

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
POL 344Y SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA
SPRING 2015

Instructor: Professor S. Bashevkin

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 1 to 2 pm or by appointment

Themes: We focus on counter-movements or rival networks in spring term, probing backlash against many of the social movements considered in fall term. Questions to be addressed include why particular counter-movements emerge when they do, what organizational forms they take, and how movements try to hold their ground in the face of counter-movement challenges.

Course requirements and grading scheme are explained in detail in fall outline.

Essay assignment: Instructions follow this outline. Note strictly enforced late penalty. Essays are organized in sequential order: Students must in all cases submit fall essay assignment #1 as a prerequisite for the completion of spring essay assignment #2. Grading regulations are clearly delineated in the Faculty of Arts and Science calendar. Given the highly structured emphasis on class attendance and cross-fertilization across student projects, no other essay or test assignments will be admitted as substitutes for the course requirements outlined on this syllabus.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and will be dealt with accordingly. For further clarification and information on plagiarism, please see the website of Writing at the University of Toronto: www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources

Back up your work: Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work, and to make hard copies of their essays before handing them in to the instructor. These should be retained until the marked assignments have been returned and the grades posted on ROSI.

Late penalty for papers: A late penalty of 3 percentage points per day including Saturdays and Sundays will be assessed for fall and spring essay assignments. Only in rare circumstances will a full or partial waiver of the late penalty be considered, and no extensions will be granted in advance of essay assignment deadlines. Papers not submitted in person to the instructor at the beginning of class on the due date must be

submitted in person to the Department of Political Science staff in Sidney Smith room 3018 during regular business hours, usually between 9 AM and 5 PM on weekdays only. The instructor assumes no responsibility for papers otherwise submitted. No fax or e-mail essay submissions will be accepted.

Spring course textbook has been ordered at the University of Toronto Bookstore. Other readings appear on the portal site for the course.

Required text:

Clifford Bob, *The Global Right Wing and the Clash of World Politics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012).

COURSE SCHEDULE

5 January – Exploring backlash politics

Susan Faludi, *Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women* (New York: Anchor, 1991), chap. 1.

Jane Mansbridge and Shauna L. Shames, "Toward a Theory of Backlash: Dynamic Resistance and the Central Role of Power," *Politics & Gender* 4:4 (December 2008), 623-34.

Sylvia Bashevkin, "Confronting Neo-conservatism: Anglo-American Women's Movements under Thatcher, Reagan and Mulroney," *International Political Science Review* 15:3 (1994), 275-96.

12 January – Pressing back against civil rights

Sara Diamond, *Roads to Dominion: Right-Wing Movements and Political Power in the United States* (New York: Guilford, 1995), chap. 3.

Dominic Sandbrook, *Mad as Hell: The Crisis of the 1970s and the Rise of the Populist Right* (New York: Random House, 2011), chap. 6.

Glenn Kessler, *The Confidante: Condoleezza Rice and the Creation of the Bush Legacy* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2007), 1-19.

19 January – New right politics and women's reproductive health

Rebecca Klatch, *Women of the New Right* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1987), chap. 2.

Cheryl Hyde, "Feminist Social Movement Organizations Survive the New Right," in Myra Marx Ferree and Patricia Yancey Martin, eds., *Feminist Organizations: Harvest of the New Women's Movement* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1995), 306-22.

Rosalind Pollack Petechesky, *Abortion and Women's Choice: The State, Sexuality and Reproductive Freedom* (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 1990), chap. 7.

26 January – Anti-ERA mobilization in the US

Donald T. Critchlow, *Phyllis Schlafly and Grassroots Conservatism: A Woman's Crusade* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005), chap. 9.

Jane J. Mansbridge, *Why We Lost the ERA* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1986), chap. 9.

Tanya Melich, *The Republican War Against Women: An Insider's Report from behind the Lines* (New York: Bantam, 1996), 281-300.

2 February – Challenges to Sexual Diversity Mobilization

Tina Fetner, "Working Anita Bryant: The Impact of Christian Anti-Gay Activism on Lesbian and Gay Movement Claims," *Social Problems* 48:3 (2001), 411-28.

David Rayside, "Cross-Border Parallels at the Political Intersection of Sexuality and Religion," in David Rayside and Clyde Wilcox, eds., *Faith, Politics and Sexual Diversity* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2011), 357-73.

Thomas M. Keck, "Beyond Backlash: Assessing the Impact of Judicial Decisions on LGBT Rights," *Law and Society Review* 43:1 (2009), 151-86.

9 February – Backlash against Environmental Movements **second essay due******

Michael Allan Wolf, "Overtaking the Fifth Amendment: The Legislative Backlash against Environmentalism," *Fordham Environmental Law Journal* 6:3 (1994), 637-60.

Christopher D. Stone, "Is Environmentalism Dead?" *Environmental Law* 38:1 (2008), 19-45.

16 February – Family Day/reading week, no classes

23 February – Backlash on the global stage

Bob, chaps. 1, 2

2 March – Rival networks in the global women’s rights arena

Valerie M. Moghadam, *Globalizing Women: Transnational Feminist Networks* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005), chap 6.

Michelle Goldberg, *The Means of Reproduction: Sex, Power, and the Future of the World* (New York: Penguin, 2009), chap. 6.

Barbara Finlay, *George W. Bush and the War on Women: Turning Back the Clock on Progress* (London: Zed, 2006), 23-41.

9 March – Rival networks: The case of sexual diversity

Bob, chaps. 3, 4

16 March-- Rival networks: The case of gun control & disarmament

Bob, chaps. 5, 6

23 March – Assessing movement/counter-movement conflict

Bob, chap. 7

Staggenborg, chap. 10

30 March -- Spring term test, in class

Spring Essay Assignment

Due 9 February 2015

Answer the following question in an essay of approximately 1250 words (5 double-spaced, typed pages using 12 point font). Note strictly enforced late penalty, explained earlier in this outline. Ensure that you retain back-up copies of all essay submissions.

Develop a coherent and concise response to the following question, using empirical evidence to support your position. Your essay will be assessed with reference to the originality of your work, quality of the argumentation, strength of the evidence assembled to defend that position, facility with key concepts and vocabulary, and ability to address contrary points of view. Students must respond directly to the question using qualitative and/or quantitative evidence; the essay assignment does not involve writing a rhetorical opinion piece or manifesto-style polemic.

Scholars assess social movement impact by gauging whether activists changed public attitudes in important ways, ensured the passage of significant new laws or litigated

successfully in the courts. At the same time, researchers probe how backlash or counter-movements slowed or reversed the gains made by movements.

Focusing on the case of civil rights, LGBTQ rights or women's rights in one country, evaluate whether movement momentum was measurably slowed (or possibly stopped) by a relevant counter-movement. What factors best explain the triumph of movement or counter-movement interests?

Your essay may consider a particular time frame such as the decade from 1980 through 1990. It might concentrate on one element of a movement's larger agenda such as school desegregation in the US in order to examine attitudes, laws and court decisions with respect to that issue. Essays can also examine one or more movement agenda item with respect to a single indicator such as legislation at the national level.