



OCCUPY WALL STREET IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Prof. Michael Shalev

Whereas in the U.S. Occupy Wall Street mobilized primarily tent activists and met with a mixed public reception, earlier the same year protests of “indignant” youth in Southern Europe and Israel spurred mega-demonstrations and won broad public support. What explains the appearance of rare “encompassing” protests, and why did they occur in some countries and not others during the 2011 protest wave? Did the participants cross class, cultural and political boundaries more than Americans who supported and participated in Occupy? What political mechanisms and protest practices facilitate diversity of participation in mega-protests? This course will draw on the literature on social movements and contentious politics, and will look closely at diverse national cases.

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202 Barrows**