

## **Micro-mini on Social Movements Dates: Oct 2 and 9 from 9:30-12:30 and 1:30-3:00**

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### **Course description and learning objectives**

Both in the U.S. and in other societies, social movements have been at the forefront of economic and political change. In this micro course, we will explore the complex nature of social movements, the potential impacts of movements, the elements that influence the movement's success, and the relationship between movements and institutions, including the policy and political effects of selected movements. The course will include lectures, class discussions, and presentations by guest speakers.

Students are expected to attend class, participate in the discussions, do a group presentation (about 4-5 students per group) on a movement of their choice, and submit a 500-word reflection essay.

The presentation should include a detailed history of the selected movement, its tactics, policy and political effects, and recommendations.

### **2.-Skills: The course emphasizes the development of analytical, presentation and writing skills.**

Students will develop these analytical skills in different forms:

- a) **Class discussions**, which will allow the students to develop the ability to analyze and discuss different social movements and learn about their strategies, tactics, successes and failures.
  
- b) **Discussion boards**: We plan to set up discussion groups ahead of time and offer some response questions on a canvas message board for each discussion group. This will support investment in the reading and some of the classroom discussion could be in those small groups and based on their canvas discussion. The discussion boards will help ensure participation and give students more time to analyze critical issues within the group.
  
- c) **Group presentations**, which will allow the students to learn about a specific movement in depth. The presenters are expected to analyze the movement's organization, goals and policy impact. Students will have to provide recommendations geared to improve the social movement's effectiveness and organization.

In order to ensure the effectiveness of the presentation the instructor meets with the student about a week before the presentation to set the specific topics and parameters of the presentation. The handout or slides need to be submitted to the instructor at least 24 hours before the presentation. The instructor will review the slides or handouts in order to verify the effectiveness of the presentation.

**Presentations guidelines and expectations:** The presenters are expected to provide an analysis of the selected social movement's organization, goals and policy or societal impact.

The essential question that the presenters would have to answer is to what extent did the movement advance the stated goals be it regarding policy or societal change. Students would also have to include recommendations geared to advance the movements goals and impact.

**Presentation grading guidelines:** The presentation will be graded according to the following guidelines:

- Content: Are the critical issues been addressed?
- Presentation Style: Are the presenters addressing the audience in a clear and convincing manner?
- Quality of the recommendations
- Slides or handout: Quality of the slides

Each of these factors will account for 1/4 of the grade

**d) Writing a 500-word reflection essay** about lessons learned. More details will be provided later. The essay is due no later than Monday October 18.

**Please submit via Canvas**

**Grading:**

Class presentation: 60% of the grade

500-word reflection essay: 20% of the grade

Discussion Board participation: 20% of the grade

**Requirements: Class attendance and class participation are required**  
**Zoom video must be connected during class to ensure class attendance.**

Students are responsible to know and adhere to all University policies on academic integrity. It is your responsibility to ensure that all sources are cited appropriately in your work. If you are not clear on how to do this, please visit <https://www.cmu.edu/gcc/handouts-and-resources/index.html> (See *Citing Sources*). The University policies on academic integrity will be followed and can be found here: [www.cmu.edu/policies/documents/Cheating.html](http://www.cmu.edu/policies/documents/Cheating.html). Any cheating or plagiarism will result in failure in the course and your case will be referred to the Associate Dean, who may decide to take further action.

**Cheating and Plagiarism: In case of cheating or plagiarism the instructor:**

- a) Will make full use of University and the Heinz College policies and regulations.
- b) A full report of the incident will be send to the Program Director and the Associate Dean.
- c) Students who plagiarize (represent someone else work as yours) will fail the exam/paper (get 0 points in the assignment) and as a result will fail the course. There will be no exemptions made to this rule.
- d) Please remember that the internet makes it very easy to plagiarize, but it also makes it very easy to find the plagiarized material. In other words, Google works for you and for me

For more details please see the [University Policy on Academic Integrity](#) in the CMU Website

**Take care of yourself.**

*Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, avoiding drugs and alcohol, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress.*

*All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone. There are many helpful resources available on campus and an important part of the college experience is learning how to ask for help. Asking for support sooner rather than later is often helpful.*

