Course Description:
In this course, we will look at trajectories of sovereignty and civil disobedience, both historically and geographically, from 18th century conceptions of governmentality to 21st century contestations of state authority. Through an examination of a wide range of written and visual texts, we will consider how state authority is challenged and legitimated, what social contracts are created between governments and citizens, and who is included and excluded from this process. We will focus, in particular, on civil disobedience movements, such as first wave feminism, anti-colonial Indian nationalism, and New York-based AIDS activism. We will discuss the historical conditions in which they arose, the forms of social responsibility they sought to promote, and the methods through which sought change. We will also discuss the social and political stakes of these actions and how are they altered, challenged, or complicated by questions of gender, region, race, class, and sexuality.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
- To develop nuanced and critical understandings of the concepts of sovereignty and civil disobedience through an examination of these ideas within specific social, political, and historical contexts.

- To investigate formulations of citizenship, governmentality, and social inclusion, focusing on the issues, questions, and debates that arise from their real-world application.

- To develop your abilities to think critically across a wide range of materials so that you can synthesize and articulate your learning in classroom discussions and written assignments.
WEEK 1 SOvereigns AND CiZIENS

I. CONCEPTUALIZING SOVEREIGNS

II. CONCEPTUALIZING CITIZENS
   “Of Property,” pp. 27–44.

OPTIONAL:
   (http://www.globalpolicy.org/nations/realism.htm).

WEEK 2 CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE AND SOCIAL CONTRACTS

I. CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

II. MEASURING MORALITY: THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

WEEK 3 SLAVERY, RESISTANCE, ABOLITION

I. RATIONALIZATION AND RESISTANCE
   Douglass, Frederick. 1852. “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?”
II. RESISTANCE AND ABOLITION


Amendment XIII, *United States Constitution.* (http://www.usconstitution.net/const.html#Am13)

Amendment XIV, *United States Constitution.* (http://www.usconstitution.net/const.html#Am14)


WEEK 3 WOMEN’S RIGHTS AND UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE

I. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND


II. WOMEN’S CONVENTIONS: SPEAKING UP AND SPEAKING OUT


WEEK 3  ANTI-COLONIAL INDIAN NATIONALISM

I. GANDHIAN NON-VIOLENCE: SATYAGRAHA


II. INDEPENDENCE, SWARAJ, AND SWADESHI


SCREENINGS: Raja Harischandra (“King Harischandra”)
Dir: D.G. Phalke (1917)

Lanka Dahan (“Burning of Lanka”)
Dir: D.G. Phalke (1917)

WEEK 4  THE AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT: RACE AND EQUALITY

I. REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PART 1


II. REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PART 2
“I See the Promised Land,” pp. 279–286.

WEEK 5 BLACK POWER, THE BLACK PANTHERS, AND BLACK NATIONALISM

I. MALCOLM X
“A Declaration of Independence,” pp. 18–22.
“The Ballot or the Bullet,” pp. 23–44.

II. THE BLACK PANTHERS, AT HOME AND ABROAD


Douglas, Emory. Selected artworks. (http://www.itsabouttimebpp.com/Emory_Art/Emory_Douglas_Art.html)

WEEK 7 INDIGENOUS SELF-DETERMINATION

I. NATIVE CONCEPTIONS OF SOVEREIGNTY
Deloria, Jr., Vine. 1979. “Self Determination and the Concept of Sovereignty.” In Economic Development in American Indian


II. FEDERAL SOVEREIGNTY AND TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY, FEDERAL SOVEREIGNTY VS. TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY

   Introduction, pp. 3–18.

WEEK 8  CULTURAL SOVEREIGNTY, CITIZENSHIP, AND POLITICAL RECOGNITION

I. CULTURAL SOVEREIGNTY, NATIONAL INCLUSION, AND THE PUBLIC SPHERE


II. THE POLITICS OF ACADEMIC RESEARCH

SCREENING:  *Tangata Whenua: The People of the Land*
Dir: Barry Barclay (1974)

**WEEK 9  RACE, GENDER, AND THE POLITICS OF REPRESENTATION**

I. GENDER AND THE GAZE


II. RACE, GENDER, AND THE GAZE


**SCREENINGS:**

*Carmen Jones*
Dir: Preminger, Otto (1954)

*Daughters of the Dust* (selections)
Dir: Dash, Julie (1991)

**WEEK 10  COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND GRASSROOTS ACTIVISM**

I. COMMUNITY ORGANIZING


II. GRASSROOTS ACTIVISM: THEORY AND METHODOLOGY
  “In the Beginning,” pp. 98–124.


**WEEK 11  THE BODY POLITIC**

**I. AIDS ACTIVISM**


(http://www.actupny.org/documents/greenbergAU.html)

ACT UP. “Why We Get Arrested.”
(http://www.actupny.org/documents/whywe%20get.html)

**OPTIONAL:**

Hogan, Carl. “How to Be a Problem Patient.”
(http://www.actupny.org/documents/Carlton_Hogan_writings.pdf)

**II. REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

  Chapter 7: “Interpretive Battlegrounds,” pp. 94–110.

**WEEK 12  GLOBAL NEGOTIATION: HUMAN RIGHTS, SOVEREIGN STATES AND TRANSNATIONAL ADVOCACY**

**I. THEORIZING HUMAN RIGHTS**


II. TRANSNATIONAL ADVOCACY


WEEK 13 HAWAIIAN LEGAL TRANSFORMATION AND FEDERAL RECOGNITION

I. COLONIAL CONTACT AND LEGAL TRANSFORMATION IN HAWAI’I


Introduction, pp. 3–34.


II. EQUAL RIGHTS VS. SPECIAL RIGHTS:
THE CONTEST FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN FEDERAL RECOGNITION


Optional:


**WEEK 14  FINAL PRESENTATIONS**