



a place of mind
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EDST 565D/941 Social Movement Learning
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From Occupy Wall Street, to the U.S Tea Party, to the Euromaiden in the Ukraine, social movements are a defining feature of our current global era. Recent movements follow on from many decades of transformational action, seen in the Civil Rights movement, resistances against dictatorships in Latin America, and Anti-Apartheid groups in South Africa. While frequently overlooked, adult education, public education, and political learning are, and have been, part-and-parcel of social movements; in fact, adult education has propelled many social movements as well as having its roots in community and “popular education” (i.e., education for and by the people).

The purpose of this course is to engage students in an exploration of adult education practice in and by social movements. In this course, students will be exposed to the historical, theoretical, and pedagogical underpinning of the political learning that takes place within and through social movements; and the links between philosophical theories and community adult education practice. Special emphasis will be placed on the importance of culture in adult learning and social movements; in particular, we will explore the connections between political learning, public education and music, art, food, poetry, and theatre. This course engages a praxis approach to adult education, seeking to continually forge links between theory and practice.