*If you or anyone you know experiences any academic stress, difficult life events, or feelings such as anxiety or depression, we strongly encourage you to seek support. Counseling and Psychological Services (CaPS) is here to help: call 412-268-2922 and visit their website at <http://www.cmu.edu/counseling/>. Consider reaching out to a friend, faculty or family member you trust for help getting connected to the support that can help.*

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** If you have a disability and have an accommodations letter from the Disability Resources office, I encourage you to discuss your accommodations and needs with me as early in the semester as possible. I will work with you to ensure that accommodations are provided as appropriate. If you suspect that you may have a disability and would benefit from accommodations but are not yet registered with the Office of Disability Resources, I encourage you to contact them at [access@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:access@andrew.cmu.edu).

**Writing Support:** Feel free to get in touch with the Global Communication Center (GCC), if you need writing support. You can schedule appointments by emailing the [gcc-cmu@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:gcc-cmu@andrew.cmu.edu)

**Readings for October 2:**

ALL READINGS ON CANVAS

**Marco Diani, “The Concept of Social Movement”**

**Jonathan Pinckney, “Nonviolent Resistance” Springer Handbook of Positive Peace, Chapter 2.3.31:30-2:30**

**Reading: “Environmental Movements in Advanced Industrial Democracies: Heterogeneity, Transformation and Institutionalization”**

Sofia Donoso, “When Social Movements Become a Democratizing Force” (optional)

**No readings for October 9**

**October 2: Speakers Schedule**

**9:30-10:30: Ms. Alyssa Lyon**

**Biographical information**

Astounded by the stark differences in socio-economic levels and experiences that she observed among Pittsburgh neighborhoods and residents, New York native Alyssa P. Lyon was inspired to take steps to level the playing field. Initially securing an internship with the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), she began to learn more about the City and about the processes for transformation.

Alyssa graduated with a Master’s degree in Public Management from Carnegie Mellon in 2017 and earned a Bachelor’s degree in Communications and Africana Studies from the University of Pittsburgh

in 2012. Currently the Director of the Black Environmental Collective at the UrbanKind Institute, she believes that neighborhoods function best when they are provided with equal resourcing opportunities, contain economically thriving businesses and organizations, and are successful at producing and retaining inhabitants, who are prideful of their living spaces and fellow residents. As someone who is passionate about her community, no matter the city, Alyssa has made it her life's mission to work toward making that belief a reality.

Outside of the professional realm, Alyssa remains active in community-oriented events throughout Pittsburgh. She simultaneously chairs and co-chairs the Licensure and Inspection Review and the Invest PGH Review Loan Committee for the City of Pittsburgh and the URA. She holds positions with both the Rebuild Together Pittsburgh and the Kelly Strayhorn Theater board. Additionally, Alyssa's hard work has been acknowledged by many organizations. She has been recognized as a WHIRL Magazine fellow of the 2018 class of 20 in their 20s - Making a Difference within the City of Pittsburgh, as a PUMP's 40 Under 40 honoree, as the Incline's Who's Next in Community Activism, as an honoree in the 2019 Fab 40 cohort, and as a Western PA Rising Star award recipient.

With fresh eyes and ideas, Alyssa is a respected thought-leader who has a clear method of solutioning – Research the issue. Sit at the table to discuss the problem. Set about crafting a fix, with a laser focus on the “Why.” Having found her optimal career fit, perfectly positioned between groundwork and where decisions are made, Alyssa works tirelessly as a catalyst for change.

### **10:30-11:30 Jasiri X**

**Jasiri** is the first independent Hip-Hop artist to be awarded an Honorary Doctorate, which he received from Chicago Theological Seminary in 2016. This recognition grew out of the spiritual/political urgency and artistic vision he shared on songs like “Justice For Trayvon” and “Strange Fruit”, which documented the unjust police killings of young Blacks in the Millennial Generation. Likewise, he has been deeply involved with the national Movement for Black Lives, working with organizations like The Gathering for Justice, Blackout for Human Rights, Justice or Else, BYP100 and Sankofa. Still, he remains rooted in the Pittsburgh based organization he founded, IHood Media, which teaches youth of color how to analyze and create media for themselves. His critically acclaimed album Black Liberation Theology (2015) has been recognized as a soundtrack for today's civil rights movement. He has performed his music from the Smithsonian to the Apollo Theater and has discussed his views on Hip-Hop, race, and politics at leading institutions across the nation, including Harvard University, University of Chicago, NYU, Yale, and Stanford, among others. Beyond his work nationally, Jasiri's focus on social change has also touched the global arena. In 2016, he was commissioned by The Open Society Foundation to travel to Columbia to create a film (War on Us with Grammy Award-winning hip-hop artist Rhymefest) that highlights the international effects of US drug policy in South America. One of the most important political voices of his generation, in 2017 he received the Nathan Cummings Foundation Fellowship to start the IHood Artist Academy. Jasiri is also a recipient of the USA Cummings Fellowship in Music,

