This graduate seminar centers on health social movements (HSMs), but also provides some exploration in general social movement theory and research, as well as using concepts from science and technology studies (STS), and covering some core medical sociology concerns, such as health inequalities, personal experience of illness, and lay-professional disputes over disease identification, causation, prevention, and treatment.

COURSE STRUCTURE
Since not all people will have taken a course in social movements, it is necessary to provide some background on general social movement theory and research methods. That will be done by starting the seminar with a focus on general social movements, while also studying HSMs. After the first few weeks, we will shift to a focus on HSMs, while also reading one or two general social movement articles each week. By continuing with general social movement readings, we will have the opportunity to examine a variety of theories, methods, and applications, to see how useful social movement scholarship is to HSMs, and to consider ways to expand social movement scholarship. We will not, however, be focused on showing how a specific social movement theory can explain a particular HSM; indeed, we will be examining how elements of multiple theories can be applied to any given HSM.

Each meeting will begin with listening to a song about social movements, followed by discussion of that song.

Each meeting will include lecture material by me and presentations by one or two students. We will have one presentation on general social movements and one on HSMs each week. The student presentations will involve analysis and interpretation of required readings; you can feel free to bring in additional readings as well.

A paper or a formal NSF or NIH proposal will be due the last week of the seminar, on a topic of the student's choice, selected in consultation with me. I will provide a list of possible topics, although you are not bound to choose one of them. In week 3 (potentially extending to week 4) students will present a brief written outline of the paper and a brief presentation to the seminar, so that everyone knows what others are studying. A special session will be scheduled to make final presentations.
REQUIRED READING:  
Required reading consists of the books to be purchased, and readings on Blackboard [designated with a (B)].

Books available at Bookstore:  
Bert Klandermans and Suzanne Staggenborg, Methods of Social Movement Research (Minneapolis)  
Sandra Morgen, Into Our Own Hands: The Women’s Health Movement, 1969-1990 (Rutgers)  
Bonnie Lefkowitz, Community Health Centers (Rutgers)  
Alondra Nelson, Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight Against Medical Discrimination

Sept. 10  
1) Introduction  
(Make sure to read prior to first class meeting)

Barbara Ehrenreich, “Welcome to Cancerland”  
http://www.barbaraehrenreich.com/cancerland.htm

Phil Brown, Steve Zavestoski, Sabrina McCormick, Brian Mayer, Rachel Morello-Frosch, and Rebecca Gasior, “Embodied Health Movements: Uncharted Territory in Social Movement Research” Sociology of Health and Illness 2004 26:1-31 (B)

Sept. 17  
2) Background in Social Movement Theory and Research/History and Theory of Health Social Movements

General social movements – review essays and applications on major theories and approaches

David Meyer, “Protest and Political Opportunities” Annual Review of Sociology 2004 (B)


Robert D. Benford and David A. Snow, “Framing Processes and Social Movements: An Overview and Assessment” Annual Review of Sociology 2000 (B)

Health social movements

“Preface” (pp. vi-viii) and “Introduction” (pp. 3-28) in Barbara Ehrenreich and John Ehrenreich, The American Health Empire (B)


Steven Epstein, “Patient Groups and Health Movements” In Edward Hackett, Olga Amstardska, Michael Lynch, and Judy Wajcman, eds. The Handbook of Science and Technology Studies (B)
Sept. 24
3) Background in Social Movement Theory and Research/Defining and Characterizing HSMs

General social movements -- review essays on major theories and approaches;
meth
Francesca Polletta and James M. Jasper, “Collective Identity and Social Movements”
Annual Review of Sociology 2001 (B)

The following in Bert Klandermans and Suzanne Staggenborg, Methods of Social Movement Research:
Bert Klandermans and Suzanne Staggenborg, “Introduction”
Bert Klandermans and Jackie Smith, “Survey Research: A Case for Comparative Designs”
Hank Johnston “Verification and Proof in Frame and Discourse Analysis”

Health social movements
Rachel Kahn Best “Disease Politics and Medical Research Funding: Three Ways Advocacy Shapes Policy” American Sociological Review 2012 77: 780

The following in Phil Brown and Stephen Zavestoski, eds., Social Movements in Health:
Phil Brown and Stephen Zavestoski, “Social Movements in Health: An Introduction” (B)
Judith Alsop, Kathryn Jones, and Rob Baggott, “Pain and Loss Experiences as a Catalyst for Political Activism” (B)
Chris Ganchoff, “Regenerating Movements: Embryonic Stem Cells, Social Movements, and the Politics of Potentiality” (B)

Topic selection and presentations (continued, if necessary)

Oct. 1
4) Breast Cancer Activism

General social movements – methods
The following in Bert Klandermans and Suzanne Staggenborg, Methods of Social Movement Research:
Kathleen Blee and Verta Taylor, “Semi-structured Interviewing in Social Movement Research”
David Snow and Danny Trom, “The Case Study and the Study of Social Movements”
Phil Brown, Rachel Morello-Frosch, Stephen Zavestoski, Laura Senier, Rebecca Gassier Altman, Elizabeth Hoover, Sabrina McCormick, Brian Mayer, and Crystal Adams, “Field analysis and policy ethnography: New directions for studying health social movements” In Mayer Zald, Jane Banaszak-Holl, and Sandra Levitsky, eds., Social Movements and the Development of Health Institutions, Oxford University Press (B)

Health social movements
The following in Phil Brown and Stephen Zavestoski, eds., Social Movements in Health:
Emily Kolker, “Reaching for Resources and Recognition: The Breast Cancer Movement” (B)
Maren Klawiter, “Breast Cancer in Two Regimes: The Impact of Social Movements on Illness Experience” (B)

