SOCI3050

Activism and Social Change

Session 1, Online-scheduled-weekday 2024

Macquarie School of Social Sciences

Contents

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor, Lecturer, Tutor and Online Tutor
Justine Lloyd
justine.lloyd@mq.edu.au

Lecturer
Amanda Wise
amanda.wise@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
130cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
Social movements are an important presence in contemporary societies. How are they organised? Why do they emerge? What shapes their development? This unit provides a framework for answering these questions. It focuses on both the history of social activism, including campaigns like the suffragettes and civil rights movement through to the Arab Spring and climate campaigning; as well as prominent theories and concepts for understanding the rise and success of social movements. As part of the assessment students will examine a contemporary campaign, looking first-hand at how movements organise and evaluating their success. This unit also allows students to progress to a PACE unit where they have the opportunity to work in a placement with a social change organisation.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: identify the major theories developed to explain social movements

ULO2: evaluate strengths and weaknesses of dominant theories

ULO3: apply social movement theory to contemporary Australian and international movements

ULO4: analyse strategic and ethical problems that arise in the quest for political change

ULO5: reflect on practical realities of social movements through analysis of activities of social movements and social movement organisations

ULO6: design and execute primary research on a particular social movement campaign

General Assessment Information

Information about Late Penalties applied in FoA units

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, **a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends)**.

After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted.

Submission time for all non-timed written assessments (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc) is set at 11.55pm.

A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue. Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams/quizzes, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Reading Reflection	20%	Yes	Week 4: Due 17/3 11:55pm
Campaign Analysis Outline	20%	No	Week 8: due 14/4 11:55pm
Campaign Analysis	40%	No	Week 13: due 2/6 11:55pm
Workshop/online discussion participation	20%	No	Ongoing

Reading Reflection

Assessment Type [1]: Summary
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 12 hours
Due: **Week 4: Due 17/3 11:55pm**
Weighting: **20%**
This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

This task requires students to answer a question in relation to their weekly responses to readings from the first part of the unit. See Ilearn for more information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- identify the major theories developed to explain social movements
- evaluate strengths and weaknesses of dominant theories

Campaign Analysis Outline

Assessment Type [1]: Plan
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 16 hours
Due: **Week 8: due 14/4 11:55pm**
Weighting: **20%**

Campaign Analysis Outline: Short plan (750 words) plus reference list for campaign analysis

On successful completion you will be able to:

- apply social movement theory to contemporary Australian and international movements
- analyse strategic and ethical problems that arise in the quest for political change
- reflect on practical realities of social movements through analysis of activities of social movements and social movement organisations
- design and execute primary research on a particular social movement campaign

Campaign Analysis

Assessment Type [1]: Report
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 40 hours
Due: **Week 13: due 2/6 11:55pm**
Weighting: **40%**

Campaign Analysis: Written Report (2000wds) OR Conference Presentation (8-10mins) plus abstract (250-500wds)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- evaluate strengths and weaknesses of dominant theories
- apply social movement theory to contemporary Australian and international movements

- analyse strategic and ethical problems that arise in the quest for political change
- reflect on practical realities of social movements through analysis of activities of social movements and social movement organisations
- design and execute primary research on a particular social movement campaign

Workshop/online discussion participation

Assessment Type [1]: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 12 hours
Due: **Ongoing**
Weighting: **20%**

Students will participate in a range of preparatory and/or in-class learning activities throughout the session, including taking notes on weekly readings to prepare for tutorials and/or posting in response to discussion questions online. Students are required to actively discuss their responses to these required readings in class or online and within on-campus sessions. Refer to iLearn for further information

On successful completion you will be able to:

- identify the major theories developed to explain social movements
- evaluate strengths and weaknesses of dominant theories
- apply social movement theory to contemporary Australian and international movements
- analyse strategic and ethical problems that arise in the quest for political change
- reflect on practical realities of social movements through analysis of activities of social movements and social movement organisations

---

[1] If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

[2] Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Faculty of Arts: Late Assessment Submission Penalty Policy

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the

7th day (including weekends).

After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted.

Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl. essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). **Late submission of time sensitive tasks** (such as tests/ exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc.) w**ill only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Outcomes of Special Consideration requests may include students being set a new question or topic.**

Unit Schedule

Semester week	Week starting	Topics
1	Monday, 19 February 2024	Course introduction and overview
2	Monday, 26 February 2024	A brief history of social action in Australia
3	Monday, 4 March 2024	Social Movement Theories
4	Monday, 11 March 2024	Mass politics, mass organising
5	Monday, 18 March 2024	Participatory research (i.e. methods for the final assignment)
6	Monday, 25 March 2024	New' Social Movements
7	Monday, 1 April 2024	Direct Action and Non-violence
8	Monday, 8 April 2024	Global Justice
	Mid semester break	
	Mid semester break	
9	Monday, 29 April 2024	Thinktanks, Corporations and Social Movements
10	Monday, 6 May 2024	New Media, New Strategies
11	Monday, 13 May 2024	drop-in clinic (consultations on final assignments)
12	Monday, 20 May 2024	Student Conference
13	Monday, 27 May 2024	Student Conference

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://policie s.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy

- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Assessment Procedure
- Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy

Students seeking more policy resources can visit Student Policies (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the search tool.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe academic integrity – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing and maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

The Writing Centre

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- Workshops
- Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
- Access StudyWISE

- Upload an assignment to Studiosity
- Complete the Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of Student Support Services including:

- IT Support
- Accessibility and disability support with study
- Mental health support
- Safety support to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues
- Student Advocacy provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via AskMQ, or contact Service Connect.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Unit information based on version 2024.01 of the Handbook