the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation Artist as Activist Fellowship and the President's Volunteer Service Award.

**11:30-12:30 Dr. Jonathan Pinckney, United States Institute of Peace**  
**Title of the talk “International Social Movements and Nonviolent Resistance”**

**Biographical Information:** I am a program officer with the Program on Nonviolent Action at the United States Institute of Peace, where I conduct applied research on nonviolent action and its intersections with peacebuilding, countering violent extremism, and democratization.

I am the author of *From Dissent to Democracy: The Promise and Peril of Civil Resistance Transitions*, published by Oxford University Press.

I have previously worked as a post-doctoral research fellow in the department of Sociology and Political Science at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, an external associate at the Peace Research Institution of Oslo (PRIO), and a research fellow at the Sie Cheou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy, where I supervised data collection for the Social Conflict Analysis Database (SCAD) and the Nonviolent and Violent Campaigns and Outcomes (NAVCO) 3.0 data project.

I received my PhD in International Relations from the University of Denver in March 2018, my MA also from the University of Denver in 2014, and my BA in International Affairs from Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts in 2008. I was a 2012 recipient of the Korbel School's Sie Fellowship and a 2016 recipient of the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict's PhD fellowship. Prior to entering graduate school, I worked for study abroad programs in Egypt and India and helped found BIRDS International, an NGO addressing issues of rural poverty in South India. I currently live in Washington DC and enjoy road biking, camping, and mountain climbing.

**12:30-1:30 Lunch Break**

**1:30-2:00: Review of the readings and of the morning speakers**

**Silvia Borzutzky and Shri Ragavan**

**2:00-3:00: Dr. Corinne Ogrodnik, “The Forms and Transformations of Environmental Movements”**

**Reading: “Environmental Movements in Advanced Industrial Democracies: Heterogeneity, Transformation and Institutionalization”**

**Biographical Information:** Corinne holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master’s of Science in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University. Her work focuses on social movements, coalition building and policy change. Corinne received national recognition for her research on the processes of strategic decision-making for environmental organizations operating in contentious policy environments. For the past four years, Corinne has participated in the medical marijuana movement and founded a local medical marijuana organization.

### **Saturday October 9: Presentations**

**No readings assigned**

#### **Presentations**

**9:30 Sarah Perry; Chile’s Feminist Movement (Guest speaker)**

Sarah Perry is an educator, writer, and analyst. Her research interests include social policy in the United States and Latin America, social movements, and climate-driven migration. Sarah is a graduate of Heinz College working at the intersection of policy, data, and technology. She partners with grassroots organizations to design solutions that advance their policy agendas and works with local governments to develop and implement plans to maximize the impact of public funds.

**10:15 Anti-Apartheid Movement: Scout Cheeks (Team leader), Sara Torres, Brittany Pruitt, and Robert Paugh**

**11:00 The Mother’s Movement: Federico Lopez (team leader), Emy Gianan, Anne Jensen, Dilnoza Khudoyberanova.**

**11:45 Black Lives Matter: Naomi Morris (team leader), Jen Andre, Sara Maillacheruvu**

**12:30-1:00 Lunch break**

**1:00-2:30 Environmental presentations**

**Brazil: Alejandro Macias (Team Leader):** Mayle Symonds, Kai-El Denazen Huizenga and Kaitlin Pendrak

**US and Africa or International and Africa: Ethan Gabour (team leader),** Jessica Moo-Youn, Dennis Brink, Michael Stafford and Katt White

**2:30-3:00 Conclusions**

**Sunday October 17:** Reflection paper due before 10:00 PM. Submit via Canvas