA)**

The materials for this class are available through the Longhorn Textbook Access (LTA) program, a new initiative between UT Austin, The University Co-op and textbook publishers to significantly reduce the cost of digital course materials for students. You are automatically opted into the program but can easily opt-out (and back in) via Canvas through the 12th class day. If you remain opted-in at the end of the 12th class day you will receive a bill through your "What I Owe" page and have until the end of the 18th class day to pay and retain access. If you do not pay by the 18th class day, you will lose access to the materials after the 20th class day and your charge will be removed. More information about the LTA program is available at <https://www.universitycoop.com/longhorn-textbook-access>

**Grades:** tests, two written assignments

*Grades will based on the following:*

<b>Test 1</b>	<b>September 20 (Wednesday)</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Test 2</b>	<b>October 25 (Wednesday)</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Test 3</b>	<b>December 7 at 1-3pm (THURSDAY)</b>	<b>25%</b>

### **Paper Assignments:**

Paper Assignment 1	<b>September 27 (Wednesday)</b>	<b>5%</b>
Paper 2 Topic Submission Deadline:	<b>September 29 (Friday)</b>	<b>1%</b>

Paper 2: Executive Summary of a Social Movement  
or Interview with a Member of a Social Movement

**November 6 (Monday)**      19%

**All Tests are IN PERSON this semester in the classroom during class time on the assigned dates**

**Paper Assignments will be turned in ONLINE in Canvas this semester**

If attendance becomes extremely low, or if I think pop quizzes are in order, I may begin to take attendance or give quizzes. If I do exercise this option, I will announce it in class and on Canvas as well as with the re-weighted grade scale. However, attendance is NOT required for this course.

I also reserve the right to make any changes to the grading system I see fit during the semester. This may include, but is not limited to additional paper assignments (if I determine they are needed), or moving the test dates to accommodate unforeseen circumstances (think hurricanes and natural disasters, not doctor's appointments).

**Grade Scale:**

The University uses a plus/minus system. Here is the scale I will use for the class for grades. I do NOT round up or negotiate grades. You will receive your earned grade based on performance.

A:	93-100	C:	73-76.99
A-:	90-92.99	C-:	70-72.99
B+:	87-89.99	D+:	67-69.99
B:	83-86.99	D:	63-66.99
B-:	80-82.99	D-:	60-62.99
C+:	77-79.99	F:	Less than 60

**Paper Assignments**

You will have 2 paper assignments. These assignments will be posted on Canvas prior to their due date and passed out in class.

You will upload all your assignments to Canvas.

Late papers will be penalized. For every calendar day a paper is late (including weekends), it will be penalized 5% of the total grade a day until 50%. Additional late penalties will not be assessed after 50% though you may be graded lower than 50% for incorrect information.

Paper Assignments 1 will be short assignments where you will be asked to fill in information about specific social movements. The idea is to help make you aware of different aspects of groups and their history. You will be given a choice of movements for these assignments.

Paper Assignment 2: Two options: Executive Summary or Interview

This semester, I created a deadline to submit a topic for assignment 2. It is designed to encourage you to think about the project at least a couple weeks before it is due (as opposed to the night before). The form will be available about a week before it is due. You will be expected to write a paper/project on the topic you provide unless I expressly allow you to change topic.

Executive Summary of a Social Movement: Think term paper but with sections. For this assignment, I will ask you to create a briefing about a social movement. It must adhere to reality or an approved fantasy world (translation: it has to be based in the real world or if you really really want to create a social movement in a non-reality world, it must be a genre I'm familiar with and requires pre-clearance.) I will provide an outline on Canvas that will give you

the sections I would like you to develop and expand. I will ask you to develop a movement, explain its organization, viability, and other aspects based on the tools you have learned in class.

Interviewing a member of a social movement: In this assignment, you may interview a person in a social movement about their activities. I will provide a list of questions for you to use and you will craft a paper using these responses and other information about the group they were involved with)

I'm expecting the papers for either topic to run between 8-15 pages. The executive summaries will run longer in page count because you are able to put your separate topics on different pages whereas the interview paper would be a more traditional organized paper (Translation: I'm expecting the interview papers around 8-9 pages while the executive summaries should hit closer to 14-15 pages since you can technically get away with half a page on some of the summary sections).

