Course Objective
Non-governmental, non-profit organizations (NGNPOs) have emerged as important actors in local, national, and international politics. As units of collective action, they advocate policy positions and produce collective goods. They are often viewed as crucial building blocks for democracy and economic growth. NGNPOs compete and cooperate with governments and with firms. Importantly, they compete and cooperate with one another for membership, external funding, and media attention. Although they are termed as ‘non-governmental’ organizations, many of them rely on governments for much of their funding. And, some NGNPOs have highly questionable and normatively inappropriate goals. In sum, there is a scholarly need to systematically examine NGNPOs as units of collective action, and answer key questions such as under what conditions they emerge, how they structure their organization, how they function, and how they influence policy.

Several literatures study the advocacy and collective good provision functions of NGNPOs. These are:

- the NGO politics and civil society literatures in political science,
- the social movement literature in sociology, and
- the non-profit (NP) literature in public policy/administration/management.

This course will investigate key theoretical and empirical issues raised in these literatures pertaining to NGNPO goals, strategy, politics, and efficacy. We will focus on topics that are theoretically and empirically interesting, and have attracted scholarly attention.

Readings
Book:

Articles
I have posted articles on Canvas.
Course Expectations
This course requires active student participation. You are expected to energetically and thoughtfully contribute to class discussions in the following ways.

Student Presentations
For every session, students will present and critique the assigned articles. The discussant-presenter should prepare a two page (single-spaced) “Article Memo” which summarizes the article, examines its strengths and weaknesses, and identifies questions it raises for future research. Please email this memo to the class by Sunday noon for the Monday class, and by Tuesday noon for the Wednesday class. The discussant-presenter should budget about 10-15 minutes for the in-class oral presentation.

Class Participation
Needless to say, I expect seminar participants to review all the assigned readings prior to the class. Based on these readings, for any 5 sessions (but only one session per week), please will email me two questions or issues you want to discuss in the class (students assigned a specific article will not do so; they will email their “Article Memo” only). Instead of listing your questions, please briefly explain how these questions contribute to our understanding of the article(s) under discussion. Your “Key Questions Memo” should be about one page (single-spaced) and reach me by Sunday noon for the Monday class, and by Tuesday noon for the Wednesday class

Research Paper
A five page (single-spaced) research paper is due November 9. Identify an NGO and explore any two of its salient dimensions such as organizational structure, advocacy or service delivery strategies, fund raising, etc. Make sure to relate this to the relevant readings in the course. One page paper outline is due December 9.

Evaluation
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<td>Class Participation:</td>
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<td>Research Paper:</td>
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Note
I reserve the right to change the syllabus without prior notice.
Class Schedule

Session 1
Wednesday, September 30
Introduction to the course

Session 2
Monday, October 5
What is Civil Society?

Session 3
Wednesday, October 7
Origins and Variations

Session 4
Monday, October 12
National Styles of Civil Society

Session 5
Wednesday, October 14
Bottom Up or Top Down?
Session 6  
Monday, October 19  

Social Capital


Session 7  
Wednesday, October 21  

Advocacy Strategies


Session 8  
Monday, October 26  

Advocacy Organizations and Collective Action

- Prakash and Gugerty, Chapter 1, Introduction
- Prakash and Gugerty, Chapter 5, Bob
- Prakash and Gugerty, Chapter 8, Ron and Cooley
- Prakash and Gugerty, Chapter 10, Henderson

Session 9  
Wednesday, October 28  

Advocacy Organizations and Collective Action

- Prakash and Gugerty, Chapter 2, McGee
- Prakash and Gugerty, Chapter 3, Gill & Pfaff
- Prakash and Gugerty, Chapter 6, Barakaso
- Prakash and Gugerty, Chapter 7, Pralle

Session 10  
Monday, November 2  

Problematising Civil Society

Session 11  
Wednesday, November 4  
Norm Conflict

- Dupuy, Ron, and Prakash. 2015. Hands Off My Regime! Governments’ Restrictions on Foreign Aid to NonGovernmental Organizations in Poor and Middle-Income Countries, draft.

*Paper outline is due*

Session 12  
Monday, November 9  
Accountability


Wednesday, November 11  
Veteran’s Day; No Class

Session 13  
Monday, November 16  
Nonprofits

Session 14
Wednesday, November 18

Organization Structure


Session 15
Monday, November 23

Charity Markets


Session 16
Wednesday, November 25

Foundations


Session 17
Monday, November 30

NGOs and the War on Terror

Session 18
Wednesday, December 2

**NGOs and Foreign Aid**


Session 19
Monday, December 7

*In-class presentations*

Session 20
Wednesday, December 9

*In-class presentations*

*Paper turned in*