This course will examine the main approaches to the study of social movements over the last forty years, with an emphasis on theoretical assumptions rather than on empirical or methodological aspects.

Each student will also read an empirical study, selected from the list below. Weekly memos will address the applicability of the readings to that case, using empirical evidence to launch an evaluation of the approach. I have tried to pick case studies that are relatively free from heavy theoretical selection of the materials presented. Let me know if you have other cases you would prefer to use. You need to start reading these immediately.

Taylor Branch, *Parting the Waters*. (On the civil rights movement)
Craig Calhoun, *Neither Gods nor Emperors*. (Chinese student movement)
David Meyer, *Winter of our Discontent*. (The freeze movement)
Jonathan Rieder, *Canarsie*. (Backlash against affirmative action and civil rights)
Nancy Whittier, *Feminist Generations*.

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**Week 1. Economic Models, Rational Individuals.**


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**Week 2. Resource Mobilization Models: Political and Economic Versions.**


Week 4. Cultural Identity Processes in "New Social Movements."


Week 5. Dissatisfaction with Dominant Models; Efforts at Synthesis.


