

Department .: Sociology

Course number : Soci 227W

Title : Revolutionary Social Movements Around the World

Credits : 3

Contact Person : Brad Wright

Catalog Copy : Soci 227. Revolutionary Social Movements Around the World. Either Semester. Three credits . One 3-hour class per week. Open to sophomores or higher. DeFronzo. Lectures and documentary films on the Russian, Chinese, Vietnamese, Cuban, and Nicaraguan revolutions and movements in South Africa and the Middle East.

Soci 227W. Revolutionary Social Movements Around the World. Prerequisite: Engl 110 or 111 or 250. Open to sophomores or higher.

W Criteria :

1) SOC 227 W students are required to write a 20-page paper on a topic related to revolutionary movements. The paper grade is 40% of the total course grade, and students must pass the writing component of the course to pass the course. This will be indicated on the syllabus.

For the paper, students take the principles and theories learned in the course and apply them to revolutions not covered in depth during the lectures. This application increases their knowledge of the theories, and it allows them to develop more critical thinking skills as they apply the theories. It also broadens their knowledge of social revolutions. This past summer, paper topics by individual students included the French Revolution, the Fascist Movements in Italy and Argentina, the Czech Revolution, a paper on the childhood and developmental psychology of Lenin and how these possibly affected the Russian Revolution, and other topics. For example, while the text and the course discuss political revolution in Eastern Europe in the 1980s and 1990s in general, and the Solidarity Movement in Poland in particular, one student decided to explore a different Eastern European Revolution, the Czech Revolution, in her paper.

2) While portions of a couple class periods will be devoted to writing instruction, most of the feedback given to students will happen in the written comments on the first draft of the W papers. Also, some students request additional person to person assistance in researching, organizing and/or writing their papers.

3) All students are required to submit two versions of their papers. About two-thirds of the way through the course, the first typed drafts or versions are submitted. I read and make written comments on these and return them for revision. Then I grade the revised versions that are due usually at the second to last class meeting of the course.

Role of Grad Students : None