We will examine and discuss some very good literature on large-scale social movements in the United States. We will also work on a community based learning project directed toward reviving a labor education program in Philadelphia.

Several questions prompted the readings for this course. We can easily observe how different the major social movements of the nineteenth century----Abolitionism, The Woman’s Movement---are so reflective of the agrarian, Christian, rapidly industrializing culture. But what of the 20th century? How can we characterize these social movements? How are social movements defined by particular leaders and reflect the identities of the participants? How does the opposition to these movements form and how do they succeed? How do these movements change the policies, the people and the larger society? Have social movements been democratic? When do movements become corrupt? When do movements turn violent? How do issues of race and class define social movements? How do social activists respond to resistance to change? When and at what point do social movements lose their drive? For this we will discuss the Civil Rights Movement, the Religious Right, The Women’s movement, Anti-War Movements, Student Movements and the Environmental movement.

Readings

William Nunnelley, Bull Connor.
Charles Payne, I’ve Got the Light of Freedom
Bill Ayers, Fugitive Days
Samuel Hays, A History of Environmental Politics Since 1945
Sally Deutch, From Ballots to Breadlines
Susan Harding, The Book of Jerry Falwell
Kevin Starr, Endangered Dreams

Papers Seven one page response papers to the books and In class discussion 30%, Three two page essays due: 9/30; 10/28/; 12/02 30% and Community Service-Workers Education Project: Journal Due December 16. (40%)
Week 1  
August 31-September 2  
Abolitionism and the Opposition to Slavery  
Reading should be done for the next week.  
Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* (I did not order this book for you but if you have not read it, then please do so.)  
Charles Payne, *I’ve Got the Light of Freedom* Ch 1-3  
Movie: *Birth of a Nation*  
The Ku Klux Klan and the Instruments of Repression  
Movie: *Birth of a Nation*

Week 2  
September 7-September 9  
Discussion: Stowe and the Idea of a Social Movement: Finish *Birth of a Nation*  
William Nunnelley, *Bull Connor* ch 1-3

Week 3  
September 14-September 16  
Activism and Faith: 19th Conversion to 20th century Separation  
Civil Rights *Eyes on the Prize*  
Charles Payne, *I’ve Got the Light of Freedom* Ch. 4-8, 14 Epilogue and Bibliographic Essay.  
William Nunnelley, *Bull Connor* ch. 4-10

Week 4  
September 21-September 23  
Where Does the Violence Come From?  
Civil Rights *Eyes on the Prize*  
Assignment: Write a 2-page essay, due on Thursday, 9/30  

Week 5  
September 28-September 30  
Understanding the Politics of the Opposition: The Perfect Adversary  
Assignment: Due on Thursday, 9/30  
Discussion: *Eyes on the Prize*  
The Woman Movement: A Hundred Years of Struggle  
Sarah Deutsch, *From Ballots to Breadlines: American Women, 1920-1940*  
Susan Harding, *The Book of Jerry Falwell*, ch. 6 and 7
Charles Payne, *I’ve Got the Light of Freedom* ch. 9

Week 6 October 5-October 7
Discussion: Gender and Politics
Workers Education Project
Kevin Starr, *Endangered Dreams: The Great Depression in California, part I*
Movie: *Reds*

Week 7 **OCTOBER BREAK 8-18**

Week 8 October 19- October 21
Discussion: Radical Movements and Social Injustice
Finish *Reds*
Assignment: Finish Starr and Write a two page essay on The Great Depression. 10/28
Workers Education Project:

Week 9 October 26-October 28
Workers Education Projects

Week 10 November 2- November 4
Workers Education Projects
Samuel P. Hays, *A History of Environmental Politics Since 1945*

Week 11 November 23 and November 30
Discussion: Environmentalism and Unlimited Growth
Bill Ayers, *Fugitive Day*
Assignment: Write a two page essay on the Problems of Movement Politics. 12/02

Week 12 November 30 – December 2
Student Movements and Memory Books
Workers Education Projects
Papers Due: 12/02

Week 13

There is no final examination for this class; We will discuss projects during the final week. Worker Education Journals due December 16th.