

SOU22052 —Power, State and Social Movements 2

Module Information	
Module Code	SOU22052
Module Title	Power, State and Social Movements 2
Department	Sociology
Year Group	Senior Fresh
Module Personnel	Dr Thembi Luckett
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	5 credits
Semester	Semester 2
Contact Hours	2 1hr lectures + 1 tutorial per week

Module Content	
Module Description	Political sociology is concerned with the social bases of politics and the relationship between states and societies. Through examining the nature of power, states and the policy process, this course provides sociological insights into the world of politics, policy and social change.
Module Learning Aims	This module introduces students to the major ideas and debates within the field of political sociology and provides them with some of the tools needed to analyse power, politics and the state. In particular, it examines interactions between economic interests, political institutions, and ideological norms. The module has equally strong theoretical and empirical components and aims to expand students' knowledge of society and politics in a number of countries. Topics include power, the nature of the state, institutional change, the organisation and representation of interests, gender and social policy and nations and immigration.
Learning Outcomes	• Discuss sociological explanations of political processes • Relate this theoretical understanding to empirical data and case studies

Module Content

	• Compare and contrast competing approaches in the field • Relate concepts and theories to current political challenges in Ireland
Indicative Reading / Resources	There is no textbook for this course. The following books are useful general readings: • Janoski, Thomas, et al., eds. 2020. <i>The new handbook of political sociology</i>. Cambridge University Press • Lukes, Steven. 2004. <i>Power: A Radical View</i>, 2ns ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. • Migdal, Joel. 2001. <i>State in Society: Studying How States and Societies Transform and Constitute One Another</i>. Cambridge University Press. • Clemens, Elisabeth S. 2016. <i>What is political sociology?</i> Wiley

Assessment

Assessment Components	• Reflective paper (20%) • Essay (80%)
Assessment Details	

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Any other information	