

EVALUATION SOSGEO4801 spring 2026

The evaluation was done in the last meeting where students were given a paper to describe what they saw and strong and weaker elements in the course. We had a group discussion following this. In general, there was positive feedback and much enthusiasm to the course, to the lecturers, and to the structure of the course starting with theoretical orientations before delving into specific movements. The students were happy with the lecturers as experts on social movements in different fields, and the combination of lectures and group discussions in the course, although some students wished for longer lectures and more time-efficient group discussions. They also appreciated the relevance of this course to understand present political conditions and saw the guest lecture (meeting a movement) with Line Khateb from the Palestine Committee as very instructive. Most were positive to the specific movements discussed in the course, while some wanted to also include indigenous movements and labor movements in the curriculum.

What could be improved, according to the students, is a better integration of theory and cases throughout the course, and to place social movements in a wider terrain of politics and civil society. The lectures on the different social movements should relate more to the central theoretical concepts and traditions in the course and illustrate different theoretical perspectives on specific cases. Many also commented on the loose structure of the group discussions and wished for the lecturers to actively engage in discussions that moved away from the central arguments in the curriculum. There were also some critical comments to the main teaching book, which was described as summary and little engaging. Some also wished more literature from other countries (e.g. France, Germany) and other regions (Asia, Latin America, Africa).

We will take these comments into consideration when planning the course, readings, and lectures for 2027.