Department of Political and Social Sciences

Donatella della Porta

First Term Seminar (20 credits)

Mondays, October – December 3-5pm

Seminar Room 2

Please note: on 15/10/2012 the seminar will be held in Emeroteca

Changing democracy: Social Movements and beyond

To register, please contact Adele Battistini (adele.battistini@eui.eu)

Syllabus

Social movements have been affected by transformations in democracy and, at the same time, they have contributed to them. They have not only challenges the dominant liberal model of democracy, but also developed alternative theories and practices oriented towards ideals of participation and deliberation. The aim of this seminar is to investigate the complex relations between normal and contentious politics, focusing on some new trends, but also some silences in social movement theories.

Session 1, 1 October 2012: Social structures and contentious politics

With the participation of Philippe Balsinger

Assigned readings:


Goodwin, Jeff. The strange disappearance of capitalism from Social Movements Studies.

Introductory texts:

Session 2, 8 October 2012: Political opportunities: challenging representative democracies

With the participation of Swen Hutter

Assigned readings:

Donatella della Porta, *Democracies*, Polity press, forthcoming, chapter 1 and 2,


Additional readings


Introductory texts:


Session 3, 15 October 2012: Repression: shifting paths

With the participation of Kivanc Atak

Assigned readings


Session 4, 22 October 2012: Democracy in social movement organizations

With the participation of Massimiliano Andretta

Assigned readings:

Elisabeth S. Clemens and Debra C. Minkoff, Beyond the Iron: Rethinking the Place of Organizations in Social Movements, in David A. Snow, Sara A. Soule & Hanspeter Kriesi (eds.), The Blackwell Companion to Social Movements, Oxford, Blackwell.

Donatella della Porta, 2009, Democracy in social movements, London, Palgrave, chap- 1, 3, conclusions

Introductory texts:


Session 5, 29 October 2012: Frames and narratives

With the participation of Lorenzo Zamponi

Assigned readings:


Introductory texts:


Session 6, 5 November 2012: Repertoires of action: eventful protest

With the participation of Xabier Itcaina


Introductory readings.


Session 7, 12 November 2012: Emotions and identity

Assigned readings:


Introductory readings:


Session 8, 19 November 2012: Communication in/by movement

With the participation of Lorenzo Mosca


Della Porta, Donatella, 2010, *Communications in Movements. Social Movement as Agents of Participatory democracy*, in “Information, Communication and Society, 14 (6), 800-819.

Session 9, 26 November 2012: Space: local, national and transnational

Lecture by Clifford Bob

Assigned readings:


Session 10, 3 December 2012: The effects of contentious politics

With the participation of Lorenzo Bosi

Assigned readings:

