

Dr. Woliver
GINT 368, FALL 1997

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GINT 368: INTEREST GROUPS AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

University of South Carolina - Columbia

Dr. Woliver

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-Office Hours: 8:00 to 9:15 and 11 to 12 a.m, Tuesday and Thursday & by appointment. Feel free to make separate appointments with me, if my office hours are not convenient for you.

-Class meetings: 9:30 to 10:45, Tuesday and Thursday.

Course Objectives: This course will introduce the student to the theories, approaches and controversies concerning the politics of interest groups and social movements. We will study questions of mobilization and quiescence, tactics, organization and results. The reading will cover the basic theories, the debates over the theories, and application of the theories to empirical studies of groups and social movements in action.

Requirements: Two midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. Students must also write one paper (see below for details about the three options on the paper).

Midterm #1: 15% of grade. Tuesday, Sept. 16
Midterm #2: 30% of grade. Thursday, Oct. 30
Class presentation on paper: 5% of grade. December 2 or 4.
Paper: 25% of grade. Last day to preapprove paper topic:
Thursday, Sept. 25. PAPERS DUE Thursday, Dec.
4.
Final: 25% of grade. Tuesday, December 9, 9 a.m.

Attendance will be taken every day, and your absences recorded. This is important for course records and for periodic reports requested by campus scholarship officials (the Athletics Office, for example). In addition, attendance is required. More than five absences will result in a 10% reduction in your final grade. Chronic lateness will count as absences.

PAPER: There are three options for the paper assignment.

Option #1: You are to write an eight to ten page, typed paper about an interest group, social movement, or movement/group leader of your choice. Your choice, however, needs to be preapproved by me by Tuesday, October 8th, at the latest. No two students may research the exact same interest group, or group leader. Your paper (this is very important) should integrate the readings and discussions in class to your study of the group or individual you study. Your paper should use proper footnoting and referencing, and display extensive library research. We will talk about the paper and short class presentations more during class.

Option #2: As an alternative research paper, you may start an interest group of your own or participate in an interest group and write about your experiences. This must also be preapproved by me by Tuesday, October 8th, at the latest. In your paper link your study to theories and research we have discussed in class. An alternative paper writer, let me stress again, must also discuss how the group or movement relates to theories and research studied in class. If you are working for a group, as part of your grade determination, I will call another responsible person in the group to verify the work that you are doing.

Option #3: You may choose to do a group paper. It is best if the group is no more than four people. The group may divide up the work as it sees fit, and turn in a group written and group researched paper. The group paper, however, must be 15-20 pages long. The same requirements for paper option #1 apply to the group paper with regards to library work, footnoting, referencing, and integration of theories and concepts from our reading into the paper. For the group paper, the group must also give a group presentation to the class on their project, telling about the interest or movement or leader studied, how it was studied, and the findings. Group papers will be graded by an average of my grade of the final paper (70%), and the group's own grade (30%) given to each member of the group by the whole group, based on the share of the workload each member of the group did, and the quality of the work of each member. I will discuss in more detail how to do the group grade by group members with individual groups during the semester. Groups & topics must be preapproved by Sept 25th.

I am happy to discuss papers with you before you officially turn them in. Come by during my office hours or make a separate appointment if you would like some help with your paper or want to go over your ideas with me.

* Please Note: You may turn in the paper earlier than the due date. Late papers will be marked down one entire letter grade.

Exams: Exams will be short identification and essays. If you must miss an exam for any reason, you must alert me to this fact before the exam. You must present to me a doctor's excuse or a written explanation for missing an exam. Make up exams will be more difficult than the original exam and will be scheduled for the next day the class meets. If these requirements are not met, a grade of "F" (zero points) will be recorded for the missed exam.

GRADES: Performance will be calculated from the above requirements. Failure to complete the assignments (this includes the paper) will result in an "F" for your semester grade. I reserve the prerogative to reward student participation and demonstrated grade improvement on semester grades. It is very important to keep up with the reading assignments and to work on your papers steadily during the semester (not just the day before they are due). If you have any questions about the readings, lectures, discussions or papers, do not hesitate to see me. Make an appointment if the posted office hours do not fit your schedule.

READINGS: REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. Berry, Jeffrey. THE INTEREST GROUP SOCIETY. New York: Longman, Third Edition, 1997.
2. McAdam, Doug. POLITICAL PROCESS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF BLACK INSURGENCY, 1930 - 1970. (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1982).
3. McGlen, Nancy E. and Karen O'Connor. WOMEN, POLITICS, AND AMERICAN SOCIETY. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 1995.
4. Shabecoff, Philip. A FIERCE GREEN FIRE: THE AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT. New York: Hill and Wang, 1993.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS, EXAMS AND DISCUSSIONS

Thursday, August 21: Introduction. Pluralist theory, elite theory, class theory, & their critics. No reading.

Tuesday, August 26: Berry, chapters 1 & 2

Thursday, August 28: Berry, chapters 1 & 2, continued. (American

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Political Science Convention)

Tuesday, September 2: Berry, chapters 3, 4, 5, 6

Thursday, September 4: Berry, chapters 7, 8, & 9

Tuesday, September 9: Berry chapter 10; and documentary, "Uprising of '34" Part I.

Thursday, September 11: Grass-roots politics & unions, continued. "Uprising of '34" Part II. Recommended for further interest: Woliver, Laura R. FROM OUTRAGE TO ACTION: THE POLITICS OF GRASSROOTS DISSENT. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1993.

Tuesday, September 16: EXAM #1; 15% OF GRADE.

Thursday, September 18: McAdam, chapters 1, 2 & 3

Tuesday, September 23: McAdam, chapters 1, 2, & 3, cont. and 4

Thursday, September 25: McAdam chapters 5 & 6. Recommended for further interest: Fowler, Robert Booth and Allen D. Hertzke. RELIGION AND POLITICS IN AMERICA: FAITH, CULTURE, AND STRATEGIC CHOICES. Boulder, Co.: Westview Press, 1995. *** Last day to preapprove paper options and topics.

Tuesday, September 30: McAdam 7 & 8 & segment from documentary "Eyes on the Prize".

Thursday, October 2: McAdam 9.

Tuesday, October 7: McGlen and O'Connor, Introduction, chap 1 & 2.

Thursday, October 9: McGlen and O'Connor, 3 & 4.

Tuesday, October 14: FALL BREAK.

Thursday, October 16: McGlen and O'Connor, 5.

Tuesday, October 21: McGlen and O'Connor, 5 cont. and 6.

Thursday, October 23: McGlen & O'Connor, 6, cont.

Tuesday, October 28: McGlen & O'Connor, chapter 7.

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Thursday, October 30: EXAM #2; 30% of grade.

Tuesday, November 4: Shabecoff, Preface, chapters 1 & 2.

Thursday, November 6: Shabecoff, continued chap. 1 & 2. (Southern Political Science Convention)

Tuesday, November 11: Shabecoff, chapters 3 & 4.

Thursday, November 13: Shabecoff, chapters 5, 6, 7

Tuesday, November 18: Shabecoff, chapters 8 & 9

Thursday, November 20: Shabecoff, chapters 10 & 11

Tuesday, November 25: Shabecoff, chapters 12 & 13.

Thursday, November 27: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

Tuesday, December 2: Presentations.

Thursday, December 4: Presentations. PAPERS DUE.

Tuesday, December 9: 9 a.m. Final Exam. Bring Blue Books.