

History 610.090
Fall 2006

Twentieth Century American Social Movements

Dr. Hopkins

Required reading:

Michael Kazin, *The Populist Persuasion*, revised edition

Robert A. Goldberg, *Grassroots Resistance: Social Movements in Twentieth Century America*

Robert C. McMath, Jr., *American Populism: A Social History, 1877-1898*

Michael McGeer, *A Fierce Discontent: The Rise and Fall of the Progressive Movement in America, 1870-1920*

Nancy MacLean, *Behind the Mask of Chivalry: The Making of the Second Ku Klux Klan*

Doug McAdam, *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970*, Second Edition

Myra Marx Ferree & Beth B. Hess, *Controversy and Coalition: The New Feminist Movement Across Four Decades Of Change*, Third Edition

Melvin Small, *Antiwarriors: The Vietnam War and the Battle for America's Hearts and Minds*

George W. Hopkins, "May Day' 1971: Civil Disobedience and the Vietnam Antiwar Movement" [on e-reserve; password: social]

Gregory L. Schneider, *Cadres for Conservatism: Young Americans for Freedom and the Rise of the Contemporary Right* [an e-book available on-line from the college library]

Dan T. Carter, *The Politics of Rage: George Wallace, The Origins of the New Conservatism, and the Transformation of American Politics*, Second Edition

Frances Fox Piven and Richard A. Cloward, "The Structuring of Protest" [on e-reserve; password: social]

Other xeroxed or e-reserve articles; documentary videos

"History is a dialogue in the present with the past about the future."—Douglass G. Adair

This course will focus on American social movements of the last century, which tried to change or to preserve various aspects of society. After exploring the origins and causes of social movements, their dynamics [goals, strategy, tactics as well as leadership, membership, and organizations], their longevity, and causes for their successes and/or failures, we will discuss a variety of major movements of the era. The course will put these movements in appropriate social, political, economic, and cultural contexts. The roles of class, race, ethnicity, gender, region, and other factors will also be considered in these contexts. Theoretical and historiographical issues will be integrated with case studies of these social movements and their impact on society.

Participation and Attendance [25%]: This is a reading and discussion course, not a lecture course. Students are expected to have read the assigned readings before class and be prepared to discuss them, to critique them, and to relate them to other course readings, concepts, and concerns. Thus, informed class participation is important. This course meets once a week; regular attendance is expected. Normally, one excused absence is permitted for a valid, verifiable reason. Unexcused absences may result in a lower grade, or, in extreme cases [three or more unexcused absences], withdrawal from the course. If you miss a class, you are still responsible for the material covered and any changes in assignment or procedure announced in class. Late papers will be significantly penalized, depending on circumstances and how late the paper is.

Literature Reviews [25%]: Students will write brief [2-4 pages], typed [double-spaced] reviews of the assigned reading due that week. Superior reviews will be a combination of summary, critique, and questions on the material covered as well as comparisons and contrasts with other course readings. Reviews will be due at the beginning of each class.

Major Research Paper and Oral Presentation [30%]: Each student will research an individual, group, or organization within a social movement not covered significantly in the course readings. A 20-30 page [plus notes and bibliography], typewritten [double-spaced] paper on a topic approved by the professor will be due near the end of the term. Students will also present a 15-minute oral summary of their research and conclusions to the class.

Final Examination [20%]: A final essay examination will conclude the course.

My office is 304 Joseph P. Riley Jr., Institute of Urban Affairs and Policy Studies, 284 King Street. My office hours are MTWR, 11-11:45 am, and by appointment. Please feel free to discuss any questions you may have about the course. Phone: 953-6108; e-mail is hopkinsg@cofc.edu

The Department of History has unanimously adopted the following policy: “The Honor Code of the College of Charleston specifically forbids cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism. A student found guilty of these offenses will receive a failing grade in the course. Additional penalties may include suspension or expulsion from the College at the discretion of the Honor Board. See the *College of Charleston Student Handbook* for definitions of the offenses.” Avoid all this by doing your own work—you’ll learn more as well as getting a grade.

Structure of the course: the following topics will be **discussed** on the days indicated. You should finish the assigned reading **before** each class to enable you to participate effectively in the discussion.

| Date | Topic | Assignment |
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| 8/23 | Introduction to the seminar | Think about paper topic |
| 8/30 | Library Resource Trip, 4-5 pm; meet in the lobby of the new library; afterward, we’ll discuss Theories and Models of Social Movements | Goldberg, 1-17; McAdam, xliii-64, then vii-xxxvii; Piven and Cloward, xix-40, then ix-xvii; Ferree and Hess, 1-2, 25-51, then vi-xxii; Schneider, 1-3, 177-182; Carter, 715; Kazin, 1-7, 291-292; MacLean, xi-xvii; Smalls, 1-9. |
| 9/6 | Populism, Capitalism, and Democracy: Farmers’ Revolt | Kazin, 8-46; McMath, all. |
| 9/13 | Progressivism: Social Reform and Social Control | Kazin, 48-106; Goldberg, 18-77; McGerr, all. |
| 9/20 | 1920s and the Second Ku Klux Klan; Prohibition & More | Goldberg, 65-90; MacLean, all. |
| 9/27 | 1930s: CIO and Civil Rights for Workers; CPUSA | Kazin, 134-163; Goldberg, 91-115; research paper proposals. |
| 10/4 | 1930s: Huey Long, Father Coughlin, Dr. Townsend | Kazin, 108-133; film and discussion; paper proposal and sample bibliography due |
| 10/11 | Cold War Right: Dixiecrats, McCarthyism, John Birch Society; Black Insurgency, 1876-1954 | Kazin, 164-193; Goldberg, 116-140; McAdam, 65-116. |

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| 10/18 | Civil Rights, Black Power, and White Backlash | McAdam, 66-234; Goldberg, 141-166; film and discussion. |
| 10/25 | New Left and Anti-Vietnam War Movement | Kazin, 195-218; Goldberg, 167-192; Smalls, all; Hopkins, all; film and discussion. |
| 11/1 | Second Wave of Feminism/Rise of Gay and Lesbian Movement | Ferree and Hess, 52-193; film and discussion. |
| 11/8 | From YAF, Goldwater, and Wallace to New Right and Reagan | Carter, 17-474; Kazin, 221-268; Schneider, all |
| 11/15 | Class Presentations | PAPERS DUE!!! |
| 11/22 | Thanksgiving Break | |
| 11/29 | Class Presentations; Social Movements: Legacies and Lessons | Ferree & Hess, 194-231; Goldberg, 218-235; Kazin, 268-290 |