



# SOCI 312

## Social Movements



The course this year will focus on structural explanations for social movements of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and the increasing turn towards the far-Right. We will be exploring the new terrain of social media, disinformation, polarization and mounting threats of violence. We will be mapping an ideological terrain that is much more complex than left vs right, in order better to understand the complex, contradictory and overlapping aims of far-Right militias, Black Lives Matter, Indigenous land defenders, Incels, precarious workers, radical students, Iranian feminists and the like.

### Professor Bantjes

621 Nicholson Tower  
902-867-2479  
rbantjes@stfx.ca

**Office Hours:** Please visit me to talk about the course, especially if you are having difficulties.

- Monday 12:45pm –5:00pm
- Tuesday 1:15pm – 2:00pm
- Thursday 3:45PM – 5:00pm

**Drop Date:** The last day to drop a second term half-course without academic penalty is March 10.

If for any reason you are falling behind in the course, you should assess before this date, preferably in consultation with your prof., to determine whether and how you are going to re-commit to the remainder of the course.

### Classroom

CO 110  
Monday 11:15-12:30  
Thursday 12:45-2:00

### Readings

Perusall (<https://perusall.com/>)  
Course Code: BANTJES-Q4ZN2

### Assignments

<https://moodle.stfx.ca/>

### Grading Scheme

Engagement with Readings (you need to pass this component to pass the course) – 30%  
Participation in class – 8%  
Social Movement Example or TikTok Challenge – 8%  
Research Proposal [or debate writeup] (Mar 7) – 12%  
Research Essay [or debate] (April 4) – 17%  
Final Exam – 25%

## OUTLINE

### 1 – The Far-Right and its Growing Influence

- Homer-Dixon. 2021. "The American Polity Is Cracked"
- Aziz and Carvin. 2022. "Hate in Canada"

### 2 - Anti-State Movements

- HoSang, et al. 2019. "State Abandonment and Militia Revolt" 22pp
- Janiskee. 2010. "Jefferson's Ward Republics." 4pp
- Tsai. 2017. "The Troubling Sheriffs' Movement" 8pp
- TikTok. Black Panther Movement

### 3 - Anarcho-Socialist Movement

- Bantjes. 2005. "Utopics of Resistance."
- Graeber 2006. "David Graeber on Anarchism" (video)
- TikTok. Anarchism; TikTok. Socialism; TikTok. Populism

### 4 - Decommodification Movements

- Coté. 2016. "'Indigenizing' Food Sovereignty"
- TikTok. Surveillance Capitalism

### 5 – Resistance Movements against State Terror

- Bantjes. 2007. "Resistance to State Terror"
- Monbiot. Neoliberalism
- TikTok. Democratic Socialism; TikTok. Pegasus Spyware

### 6 - Racist, Misogynist, Homophobic Movements

- Kimmel and Ferber. 2000. "'White Men Are This Nation'"
- Picciolini. 2018. "My descent into America's neo-Nazi movement." Video

### 7 – 1960s: The Medium is the Movement

- Bantjes, 2007. "Movement Innovations in The 1960s"
- Hoffman. 2017. "The Best Documentary To Understand The Hippies." Video
- Reveal. 2014. "All Power to the Imagination" Video

### 8 – Movements and the Technological Sensorium

- Benkler. 2020. "A Political Economy of the Origins of Asymmetric Propaganda in American Media."

### 9 – Corporate Social Movement: "Class War from above"

- Skocpol and Hertel-Fernandez. 2016. "The Koch Network and Republican Party Extremism."

### 10 – Movements Against Neoliberal Austerity

- Bantjes. 2007. "Resistance to State Terror."
- International Center on Nonviolent Conflict. 2020. "A Force More Powerful"

### 11- Working-Class Movements

- Madland. 2021. "Unions as the Solution."
- National Public Radio. 2015. "50 Years of Shrinking Union Membership, in One Map."
- The New York Times. 2017. "Presidential Election Results: Donald J. Trump Wins."