

Title:	SO2350 Power, State and Social Movements (5 ECTS)
Module Content/Outline:	<p>Power and the State</p> <p>Political sociology is concerned with the social bases of politics and the relationship between states and societies. Through examining the nature of power, states, the policy process and social movements, this module provides sociological insights into the world of politics, policy and social change. The first part of the module, Power and the State, 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 and democracy, political culture and participation, the organization and representation of interests, gender, religion and politics.</p>
Lecturer(s):	Dr Camila Devitt
Learning Objectives:	<p>On successful completion of this module, you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relate a theoretical understanding of power to policy making and challenges in Ireland; • Discuss sociological explanations of political processes • Relate this theoretical understanding to empirical data and analyses for more than two advanced democracies; • Compare and contrast competing approaches in the field.
Lectures & Tutorials/ Contact hours:	Two lectures and one tutorial per week
Workload:	Lectures: 22 hrs; Tutorials: 22 hrs; Exams/assignments: 80 hrs; Self-study: 126 hrs. Total: 250 hours.
Recommended Texts/ Key Reading:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janoski, Thomas, Robert R. Alford, Alexander M. Hicks, Mildred A. Schwartz, eds. 2005. The Handbook of Political Sociology: States, Civil Societies, and Globalization. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. • Lukes, Steven. 2004. Power: A Radical View, 2nd ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. • Migdal, Joel. 2001. State in Society: Studying How States and Societies Transform and Constitute One Another. Cambridge University Press.
Assessment	Part I: Reflective Paper (15%) and Essay (35%)
Penalties for late submission	Without an authorised extension, the mark given will be lowered by one grade
Examination	See assessment