## **EXAMS**

***Three Exams will be given.*** They will be in person and multiple choice. They will cover material presented in lectures and in the readings from the text, as well as any other material assigned/presented in class (including videos if I show any). The final exam is **NOT** cumulative and will only cover material presented since the previous exam. However, most of concepts in this course build upon each other so you will be expected to retain information from earlier portions of the class.

The test days are fixed and announced the first day of class. They will not be changed or negotiated. If these test days do not fit your personal schedule, do **NOT** enroll in this course. There are too many students in this course to work with you to make these dates fit vacations, trips, or other such matters. While I will abide by university approved absences and work with students, make up exams may not be the same exam given to the majority of the class and could be an essay exam if I decide one is best to test the information.

All assignment grades can only be questioned or challenged for 2 weeks after the date the grades are released back to the class. If the last assignment is returned with less than 2 weeks of the semester left, then the last day of class is the last day to challenge a paper grade. Only the professor (not the TAs) has the authority to change a paper grade (unless it is a minor or obvious calculation error). If the grade is not questioned or challenged in this time frame, it stands as recorded. This is designed to encourage students to retrieve their papers and also to not question grades in December that were handed back in September because they decide they do not like their final class grade.

Any material for this class may not be uploaded onto 3<sup>rd</sup> party websites without the professor's explicit permission. If you do so, it will be considered a violation of the honor code. The professor has the right (even after the class is completed) to submit these violations to Judicial Affairs for adjudication.

**Late papers are only accepted until November 27, 2023.**

**Class Recordings:** Class recordings are reserved only for students in this class for educational purposes and are protected under FERPA. The recordings should not be shared outside the class in any form. Violation of this restriction by a student could lead to Student Misconduct proceedings.

## **Academic Dishonesty/Cheating**

You will be expected to adhere to the UT Honor Code: *The core values of the University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.*

Though obvious, cheating is not allowed on any assignments. Plagiarism is prohibited. It refers to copying any work from any source (electronic, paper, etc.) without noting/citing its original source. It is important to note that using ideas (and not just quotes) from other sources without proper citation also counts as plagiarism. For additional information on these items, see the University General Information Catalog at: <https://catalog.utexas.edu/general-information/> and <https://catalog.utexas.edu/general-information/appendices/appendix-c/student-discipline-and-conduct/>. **Any assignments turned in will be assumed to be the final version of the assignment and any inappropriate material will be considered intentional and not accidental.**

The creation of artificial intelligence tools for widespread use is an exciting innovation. These tools have both appropriate and inappropriate uses in classwork. Using artificial intelligence tools (such as ChatGPT) in this class **is strictly prohibited**. This includes using AI to generate ideas, outline an approach, answer questions, solve problems, or create original language. All work in this course must be your own or created in group work, where allowed.

Any class materials may not be uploaded onto 3<sup>rd</sup> party websites without the professor's explicit permission. If you do so, it will be considered a violation of the honor code. The professor has the right (even after the class is completed) to submit these violations to Judicial Affairs for adjudication.

**Sharing of Course Materials is Prohibited:** No materials used in this class, including, but not limited to, lecture hand-outs, videos, assessments (quizzes, exams, papers, projects, homework assignments), in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets, may be shared online or with anyone outside of the class unless you have my explicit, written permission. Unauthorized sharing of materials promotes cheating. It is a violation of the University's Student Honor Code and an act of academic dishonesty. I am well aware of the sites used for sharing materials, and any materials found online that are associated with you, or any suspected unauthorized sharing of materials, will be reported to Student Conduct and Academic Integrity in the Office of the Dean of Students. These reports can result in sanctions, including failure in the course.

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information, <https://catalog.utexas.edu/general-information/appendices/appendix-c/student-discipline-and-conduct/>

### Canvas Stuff

I will attempt to use Canvas as a way to provide information to the class. In the past, I have regularly made RTF versions of my Powerpoint slides available prior to class. However, if I encounter problems utilizing Canvas, I may shift my materials (including test guides and other things) to another website devoted to making material available to the class. I will announce any changes of this sort to the class.

