While studying abroad, PCJ students are expected to remain deeply engaged with their PCJ studies. Our course is dedicated to that aim. Together, we will explore your own travels and seek to integrate your studies and your inner journeys with your PCJ education.

Like its sister class, PCJ362 Service-Learning, the method of the Study Abroad Module is to encourage deep and personal reflection while being involved with a social movement. In the spirit of the Trudeau Centre for Peace, Conflict and Justice, this means giving serious consideration to one’s own place in the world. So too, it means connecting oneself to a social movement abroad, so as to think about oneself and societal transformation.

In this course, you will focus on a topic pertaining to social change in your study abroad location. The social change in question can belong to any ideological persuasion; preferably it will be a movement that you agree with; but you might learn a lot by studying a movement that bothers you, particularly if it is effective in making change. The point is that you are learning more about how social change occurs in the place you are studying.
The issue in question can be relatively small: cooperative housing, puppet theatre, a community garden, a refugee center, or a transition town. Or it could be an issue of major concern in the city or nation you’re in. E.g. migration in Australia, civil unrest in France, Brexit in the UK, Muslim activism in India, or democracy struggles in Russia.

Your coursework will be in two parts:

(A) You will spend 3-4 hours per week attending to a social movement in your locale. That could mean going to meetings, demonstrations, etc. It could mean helping in some ways, so long as you strictly abide by the spirit and the letter of the law, and are respectful of local university and University of Toronto regulations. Never, ever put yourself at risk of harm or arrest. Each week you are to talk with the people in the social movement: activists, religious figures, organizers, etc.

(B) You will choose and read at least one book about your topic, and read local texts (newspapers, pamphlets, webpages, academic articles) pertaining to the issue. Ideally the book you choose will be recently published and specific to the place of your study. It could be in a non-English local language, if applicable, and if you are fluent. Carefully choosing a good book will help your overall success in the course.

Calendar:

DATES MAY NEED TO BE ADJUSTED, DEPENDING ON YOUR ACADEMIC CALENDAR. IT MAY BE IMPORTANT THAT YOU MOVE THIS CALENDAR AHEAD OR BACK, SO AS TO PROPERLY TIME YOUR STUDIES AND SUBMISSIONS. PLEASE PROPOSE AN ALTERNATIVE SCHEDULE (E.G. MOVE EVERYTHING FORWARD OR BACK X# OF WEEKS) TO DR. CLARK, AS NEEDED.

January 17. Getting Oriented: finding a movement to study.
It’s very important to both identify a movement that you want to learn about, and people/places where you can learn more. That could be a social movement group on campus, for example. After all, they’re your peers, and they might welcome your involvement. Are they active? How often do they meet? If they’re a movement in name only, keep looking. Try to find a robust movement on campus or off, whether they are fighting tuition hikes or battling rape culture. The point is to try to connect with a movement that is of significant interest to you, and that is very committed to making change.

January 24. Settling in.
This week you’re going to your first meeting, demonstration, or similar.

January 31. First reflection essay due.
See Files on Quercus for instructions.

This is your third week of involvement, so you’ve had a chance to meet a few people, and learn more about their movement. What is their focus? What are their tactics? How do they try to build momentum and change minds? How do they see their work relating to larger societal or global issues?

February 13. 2nd reflection essay due.
See Files on Quercus for instructions.
Feb. 20, Feb 27. Deepening your role and understanding
This are your fifth and sixth weeks of involvement. Quite simply, you’re asked to listen and learn, both about the movement you’re in and about yourself.

March 4. 3rd reflection essay due.
Instructions to post in Files, on Quercus.

March 11 and March 18 and March 25 and April 2
These are your 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th weeks of involvement. By now you may have learned about local approaches to movement building. You may feel critical about aspects of their tactics, and/or you may feel that you’re gaining insights that can be brought into your own desires for change.

Instructions in Files. Please do not save this paper until the last minute: this is your chance to really think about what you’ve learned abroad, about yourself, about the place you’re in, about the movement you’ve been connected to.

Course marking:
You will compose four reflection essays, based on course readings, and based on reflections on your study abroad. Topics will post on Quercus. No research or additional reading will be required, beyond course readings. Rather, you will be asked to seriously reflect on your time abroad and your journey within.

- Reflection 1, due January 31. 17%
- Reflection 2, due February 13. 17%
- Reflection 3, due March 4. 17%
- Reflection 4, due April 9. 49%

Expectations, Policies, and Common Courtesy
Presence: Although we have no class meetings, you are expected to be fully engaged with PCJ363 all semester long. If you were enrolled in a similar course on campus (PCJ362, e.g.) you would attend class for 2 hours a week, have required readings each week, and have assignments and/or exams. Please do not think that going abroad means a break from PCJ. PCJ362 and PCJ363 are sister courses, and students from both classes will be held to similarly high standards.

Email Communication: Emailing with your professor is a form of professional communication. Please write courteously and clearly. Many questions should first be addressed to peers. Posting a question to Quercus is most welcome, since your concern might be echoed and answered by others. Much of the time, your classmates can help you and you can help them. The instructor will also be a frequent contributor on Quercus.

Office hours: While you’re unable to visit the instructor, you’re more than welcome to set up an appointment on Skype.

Accommodations: The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca or http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility. If you have religious scheduling concerns, please report these in the first or second week of class. I will do my utmost to respect disabilities and religious issues if they should arise.

Missed tests or deadlines:
If you do become ill (or otherwise incapacitated) you must provide Dr. Clark with appropriate documentation. For medical exemptions, only an official U of T form signed by your physician will be accepted. A blank copy of the U of T medical certificate should be available on-line from the Arts and Science website (try this [http://www.healthservice.utoronto.ca/pdfs/medcert.htm](http://www.healthservice.utoronto.ca/pdfs/medcert.htm)). For non-medical emergencies, please contact your college registrar, which may be able to provide a letter documenting your situation. Be aware that submitting a note which has been altered or obtained under false pretenses is considered a very serious offence by the University.

PLAGIARISM. While you may get lecture notes from other students for days when you are absent, the answers you submit must be your own independent work. Exercises in which duplication is detected will be severely penalized. For more details, see Academic Honesty; and the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters in the UT Calendar for under the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. It is your responsibility to be familiar with this code, and adhere to it. By now you should be aware that the university expects your work to be done independently. Any attempt to gain undue advantage over your classmates by plagiarizing or other forms of cheating will be dealt with according to the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have any questions about what is or is not plagiarism, please see www.Plagiarism.org. We will use Turnitin.com to check academic integrity: please contact the instructor if this is unacceptable to you.

LATE EXERCISES: (1) Late exercises will be penalized per calendar day, including weekends. Penalties are deducted from the mark on the assignment (not the student’s overall mark in the class). The penalty is 4% on the first day late, plus 1% per day thereafter including weekends and holidays. Late work may result in severe delays in marking.

Images:
Top: climate strikers in Cologne, Germany, 2019.
Bottom: Quotation from Mohandas Gandhi

Interdependence is and ought to be as much the ideal of man as self-sufficiency. Man is a social being. Without interrelation with society he cannot realize his oneness with the universe or suppress his egotism. His social interdependence enables him to test his faith and to prove himself on the touchstone of reality.

— Mahatma Gandhi —

AZ QUOTES