Topic selection and presentations (continued, if necessary)
Oct. 8  5) Environmental Justice and Environmental Health

General social movements - methods
The following in Bert Klandermans and Suzanne Staggenborg, Methods of Social Movement Research:
Bert Klandermans, Suzanne Staggenborg, and Sidney Tarrow, “Conclusion: Blending Methods and Theories in Social Movement Research”

Health social movements - activists as scholars
Lois Gibbs, “Citizen Activism for Environmental Health” (B)
Jodi Sugerman-Brozan and Penn Loh, “Environmental Justice Organizing for Environmental Health” (B)

Mary Arquette et al., “Holistic Risk-Based Environmental Decision Making: A Native Perspective” Environmental Health Perspectives Supplement 2, 2002(B)

-professionals as activists
Michael McCally, “Professionals’ Activism for Environmental Health” (B)
Richard Clapp, “Popular Epidemiology: “Citizen Health Surveys in Utah and Massachusetts” (B)

“Integrating Medical and Environmental Sociology with Environmental Health: Crossing Boundaries and Building Connections Through Advocacy” Journal of Health and Social Behavior 2013 54: 144-163. (B)
Scott Frickel, “Scientist Activism in Environmental Justice Conflicts: An Argument for Synergy” Society and Natural Resources 2004 17:359-366 (B)

Oct. 15  No class: Away at Superfund Research Program Annual Meeting

Oct. 22  6) Women’s Health Movement

General social movements – emerging social movement groups
Kathleen M. Blee and Ashley Currier, “Character Building: the Dynamics of Emerging Social Movement Groups” Mobilization Volume 10, No. 1: February 2005 (B)

Health social movements

Guest speaker: Judy Norsigian, Executive Director, Our Bodies Ourselves
Oct. 29

7) AIDS Movement

*General social movements – methods*
The following in Bert Klandermans and Suzanne Staggenborg, *Methods of Social Movement Research*:
Debra Minkoff, “Macro-Organizational Analysis”
Bert Klandermans, Suzanne Staggenborg, and Sidney Tarrow, “Conclusion: Blending Methods and Theories in Social Movement Research”

*Health social movements*
James Gillett, “Media activism and Internet use by people with HIV/AIDS” *Sociology of Health and Illness* 2003 25: 608–624 (B)

Nov. 5

8) Community-Based Participatory Research

*General social movements – emotions and culture*

Francesco Polletta, “Culture in and Outside Institutions” in *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts, and Change* 2004 25: 161-183 (Daniel Myers and Daniel Cress, eds., *Authority in Contention*) (B)

*Health social movements*
NIEHS RFAs for Environmental Justice and CBPR
Jill Harrison “Parsing ‘Participation’ in Action Research: Navigating the Challenges of Lay Involvement in Technically Complex Participatory Science Projects” *Society and Natural Resources* 2011 24:702–716 (B)

Meredith Minkler et al., *Promoting Health Public Policy Through Community-Based Participatory Research: Ten Case Studies* University of California-Berkeley and PolicyLink (B) - selections

Nov. 12

9) Patients’ Rights Movements: Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Mental Patients, Alzheimer’s Disease, Muscular Dystrophy

*General social movements – Science movements*
Kelly Moore, “Powered by the People: Scientific Authority in Participatory Science” (pp. 299-323 in Scott Frickel and Kelly Moore, eds. *The New Political Sociology of Science: Institutions, Networks, and Power*) (B)

Health social movements
In Phil Brown and Stephen Zavestoski, eds., Social Movements in Health:
Melinda Goldner, “Dynamic Interplay Between Western Medicine and CAM” (B)
Renee Beard, “Emergent Voices: Illness Experience, Social Structure, and the Alzheimer’s Disease Movement” (B)

Nov. 19

10) Health Access Movements

General social movements: Outcomes
The following in David Snow, Sarah Soule, and Hanspieter Kriesi, eds. The Blackwell Companion to Social Movements (B)
Edwin Amenta and Neal Caren, “The Legislative, Organizational, and Beneficiary Consequences of State-Oriented Challengers” (B)
Marco Giugni, “Personal and Biographical Consequences (B)

Health social movements
Bonnie Lefkowitz, Community Health Centers

Guest speaker: Elmer Freeman, Executive Director, Center for Community Health Education Research and Service, Inc. and Department of Health Sciences

Nov. 26

11) Biomonitoring and Household Exposure Activism

General social movements: Outcomes (continued)
The following in David Snow, Sarah Soule, and Hanspieter Kriesi, eds. The Blackwell Companion to Social Movements (B)
Jennifer Earl, “The Cultural Consequences of Social Movements”
Nancy Whittier, “The Consequences of Social Movements for Each Other”

Health social movements
Rebecca Altman, Julia Brody, Ruthann Rudel, Rachel Morello-Frosch, Phil Brown, and Mara Averick, “Pollution Comes Home and Pollution Gets Personal: Women’s Experience of Household Toxic Exposure” Journal of Health and Social Behavior 2008 49:417-435. (B)
Rachel Morello-Frosch, Julia Green Brody, Phil Brown, Rebecca Gasior Altman, Ruthann A. Rudel, Carla Pérez “Addressing ‘Toxic Ignorance’ and the Right-to-Know in Biomonitoring Results Communication: A Survey of Scientists and Study Participants” (draft manuscript) (B)
Body Burden Workshop and Commonweal Biomonitoring Resource Center, “Is It In Us?: Chemical Contamination in Our Bodies” (B)
Dec. 3  12) Civil Rights, Human Rights, and Health Organizing

*General social movements*

*Health social movements*

Alondra Nelson *Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight Against Medical Discrimination*

*Student Presentations will be scheduled for a special session*