**I will try to post on Canvas review sheets prior to each exam.** These sheets should not be considered the definitive study guide for the test. Rather, they are a list of major concepts and ideas you should definitely know for the exam.

### **Additional information**

Do NOT phone or email us about a grade (i.e. "What did I get?"). We will post grades electronically as soon as practical.

If you need extra time on a test and/or require special physical accommodations, please contact me in confidence as soon as possible at the beginning of the course. Every effort will be made to accommodate your needs within the guidelines set forth by the University.

**Students with disabilities:** The University of Texas at Austin provides, upon request, appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 512-471-6259 (Videophone: 512-410-6644) or <http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/>.

**Accessible/Compliant Statement:** If you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, and need accommodations please contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). You may refer to SSD's website for contact and more information:<http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/>. If you are already registered with SSD, please deliver your Accommodation Letter to me as early as possible in the semester so we can discuss your approved accommodations.

**Accessible, Inclusive, and Compliant Statement:** The university is committed to creating an accessible and inclusive learning environment consistent with university policy and federal and state law. Please let me know if you experience any barriers to learning so I can work with you to ensure you have equal opportunity to participate fully in this course. If you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, and need accommodations please contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Please refer to SSD's website for contact and more information:<http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/>. If you are already registered with SSD, please deliver your Accommodation Letter to me as early as possible in the semester so we can discuss your approved accommodations and needs in this course.

### **Course Instructor Survey/Evaluation:**

An evaluation of the course and instructor will be conducted at the end of the semester using the approved UT Course/Instructor evaluation forms.

### **Undergraduate Student Drop Policy**

From the 1<sup>st</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup> class day, an undergraduate student can drop a course via the web and receive a refund, if eligible. From the 13<sup>th</sup> through the university's academic drop deadline, a student may Q drop a course with approval from the Dean, and departmental advisor.

**Religious Holy Days:** "By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence for a religious holy day as far in advance as possible of the date of observance. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence."

### **Emergency Evacuation Policy**

In the event of a fire or other emergency, it may be necessary to evacuate a building rapidly. Upon the activation of a fire alarm or the announcement of an emergency in a university

building, all occupants of the building are required to evacuate and assemble outside. Once evacuated, no one may re-enter the building without instruction to do so from the Austin Fire Department, University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.

Students should familiarize themselves with all the exit doors of each room and building they occupy at the university, and should remember that the nearest exit routes may not be the same as the way they typically enter buildings.

Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructors in writing during the first week of class.

Information can be found here for preparedness:

<https://preparedness.utexas.edu/safety/emergency-terms>

Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at <http://www.utexas.edu/emergency>

**Restricting Information:** If you want your personal information restricted in the directory, the information is located here: <https://registrar.utexas.edu/students/records/restrictmyinfo>

### **Make-up exams/Excused Absences**

Absences on exam days may be excused if the student provides verifiable documentation of accident, illness, or university or legal obligation. Unexcused absences from examinations will result in a score of zero for that exam.

I **STRONGLY** encourage you not to miss an exam. The make up may be different from the exam given to the rest of the class. It may include an essay format, but the exam format is at my discretion.

**One more thing:** If a true emergency occurs that you know you can document, take care of yourself first and we will sort it out later. You do not need to call me from the ER or jail to let us know you won't be there. In those situations, you have bigger problems than this class at that moment in time.

### **Class Calendar**

The readings for this day are the readings I expect you to have done PRIOR to that day. This calendar is based on my best estimation of how long it will take to go through the material. On occasion through the semester, I \*may\* get behind a day or two depending on how long it takes to cover the topic. However, I will try to refrain from getting ahead, and tests will **ALWAYS** only cover the chapters noted in the syllabus.

I assigned this book (partially) because the questions posed by each chapter are pretty good. They break down the material well. I could have assigned about 5-6 books and a reader for this course but chose not to do so. The weeks will be organized around the headings (Part II, III, etc) and the lectures will address these questions. DO NOT think every lecture will just be about the readings in that chapter. They will likely go beyond the readings for the week. Some of these readings are important in social movement literature, and others are more background.

This book was assigned because it organized a difficult subject into sections that students can grasp without having to read hundreds of pages.

