

Callum Ingram
callumingram@depauw.edu
Office hours: Mon. & Wed., 11:30am-1pm
Office hours location: Asbury Hall 107

Spring 2016
POLS 390C
Tuesday, 12:40-3:30
Location: EC 115

Cities and Social Movements

Recent years have seen increasing media attention to urban social movements: political mobilizations that are distinctly tied to the cities and spaces where they take place. From Istanbul's Gezi Park protests and the Egyptian Revolution's occupation of Tahrir Square, to the Baltimore Uprising, Ferguson protests, Hong Kong's Umbrella Revolution, and the encampments of the Occupy movement, urban spaces are vital to contemporary social movements and political expression. At the same time, however, cities are increasingly shaped by forces that lie outside the control of their residents: global corporations privatize public space; distant government representatives and bureaucrats shape urban policy; city residents appear increasingly disaffected, disempowered, and disinterested in their communities and municipal affairs. Thus, while many social movements use the urban environment to build momentum and make claims against state, economic, and cultural institutions, these actions take place against a far less politically vital urban fabric.

With this in mind, the goal of this course is to think through a number of challenges, tensions, and possibilities that accompany political movements situated in contemporary cities. From the shifting geographies of capital and governance, to the roles of contention, architecture, violence, emotion, and aesthetics in modern democracy, many disciplines and methods can help us start to think through the political life of contemporary urbanism. This semester we will read works written by activists, philosophers, architects, urban planners, historians, artists, whatever Karl Marx was, and even political scientists in trying to think through the relationship of cities and social movements.

Required Texts

All of this course's readings will be made available to you electronically in the form of .pdf documents posted on the course's webpage. It's free (unless you want to print them)!

We are going to try two risky things this semester. First, you will be allowed to bring readings to class on your laptop, iPad, Kindle, or whatever other electronic device you prefer. We all have to learn how to participate in a discussion with a glowing screen in front of us. That's just the world we live in. That said, I reserve the right to shift us back to the printed word if this proves too distracting (if you are having problems with other students surfing the internet during class, slip an anonymous note under my office door and I'll issue a warning). Second, we will have less reading than many seminar courses (generally around 100 pages/week, opposed to the typical theory seminar load of 200 pages/week). You should know that this is a trap: the reduction in pages corresponds to higher standards for reading comprehension. Take your time with the pages assigned!

Classroom Expectations

A good classroom environment takes work from everyone. This is particularly important in a discussion-based class in which everyone will be expected to participate on a weekly basis. Those of us who tend to speak up more than others may need to consciously step back and allow other people a chance to contribute. Those of us who tend to be more reserved or hesitant may need to

make efforts to share our thoughts in order to do our part in the classroom. Every respectful voice helps us all learn more, and I will expect you to behave accordingly.

In order to establish a good classroom environment, I hope to observe a few guidelines:

- Come to every class. I'm not going to be a fastidious attendance taker but it's going to help everyone's comprehension (and your final grade!) to have you there and engaged.
- Bring all assigned materials to every class.
- We will start with the assumption that we will not have to raise hands before we speak in class. If this does not feel necessary, we can reassess.
- Snacks.

Assignments and Assessments

Your final grade for the course will be calculated based on five assessments:

1. Object lesson – 15%
2. Micro-responses – 10%
3. Midterm blog – 25%
4. 8-10 page final project – 25%
5. Discussion participation and attendance – 25%

Object lessons

Every student will be responsible for an in-class presentation. Presentations should aim to:

1. Find an individual space, social movement action, or event from a social movement that is relevant to the week's readings, then present it to the class.
2. Present two or three questions for class discussion that build off the week's readings.
3. Do this in less than ten minutes (really, it's pretty low-key).

Micro-responses

Every class, I'll ask for you to do the following: bring a sheet of paper with a two questions and one observation about the week's readings. The questions can be either of comprehension or for discussion, while the observation should just be a point that you can imagine sharing with the class if it gets awkward and no one is saying anything.

Five times over the course of the semester, I'll collect these responses. They will be graded on a generous pass/fail basis. Basically, if you show up having done the readings, with something relevant written about them, and repeat this each time I collect them, you'll ace this section of the course. Think of it as a free A for 10% of your grade just for showing up and having something to say.

Midterm blog

Details forthcoming.

