SENSOR GUIDELINES SOSGEO4801 V2026

1. Choose a social movement that you will use as a case. Give a short description of the movement and discuss its strategies for mobilization, communication and influence.

Students are expected to choose between the movements covered in the class (anti-autocratic movements, the gay/queer movement, the antiracist movement, the environmental/climate movement, solidarity movements with Palestine, and right-wing populist or extremist movements) or select another movement. After a short description of the selected movement, preferably with reference to context/time, they shall discuss strategies for mobilization (e.g. frames, resources, alliances), communication (e.g. use of mass and social media, demonstrations, petitions), and influence (e.g. media, emotions, tactics). These various strategies are broadly covered in Staggenburg as well as in the empirical articles demonstrating how strategies are used and evaluated among social movement constituencies and audiences. A good answer here (A or B) will demonstrate overview of central themes and concepts in the course and the ability to use theory with regard to one specific movement.

2. Choose one of the two attached articles from The Conversation. Discuss the text with reference to relevant social movement concepts and theories from the course.

The two articles are attached to the exam questions. Their titles are respectively: A) *Climate change: Radical activism benefits social movements – and history shows why* by Heather Alberro, and B) *White and Black activists worked strategically in parallel in Detroit 50 years ago, fighting for civil rights* by Say Burgin. Both articles are research-based and point to central themes in social movement literature. In discussing A, students may for example relate to literature about emotions, media strategies and different action repertoires in movements. In choosing example B, literature on collective identities and identity dilemmas, intersectionality, and spatiality could serve as relevant. A good answer to this question is recognized by the student being able to pick up on the central aspect of the article and discuss its message by the use of relevant concepts and theories from the course.

3. Discuss how social movements use space and illustrate this with examples from two movements.

Students are expected to show some familiarity with key concepts of spatiality, especially place, scale and networks, and to provide a discussion of how movements use these to build a movement and achieve its goals. This could for example be done by linking key themes and processes in social movements to spatiality, for example the role of place, scale and networks in collective identity, framing, media communication, alliance-building, political advocacy and influence. The answer can draw on the lectures and course literatures that explicitly discuss spatiality, while examples can be found or elaborated from the different movement cases covered in the course. A good answer will show both a broad overview and understanding of the role of space for social movements, and an ability to provide good examples from two specific social movements.