All readings in the book will be fair game for the tests, but use the lectures as a launching pad for studying. I really like history... most of my classes following an American Political Development format (that's politics and history). I think I am likely going to use the sections to also introduce information in detail about specific movements and actors.

August 21 Monday	Introduction to the Course – Pass out Syllabi
August 23 Wednesday	Part I Introduction

<b>August 25 Friday</b>	Part I Introduction Part II When and Why Do Social Movements Occur?
<b>August 28 Monday</b>	Part II When and Why Do Social Movements Occur?
<b>August 30 Wednesday</b>	Part II When and Why Do Social Movements Occur?
<b>September 1 Friday</b>	Part II When and Why Do Social Movements Occur?
<b>September 4 Monday</b>	<b>Labor Day No Class</b>
<b>September 6 Wednesday</b>	Part II When and Why Do Social Movements Occur?
<b>September 8 Friday</b>	Part II When and Why Do Social Movements Occur? Part III Who Joins or Supports Movements?
<b>September 11 Monday</b>	Part III Who Joins or Supports Movements?
<b>September 13 Wednesday</b>	Part III Who Joins or Supports Movements?
<b>September 15 Friday</b>	Part III Who Joins or Supports Movements?
<b>September 18 Monday</b>	Part III Who Joins or Supports Movements?
<b>September 20 Wednesday</b>	<b>Test 1 (I, II, III)</b>
<b>September 22 Friday</b>	Part IV Who Remains in Movements, Who Drops Out and Why?
<b>September 25 Monday</b>	Part IV Who Remains in Movements, Who Drops Out and Why?
<b>September 27 Wednesday</b>	Part IV Who Remains in Movements, Who Drops Out and Why? <b>Paper One</b>
<b>September 29 Friday</b>	Part IV Who Remains in Movements, Who Drops Out and Why? <b>Paper 2 Topic Submission Deadline by 11:59pm</b>
<b>October 2 Monday</b>	Part V How are Movements Organized?
<b>October 4 Wednesday</b>	Part V How are Movements Organized?
<b>October 6 Friday</b>	Part V How are Movements Organized?
<b>October 9 Monday</b>	Part V How are Movements Organized?
<b>October 11 Wednesday</b>	Part V How are Movements Organized?
<b>October 13 Friday</b>	Part VI What do Movements Do?
<b>October 16 Monday</b>	Part VI What do Movements Do?

<b>October 18 Wednesday</b>	Part VI What do Movements Do?
<b>October 20 Friday</b>	Part VI What Do Movements Do?
<b>October 23 Monday</b>	Part VI What Do Movements Do?
<b>October 25 Wednesday</b>	<b>Test 2 (IV, V, VI)</b>
<b>October 27 Friday</b>	Part VII How do Movements Interact with Other Players?
<b>October 30 Monday</b>	Part VII How do Movements Interact with Other Players?
<b>November 1 Wednesday</b>	Part VII How do Movements Interact with Other Players?
<b>November 3 Friday</b>	Part VII How do Movements Interact with Other Players?
<b>November 6 Monday</b>	Part VII How do Movements Interact with Other Players? <b>Paper 2 DUE by 11:59pm</b>
<b>November 8 Wednesday</b>	Part VIII Why Do Movements Decline?
<b>November 10 Friday</b>	Part VIII Why Do Movements Decline?
<b>November 13 Monday</b>	Part VIII Why Do Movements Decline?
<b>November 15 Wednesday</b>	Part VIII Why Do Movements Decline?
<b>November 17 Friday</b>	Part VIII Why Do Movements Decline?
<b>November 20 Monday</b>	<b>Fall Break</b>
<b>November 22 Wednesday</b>	<b>Fall Break</b>
<b>November 24 Friday</b>	<b>Fall Break</b>
<b>November 27 Monday</b>	Part IX What Changes Do Movements Bring About?
<b>November 29 Wednesday</b>	Part IX What Changes Do Movements Bring About?
<b>December 1 Friday</b>	Part IX What Changes Do Movements Bring About?
<b>December 4 Monday</b>	Part IX What Changes Do Movements Bring About?
<b>December 7 THURSDAY 1-3pm</b>	<b>Test 3 (VII, VIII, IX) 1pm-3pm</b>