Class Schedule

Week 1 – February 2: The Moral Terrain (68 pages + 49 to skim)

Miller and Nicholls, "Social Movements in Urban Society: The City as a Space of Politicization" (22 pages)

Tilly, Charles. "Social Movements as Politics," *Social Movements, 1768-2004* (16 pages)
Redux, "The Do-it-Yourself Occupation Guide" (30 easy pages)
SKIM: Ecodefence, "A Fieldguide to Monkeywrenching" (49 easy pages)

Week 2 – February 9: Urban theory (110 pages)

Brenner, Neil. "What is Critical Urban Theory?" (11 pages).
Lefebvre, Henri, "From the City to the Urban Society," *The Urban Revolution* (22 pages)
Soja, Edward. "The Socio-Spatial Dialectic." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* (20 pages).
Young, Iris Marion, "City Life and Difference," *Justice and the Politics of Difference* (34 pages)
Bickford, Susan. "Constructing Inequality." *Political Theory* (23 pages)

Week 3 – February 16: Social movement studies 1 (121 pages)

McAdam, Doug. *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency 1930-1970*, selection (66 pages)
Castells, Manuel. *Networks of Outrage and Hope*, selection (55 pages)

Week 4 – February 23: Social movement studies 2 (109 pages)

Tarrow, Sydney, *Power in Movement*, selections (109 pages)

Week 5 – March 1: The Democratic Life of Violence (93 pages)

Tilly, Charles. "Varieties of Violence" (27 pages)
Mouffe, Chantal. *The Democratic Paradox*, selections (66 pages)

Week 6 – March 8: Transgression & Possession (126 pages)

Holston, James *Insurgent Citizenship*, selections (126 pages)

Week 7 – March 15: The Right to the City (97 pages)

Harvey, David. "The Right to the City," *The New Left Review* (18 pages)
Purcell, Mark. "The Right to the City and the Urban Politics of the Inhabitant" (10 pages)
de Souza, Marcelo Lopes. "Which right to which city? In defence of political-strategic clarity" (19 pages)
Fenster, Tovi. "The Right to the City and Gendered Everyday Life" (12 pages)
de Certeau, Michel, *The Practice of Everyday Life*, selections (38 pages)

Week 8 – March 22

SPRING BREAK!

Week 9 – March 29: The Modernization of Paris (107 pages)

Harvey, David, *Paris Capital of Modernity*, selections (51 pages)
Clark, TJ, *The Painting of Modern Life*, selections (58 pages)

Week 10 – April 5: The Paris Commune of 1871 (97 pages)

Merriman, John, *Massacre: The Life and Death of the Paris Commune of 1871*, selections (58 pages + pictures!)
Paris Commune, "Make Way for the People! Make Way for the Commune! by The Paris Commune 1870" (2 pages)
Paris Commune, "Manifesto of the Paris Commune" (4 pages)

Gould, Roger V. "Multiple Networks and Mobilization in the Paris Commune, 1871," *American Sociological Review* (14 pages)

Marx, Karl, "The Civil War in France" (19 pages)

Week 11 – April 12: Black Panther Party (29 pages)

Situationist International, "The 1965 Watts Riots" (7 pages)

Newton, Huey, "Intercommunalism" (7 pages)

Tyner, James. "Defend the Ghetto': Space and the Urban Politics of the Black Panther Party" (15 pages)

"The Black Power Mixtape." Documentary (to be watched in class)

Week 12 – April 19: Women's Movements and Cities (102 pages)

Polletta, *Freedom is an Endless Meeting*, selections (56 pages)

Joreen, "The Tyranny of Structurelessness" (12 pages)

Low, Martina, "The Social Construction of Space and Gender" (15 pages)

Hayden, Dolores, "What Would a Non-Sexist City Be Like? Speculations on Housing, Urban Design, and Human Work" (19 pages)

Week 13 – April 26: Arab Spring (92 pages)

Paraskevas, "Tahrir Square and Haussmann's Paris: Physical Manifestations of Political Doctrines" (9 pages)

Cosmopolitan Scum, "On the urban character of the Arab Spring" (6 pages)

Elshahed, "Tahrir Square: Social Media, Public Space" (16 pages)

Castells, Manuel. "The Egyptian Revolution" and "Dignity, Violence, and Geopolitics" (61 pages)

Week 14 – May 3: Ferguson and the Architecture of Black Lives Matter (87 pages)

Hayward, Clarissa, "The Difference States Make: Democracy, Identity, and the American City," (14 pages)

Rothstein, Richard, "The Making of Ferguson" (41 pages)

Zeiger, Mimi, "Why have architects and designers been so quiet about America's recent clashes over race and police violence?" (3 pages)

Knoblauch, Joy, "Defensible Space and the Open Society" (8 pages)

Ford, Derek R., "Air and the Politics of Resistance" (6 pages)

Fields, Darell W., "Toward a Black Formalism" (6 pages)

Davis II, Charles, "Black Spaces Matter" (9 pages)

Week 15 – May 10: TBD (Umbrella Revolution?)

FINAL PROJECT DUE: MAY 16