

## Schedule, syllabus and examination date

### Choose semester

- [Autumn 2019](#)

## Course content

Migration and diversity are high on the agenda of political debate in Europe today. In this course, we take a closer look at how collective action and political protest have related to these themes in earlier times and today. Although most of the research texts in the course will deal with collective action motivated by structural positions and identities related to class, ethnicity, religion, anti-racism, nationalism and diversity, we open for students wanting to focus on other themes such as for example climate, environment or anti-capitalism.

How do activists identifying with queer, feminist, and class-based movements relate to an increasing diversity in terms of ethnicity, religion, and "race" in possible "constituencies"? Do we see an increase in intersectional frames and mobilization efforts in feminist, nationalist and anti-racist movements, or, respectively in labor unions and religious movements? How do right-wing populism and extremism frame their messages and build organizations? And, how do ethnic, racial and religious minorities relate to transnational movements and political protest? Does political mobilization in the diaspora foremost relate to local or national interests in home countries, or to other identities and interests such as gender, sexuality, religion and anti-racism?

These, and similar questions, are central in this course, which uses sociological theory about social movements and empirical research on collective action and protest. The development of social movement theory over time, and different perspectives within the field, constitutes the theoretical core in the course. The analytical focus, however, is on empirical research on anti-racist, religious, ethnic and nationalist protest and movements and on intersectionality within and between movements. We will focus specifically on identity dilemmas in the so-called identity movements and their changing character and constituencies since the 1960s. Both organized and more spontaneous forms of cultural and political contention and communication via different media will be covered in the course.

Students will learn about democratization and political protest in a sociological perspective, based in the international social movement and mobilization literature.

## Learning outcome

### Knowledge

- Provide examples of different social movements and various approaches to explain them. Explain how migration and diversity today constitutes new challenges for old social movements and for new efforts at social change in the Western world.
- Be able to argue for and against the suitability of different methodological designs in concrete studies of social movements related to diversity and migration  
Understand both the need for and challenges to different

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~~methodological designs in the study of social movements related to diversity and migration;~~

- The course will contribute to a theoretically grounded understanding of social change and ~~new forms of~~ collective action in diverse societies. The course provides a good foundation for working on a thesis concerning the study of mobilization and political contention.

#### **Skills**

- Critically read and discuss academic studies of how different statuses and identities relate to collective action and political contention before and today.
- Be able to demonstrate the role of social movements for societal change.
- Leading seminars and present the theme of the day by using film, video and/or media debates.
- ~~Ability to create good and limited research questions and answer them Use different theories when discussing concrete empirical cases;~~
- Develop skills for oral and written presentation of knowledge and competencies;

#### **Competences**

- Ability to explain how movements in the field of migration and diversity differ from movements based on for example gender and class identities. linkages between diverse phenomena related to mobilization, migration and diversity
- Capacity to understand complex empirical issues from multiple theoretical perspectives
- Improved capacity for self-reflection and self-awareness
- Ability to write academic essays in new fields of theoretical and empirical knowledge.
- Understanding of how to engage with migration and diversity related politics from a knowledge-based perspective

**formaterte:** Skrift: 12 pkt, Mønster: Klart

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**formaterte:** Norsk (bokmål)

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