One of the keypoints of the United States in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries has been the modern social movement. Aimed generally as discreet reforms, these movements have shared common internal and external dynamics. Seminar participants will collectively focus on these commonalities. Individually, each student will select a facet of a specific social movement and explore that facet in a full-length research paper. Such concentrations might include civil rights, women’s rights, environmentalism, and organizations on both sides of the abortion issue. Students will have wide discretion in their choice of movements, from those conventionally considered liberal and radical to the conservation. There will also be discretion in approaches.

You will be responsible for both a draft and a final paper. Your work must be original in design and in execution and be based on research in primary sources as well as in the secondary literature. The paper should be approximately 25 – 30 pages in length.