POLS 261: Global Civil Society  
(Fall 2016)  
M/W 9:00 – 10:30 AM, Chase 101

Professor Craig Borowiak  
Office Hours: Tu 2:30-4pm (or by appt.)  
Office: Hall 214

This course will introduce you to key concepts and frameworks for understanding global civil society, transnational activism, and international social movements. We will explore alternative theoretical frameworks and traditions related to civil society and how globalization is impacting both the meaning and practices of civil society. And we will study numerous case studies of transnational activism, ranging from campaigns for human rights and climate justice to the Occupy Wall Street and Arab Spring movements. Our readings will draw from both classic texts as well as from more recent social science scholarship. The first half of the semester will be more theoretical and will focus on key concepts such civil society, social capital, social networks, social movements, and transnational networks. The second half of the semester will focus more on empirical case studies of transnational activism and their ethical and political complexities. The course will conclude with extensive discussion of new social media technologies and their impacts on transnational mobilization.

Course Aims:  
- Understanding the genealogy of the civil society concept and its various meanings across theoretical frameworks  
- Ability to apply theoretical concepts to contemporary movements  
- Understanding how globalization and media technologies have transformed civil society and cross-border activism, as well as government reactions to such activism  
- Acquisition of analytic tools for studying transnational social activism, including familiarity with distinctions between NGOs, advocacy networks, and social movements  
- Familiarity with many of the most important transnational activist events of the past 25 years  
- Understanding how various power relations and social hierarchies are manifest in the politics of international NGOs

Assignments/Requirements (each must be completed to pass the course):  
- Regular Attendance /Active Participation  
- Weekly reading reflections (One page or less. Due in class period of your choice each week)  
- Take-Home Midterm Exam  
- Mapping Issue Advocacy Assignment (5 pages)  
- Research Proposal (350-700 words)  
- Final research paper (12-15 pages)

Books for Purchase:  
- Sidney Tarrow, The New Transnational Activism (Cambridge, 2005)  
- Manuel Castells, Networks of Courage and Hope: Social Movements in the Internet Age (Polity, 2012)  
- Clifford Bob, The Global Right Wing and the Clash of World Politics (Cambridge, 2012)  
- Peter Dauvergne and Genevieve LeBaron, Protest, Inc.: The Corporatization of Activism (Polity, 2014)
NOTE:
Haverford College is committed to supporting the learning process for all students. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are having difficulties in the course. There are also many resources on campus available to you as a student, including the Office of Academic Resources (https://www.haverford.edu/oar/) and the Office of Access and Disabilities Services (https://www.haverford.edu/ads/). If you think you may need accommodations because of a disability, please contact Sherrie Borowsky, Coordinator of Accommodations, Office of Access and Disability Services at hc-ads@haverford.edu. If you have already been approved to receive academic accommodations and would like to request accommodations in this course because of a disability, please meet with me privately at the beginning of the semester (within the first two weeks if possible) with your verification letter.

Schedule
(Subject to change)

M, Aug 29
First Class

W, Aug 31
**Civil Society and the Enlightenment**
[paragraphs 1-25, 77-100]

M, Sept 5
Labor day. No Class

W, Sept 7
**Hegel**
Hegel, *Philosophy of Right* (selections)

Recommended:
Schlomo Avineri, “Hegel’s Theory of the Modern State.”

M, Sept 12
**Marx**
Marx, “On the Jewish Question”

Recommended:
Marx, *The German Ideology*. Part I, B.
http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1845/german-ideology/ch01b.htm

W, Sept 14
**Gramsci**
Antonio Gramsci, *Selections from the Prison Notebooks* (selections)
Norberto Bobbio (1988), “Gramsci and the Concept of Civil Society”

M, Sept 19
**De Tocqueville and Social Capital**
Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America* (selections)
**W, Sept 21**

**Anti-Politics / Eastern Europe**


‘Manifesto of Charter 77’ (1977):
http://memory.loc.gov/frd/cs/czechoslovakia/cs_appnd.html

**M, Sept 26**

**The Meaning of Global Civil Society**
Helmut Anheier, Marlies Glasius, and Mary Kaldor, “Introducing Global Civil Society,”
Lisa Jordan, “Global Civil Society” (93-108)

Sidney Tarrow, The New Transnational Activism, 1-34 (skim), 42-43

**W, Sept 28**

**Social Movements, NGOs and Advocacy Networks**
Mary Kaldor, “Social Movements, NGOs and Networks” (78-108)
Donatella Della Porta and Mario Diani, “Social Movements” (68-79)

**M, Oct 3**

**Tools for Analyzing Transnational Activism**
M. Keck and K. Sikkink (1999), “Transnational Advocacy Networks in International and Regional Politics”

**W, Oct 5**

**Catch up and Research Tutorial**
Readings TBA
Hand out Issue Advocacy Assignment

**October 7 – Oct 16:** Fall Break

**M, Oct 17**

**Civil Society, Human Rights and the United Nations**
**W, Oct 19**  
**International NGOs and Local/Global Tensions**  
Sally Engle Merry and Rachel E. Stern, “The Female Inheritance Movement in Hong Kong: Theorizing the Local/Global Interface”  

**M, Oct 24**  
**Dilemmas of International Development NGOs**  

**W, Oct 26**  
**Merchants of Morality: The Ogoni and the Zapatistas**  
Clifford Bob, “Merchants of Morality” *Foreign Policy* 129, Mar/Apr 2002, 36-45  

**M, Oct 31**  
**Battle in Seattle, World Social Forum and Global Justice Movements**  

**W, Nov 2**  
**The New Transnational Activism I**  
Tarrow, *The New Transnational Activism*, 59 -140  

**M, Nov 7**  
**The New Transnational Activism II**  
Tarrow, *The New Transnational Activism*, 143- 219
The Global Right Wing
Clifford Bob, *The Global Right Wing and the Clash of World Politics*, Chapters 1-3, 5, 7

Transnational Environmental Activism

Arab Spring
Manuel Castells, *Networks of Outrage and Hope*, 1-19, 54-112 (skim 20-47)

Recommended
The documentary film “The Square”

Occupy and more
Castells, *Networks of Outrage and Hope*, (skim 110-155, 227-245), 159-206, 220-227, 246-277, 308-316

Anonymous
In-class documentary screening: “We Are Legion”
Gabriella Coleman, *Hacker, Hoaxer, Whistleblower, Spy*, Introduction and new Epilogue
M, Nov 28

New Technologies and Global Activism: Diverse perspectives
Review readings from previous class
   https://medium.com/matter/76d9913c6011
Fay Schlesinger, “Swivelchair activism: are students these days too cool for political protest, or are they simply finding new ways to do it?” The Guardian December 11, 2007

W, Nov 30

Visiting Scholar/Activist: George Lakey
Selected publications by George Lakey

M, Dec 5

Protest Inc.
Peter Dauvergne and Genevieve LeBaron (2014). Protest, Inc.: The Corporatization of Activism (pages TBA)

W, Dec 7

Last class. Catch up, Wrap up