Instructor: Dr. Peyman Vahabzadeh

Course Description:
The focus of this course will be revolutions and revolutionary change. Two major approaches—one from the Western and another from the Middle East experiences—will be the focus of this course. We will explore the various theoretical aspects of revolution as well as its changing paradigms in this neoliberal age. We will see that revolutionary change is basically about bringing a new social and political arrangement into this world, and as such, revolutions are akin to birth. Social and political movements and collective action are at the centre of our attention. The course is mostly theoretical in its orientation.

Course Outcomes/Objectives:
The students will be familiarized, in relative depth, with what constitutes a revolution and how revolutionary praxis is changes. Some key theoretical components of the study of revolutions will be offered in this course.

Course Pre/Co-requisites:
None.

Topics May Include:
Revolution, the Arab Spring, the “social question,” politics, collective action.

Required Resources May Include:
There are two books and a number of journal articles assigned for this course. The average weekly reading is about 3 article-length texts for 7 weeks.

Grading May Include:
The grading may be based on participation, in-class open-book midterm(s), a paper, and a final exam.

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1 This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.