POWER, RESISTANCE, IDENTITY & SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (PRISM)*

Course Description:

This course focuses on individual forms of socially constructed identity (e.g., gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, and humanness or bodies), intersectional forms of identity (e.g., gender and bodies), and collective forms of identity (e.g., citizen, worker or labor, and anarchist collectives or horizontal non-state civil movements, referred to as social movements in American politics). It explores how these identities affect power and resistance, as understood by social theorists and contemporary philosophers such as Michael Hardt, Antonio Negri, and Judith Butler, who in turn draw upon Gilles Deleuze, Raymond Williams, Stuart Hall, Michel Foucault, Antonio Gramsci, Karl Marx, and G. W. F. Hegel, among others.

It applies how the intersection of epistemology/ontology can be applied to the politics of social movements today. It looks at how social theory helps social movements strategize. It manifests Ideas in Action and (Re)Action.

This course is cross-listed with Urban Education, American Studies, and International Studies, and it is especially pertinent for M.A. students in Political Science, because it offers theories and then applications to help students exploring writing an M.A. thesis or capstone project.

Several social movements will be explored as case studies. First, we will consider the worldwide struggle to end political and social violence against women (including #MeTooism), and if/how it is having global impact. We will examine, for example, the Combahee River Collective -- an organization of Black feminists who attained international reach by coining the term “identity politics” -- and assess the movement’s global impact, as seen for instance in “Women’s Internationalism against Global Patriarchy,” by Dilar Dirik (and PM Press).

Second, we will consider American school desegregation in urban education as a precursor to income inequality under neoliberalism -- or, put more simply: How white flight meant the Democrats abandoned one of their main constituencies during and after the Great Society. This is a historical case study from the 1970s.

Third, we will compare American and global counterinsurgency (right-wing vigilantism), juxtaposing liberal and illiberal states and civil societies, showing how it has increased violence against women and children in the United States (intimate-partner violence) and worldwide as a means of shutting up women, from honor
killings to what I call neotribalism. This is contemporary, though more emphasis is placed on the juxtaposition between the United States and Europe.

Each social movement, whether left or right -- insurgency or counterinsurgency, horizontal or vertical -- navigates juxtapositions that can save or harm or have a boomerang effect. Students write position outlines (not papers) and turn in a short topic paper exploring their own interest in social movements and how to apply social or political theory or thought.

This seminar is an American Politics course that helps students prepare for Social Movements, Political Parties and Interest Groups in the Elections and Behavioral Component of the American Politics field. It also helps students in American Political Thought since social movements and interest groups are vehicles of change that influence governance from the outside, whereas political parties reside both in and outside the government.

Furthermore, social movements also operate on the level of discourse (or the creation of epistemology/ontology or public opinion) -- what many call cultures, epistemes, beliefs, values, traditions, and ideologies. For this reason, it is useful for students in American Political Thought (APT) and American Political Development (APD).

Requirements:
3 blogs -- Idea Impact Strategy Position Papers (Wordpress page or blog size) and short paper of 5 to 7 pages and seminar participation

Part I: THEORIES OF CHANGE/OPPRESSION/EXPLOITATION/\& REVOLUTION

1. Introduction

2. Dominant Theories: Karl Marx & Alexis DeTocqueville

Karl Marx, Theses on Feuerbach
(http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1845/theses/theses.htm)

3. Hegemony: Economies of Violence and Happy Slaves
Machiavelli http://www.emachiavelli.com/history2copy.htm#THE PRINCE


4. Foucault & Freedom


5. Politics, Post Structuralism, and Political Culture
Anne Norton, 95 Theses on Politics, Culture, & Method and The Flight from Reality in the Human Sciences

Part II: HORIZONTAL ORGANIZING & POWER

6. Arendtian Ethics & Power
Hannah Arendt, The Human Condition any edition

Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri, Assembly (Oxford University Press) TBA

Part III. THE INDIVIDUAL/THE SELF, SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION & IDENTITY

7. Feminism, Intersectionality, Cosmopolitanism, and Social Construction


Gloria Anzaldua’s This Bridge Called my Back The Gloria Anzaldua Reader (Duke University Press, 2009), (Have PDF to send).
IV. APPLICATIONS

8. Race & Ethnic Identity Cultural Studies & Citizenship and Other “isms” & “immutable” categories

Joan Wallach Scott The Veil (Princeton University Press, 2007)
Seyla Benhabib, Another Cosmopolitanism (Oxford University Press, 2006)

Part IV. Theories of Freedom/Resistance

9. Foucault (Governmentality; Territorality)

Michel Foucault, Power/Knowledge: Selected Interviews and Other Writings, 1972-1977 TBA
Michel Foucault, The Birth of BioPolitics, Lectures at the College of France, 1978-79
Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri Multitude: War and Democracy in the Age of Empire.

10. Combahee River Collective

Dilar Dirik, "Women’s Internationalism against Global Patriarchy,“;

Part V. Ideas in (Re)Action, (Re)(In)sistance in Reality (Not Virtually)?

11. Combahee River Collective compared to #metooism

12. Desegregation and Income Inequality under Neoliberalism

13. Remembering old Vigilantism Reading TBA

14. Resurgence of the New?

MORE RECOMMENDED READING & RESOURCES
David Farrell Krell, "Bodies of Black Folk: From Kant and Hegel to Du Bois and Baldwin," *boundary* 27 (2000): 103-34
Cheryl Welch *DeTocqueville* (OUP 2001)
Donald E. Pease, “After the Tocqueville Revival; or, The Return of the Political,” *Boundary* 26 (1999): 87-114
Resources on Tocqueville http://faculty.law.lsu.edu/ccorcos/lawctr/lawctr/tocqueind.htm
Benedetto Fontana, “The Democratic Philosopher: Rhetoric as Hegemony in Gramsci,” 23 Italian Culture (2005): 9-123
Slavoj Žižek, “Organs without Bodies: On Deleuze and Consequences,” (New York:
Routledge, 2004)
222-37
Peter Hallward, "Deleuze and the 'World without Others.'" *Philosophy Today* (1997): 530-44
Carol Gilligan, *In a Different Voice* (Harvard University Press, 1993)
Allison Weir, "Home and Identity: In Memory of Iris Marion Young," *Hypatia* 23 (2008):4-21
Homi K. Bhabha, *The Location of Culture* (New York: Routledge, 1994)

Anne Norton, *95 Theses on Politics, Culture, & Method and The Flight from Reality in the Human Sciences*

*pending revision January 2019*