Content

Course Code	Course Name	Semester	Theory	Practice	Lab	Credit	ECTS
SP385	Contentious Politics	5	3	3	0	3	6

Prerequisites	
Admission Requirements	

Language of Instruction	English
Course Type	Elective
Course Level	Bachelor Degree
Objective	This course aims to introduce students to the key themes, concepts, and approaches in the literature on contentious politics as a subfield of comparative politics. It covers the field's main research questions, theoretical perspectives, methods, terminology, and selected case studies.
Content	This course examines social movements, protests, revolutions, and other forms of collective political struggle through the concepts and approaches of contentious politics. Drawing on the main theoretical perspectives in the literature, it analyzes the emergence, organization, development, and political outcomes of collective action. Key concepts such as resource mobilization, political opportunity structures, collective identities, and repertoires of contention are discussed through historical and contemporary cases.
References	- McAdam, D., Tarrow, S., & Tilly, C. (2009). Comparative perspectives on contentious politics. In M. I. Lichbach & A. S. Zuckerman (Eds.), *Comparative politics: Rationality, culture, and structure* (2nd ed., pp. 260–290). Cambridge University Press. - Tilly, C., & Tarrow, S. (2015). *Contentious politics* (2nd ed.). Oxford University Press. - Olson, M. (1971). *The logic of collective action: Public goods and the theory of groups*. Harvard University Press. - McCarthy, J. D., & Zald, M. N. (1977). Resource mobilization and social movements: A partial theory. *American Journal of Sociology, 82*(6), 1212–1241. - Meyer, D. S. (2004). Protest and political opportunities. *Annual Review of Sociology, 30*, 125–145. - Polletta, F., & Jasper, J. M. (2001). Collective identity and social movements. *Annual Review of Sociology, 27*, 283–305. - Beissinger, M. R. (2002). *Nationalist mobilization and the collapse of the Soviet state*. Cambridge University Press. - Skocpol, T. (1976). France, Russia, China: A structural analysis of social revolutions. *Comparative Studies in Society and History, 18*(2), 175–210. - Fearon, J. D., & Laitin, D. D. (2003). Ethnicity, insurgency, and civil war. *American Political Science Review, 97*(1), 75–90. - Allinson, J. (2022). *The age of counter-revolution: States and revolutions in the Middle East*. Cambridge University Press. - Munif, Y. (2020). *The Syrian revolution: Between the politics of life and the geopolitics of death*. Pluto Press.

Theory Topics

Week	Weekly Contents
1	Contentious Politics as a Subdiscipline of Comparative Politics
2	Introduction to Contentious Politics
3	Early Theories
4	Rationality and Collective Action
5	Resource Mobilization and Political Opportunity Structure
6	Collective Identity and Emotions
7	Midterm Exam
8	Political Regimes and Contention
9	Nationalist Mobilization
10	Revolution
11	Revolution and Counter-Revolution

Week	Weekly Contents
12	Civil War
13	Varieties of Political Violence
14	Beyond State Power