

COURSE DETAIL

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF NONVIOLENT SOCIAL MOVEMENTS: FROM GANDHI TO THE ARAB SPRING AND BEYOND

Country

France

Host Institution

Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

Program(s)

Sciences Po Paris

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology Political Science

UCEAP Course Number

128

UCEAP Course Suffix

N

UCEAP Official Title

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF NONVIOLENT SOCIAL MOVEMENTS: FROM
GANDHI TO THE ARAB SPRING AND BEYOND

UCEAP Transcript Title

NONVIOLENT SOC MVMT

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course provides a broad, interdisciplinary overview of the study of what has been interchangeably called nonviolent social movements, nonviolent civil resistance, nonviolent activism, and strategic nonviolence. It explores questions surrounding the ethics of nonviolent activism, when and where it has been used, the conditions under which it is more or less effective, and its consequences for local communities, state politics, and the international system. The course draws from seminal texts, historical accounts, cutting-edge social science research, and guest speakers. Students gain a foundational understanding of both the normative and empirical debates surrounding the practice of nonviolent activism, a familiarity with key cases in which it has been used, and an understanding of how this form of civic engagement is resourced. The course entails substantial discussion in class.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

DSPO 25A87

Host Institution Course Title

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Host Institution Course Details

<https://syllabus.sciencespo.fr/en/?202520/291233>

Host Institution Campus**Host Institution Faculty****Host Institution Degree**

Seminar

Host Institution Department

Political Science

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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