

<b>Sr#</b>	<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>Status</b>
	<i>DVST-813</i>	<i>Participation, Power, and Social Change</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>Elective</i>

**Course Description:**

Development studies has traditionally centered on a 'states-markets-international institutions' triangle of power. Recently, however, development discourse has been expanded to include the civil society as both a site of citizens' collective action and as a set of actors that must be incorporated within the planning, implementation, and evaluation of development projects. This course focuses on how social change is affected at the local, national, and international levels by social movements and civil society actors. It will review current theories of civil society participation and social movements, before assessing how national, socialist, and youth movements have shaped the development agenda in nineteenth century Europe, late-colonial states, and the Arab World. This course will focus on relevant contexts, sectors, spaces, and agents, aiming to provide a comprehensive understanding of how individuals and groups without access to institutionalized power can bring about social development.

**Course Objectives:**

- a. To familiarize students with past and current debates on civil society in social and political theory in order to provide them with a broader understanding than mainstream development discourses.
- b. To provide a framework to understand the relationships between civil society and contemporary social movement politics, and between social movements and development agendas.

**Course Outcomes:**

At the end of this course, students should be able to,

- a. identify key conceptual approaches to social movements, NGOs and civil society;
- b. explain how social movements and civil society actors mobilize (or are mobilized) in different contexts and by various stakeholders;
- c. critically analyze NGO interventions, social movement theories, and approaches to civil society and civic action;

- d. assess and compare the strategies of civic actors dealing with processes of power and social change.

**Course Contents:**

This course will cover key social and political theories on social movements, civil society, and social change, in the context of development. This theoretical study will be supplemented with historical evaluation of prominent cases of social movements and civil society activism, such as Gandhian movements in India, the housing rights movements in urban Latin America, movements against minority rule in South Africa, and the youth uprisings in the Arab Spring.

**Textbooks or Reference Books:**

1. Bayat, A. (2013) *Life as Politics: How Ordinary People Change the Middle East (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*. Palo Alto, CA: Stanford University Press.
2. Bebbington, A.J., S. Hickey and D.C. Mitlin (2008) *Can NGOs Make a Difference? The Challenge of Development Alternatives*. London: Zed Books.
3. Biekart, K.; and A. Fowler (2013) 'Transforming Activisms 2010+: Exploring Ways and Waves', *Development and Change* 44 (3) pp. 527-546.
4. Edwards, M. (2009) *Civil Society (2<sup>nd</sup> edn)*. London: Polity Press.
5. Howell, J. and J. Pearce (2001) *Civil Society and Development: A Critical Exploration*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.
6. Robins, S.L. (2008) *From Revolution to Rights in South Africa: Social Movements, NGOs and Popular Politics after Apartheid*. Woodbridge: James Currey.