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. Written assignment should be handed in at the start of class on the due date. Note strictly enforced late penalty. Essays are organized in sequential order: Students must in all cases submit the fall reflection paper as a prerequisite for the completion of the spring analytic paper. 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. Students are strongly urged to reserve an early appointment with their college writing centre to ensure essay assignments and test papers reflect high quality writing skills.

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: http://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/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 ACORN.

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.

Submitting work outside of class time: 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, e-mail or portal-based essay submissions will be accepted. All papers must indicate the course code, POL344Y, and Professor Bashevkin’s name on the top sheet.

**Required text:**


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

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

6 January – Exploring backlash politics


13 January – Pressing back against civil rights


20 January – New right politics and women’s reproductive health


27 January – Anti-ERA mobilization in the US


3 February – Challenges to Sexual Diversity Mobilization


10 February – Backlash against Environmental Movements **analytic essay due**


17 February – **Family Day/reading week, no class or office hour**

24 February – Backlash on the global stage
Bob, chaps. 1, 2

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


9 March – Rival networks on sexual diversity, gun control & disarmament
Bob, chaps. 3 - 5
16 March – Assessing movement/counter-movement conflict
Bob, chap. 6, 7
Staggenborg and Ramos, chap. 10

23 March – No class meeting or office hour

30 March – Spring term test, in class

******

Analytic essay assignment, due 10 February
Develop a coherent and concise response to the following question, using empirical evidence from your life experiences to support your position. Your essay will be assessed with reference to the quality of the writing, originality of your work, strength of the argumentation and 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. Try to build your response to this question from the material used in your fall reflection paper in light of theories presented in the Staggenborg and Ramos textbook, chapter 2.

Answer the following question in an essay of about 1250 words including sources and notes (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 your work.

What theory or theories of social movements best explain the impact (or lack of impact) of one or more contemporary social movements on your life? What theory or theories are disconfirmed by your experiences? Be sure to develop your argument using a full set of lecture notes, the Staggenborg and Ramos textbook and other academic sources on social movements. These materials will enable you to gain a firm understanding of social movement theory and its application to empirical cases.