The course will explore the various theoretical approaches used to explain the 1979 revolution in Iran. The main approaches to be explored will be the Structural, Cultural, Weberian-Durkheimian, Feminist, Behavioral, Intellectual, Discourse, Mobilization (Tillian), and Marxist.

Requirements:
1. Seminar Participation.
2. A ten-minute presentation of 7-page report on any of the * books.
3. For MA students: Twenty-page (5000 word) in-depth study of any one of the major approaches. The paper should use the works in the recommended list.
   For PhD students: Forty-page paper comparing any three major approaches. Papers due on the very last day of class.

Required Books:
1. Michael Fischer, Iran: From Religious Dispute to Revolution (Harvard)*.
2. Ali Gheissari, Iranian Intellectuals in the Twentieth Century (Texas)*.
3. Charles Kurzman, The Unthinkable Revolution in Iran (Harvard)*.

Required Articles (obtained through JSTOR via library internet):

Recommended Reading for General Introduction:
Jack Goldstone, Revolutions: Theoretical, Comparative and Historical Studies.
Crane Brinton, The Anatomy of Revolution.
Course Outline

Week 1
Introduction to the Course: Definition of Revolution; Significance of the Iranian Revolution; Outline of the Iranian Revolution; Simplistic Explanations.

Week 2
Approaches to the Study of Revolution
Shaul Bakhsh, “Iran” (Historiographical Review), American Historical Review Vol. 96, No. 5 (December 1991), 1479-96.

For a narrative recommended:
Shaul Bakhsh, The Reign of the Ayatollahs (Basic Books)*.
Kapuscinski, Shah of Shahs.

Week 3
Structural Explanations
Recommended: Skocpol, States and Social Revolutions (Cambridge Paperback)

Week 4
Cultural Explanation
Michael Fischer, Iran: From Religious Dispute to Revolution (Harvard)*
Recommended: Roy Mottahedeh, Mantle of the Prophet.*

Week 5
Weberian Approach
Recommended: Said Arjomand, The Turban for the Crown (Oxford Paper).*
Shahrough Akhavi, Religion and Politics in Contemporary Iran (Suny Paper).*

Week 6
Durkheimian Approach
Reza Sheihholeslami, “Class, State and Revolution” (article to be distributed in Class).
7 Feminist Approach
Recommended: Janet Afary and Kevin Anderson, Foucault and the Iranian Revolution (Chicago).
Afary, Sexual Politics in Modern Iran (Cambridge Paper).*
Parvin Paidar, Women and the Political Process in Twentieth-Century Iran.*

8 Intellectual Approach
Ali Gheissari, Iranian Intellectuals in the Twentieth Century.*
Recommended: Hamid Dabashi, Theology of Discontent.*
Nabavi, Intellectuals and the State in Iran
Ali Mirsepassi, Intellectual Discourse and the Politics of Modernization in Iran*
Mehrzad Boroujerdi, Iranian Intellectuals and the West.*

9 Discourse Approach
Recommended: Moadell, Class, Politics, and Ideology in the Iranian Revolution*

10 Behavioral Explanation
Charles Kurzman, The Unthinkable Revolution in Iran (Harvard).*

11 Collective Action Approach
Recommended: Parsa, States, Ideologies and Social Revolutions: Iran Nicaragua and the Philippines

12 “Great Men” Approach
Weber, “Charisma,” (paper to be distributed in class).
Marvin Zonis, Majestic Failure (Chicago)*
Recommended: Abbas Milani, The Shah*
Afkhami, Life and Times of the Shah.*
Moin, Khomeini: Life of the Ayatollah.*

13 Cyclic Approach
Katouzian, “Arbitrary Rule,” (article to be distributed in class)

14 Neo-Marxist Approach
Abrahamian, The Iranian Mojahedin
Additional Works on the Iranian Revolution in English

Abrahamian, E., Iran Between Two Revolutions.
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Khomeinism.
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Tortured Confessions.
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The Iranian Mujahedin.

Amuzegar, J. The Dynamics of the Iranian Revolution


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Bashiriyeh, H., The State and Revolution in Iran.
Bayat, A. Workers and Revolution in Iran.
Chehabi, H. Iranian Politics and Religious Modernism.
Enayat, H. Modern Islamic Political Thought
Foran, J. (Edit), A Century of Revolution: Social Movements in Iran.
Graham, R. Iran: The Illusion of Power.
Green, J. Revolution in Iran: The Politics of Countermobilization.*
Hooglund, E. Twenty Years of Islamic Revolution.
Keddie, Nikki. Roots of Revolution.
Keddie, Nikki and Hooglund, Eric (Editors). The Iranian Revolution and the Islamic Republic.
Khalilzad, Z., The Government of God: Iran’s Islamic Republic
Katouzian, H., The Political Economy of Modern Iran.
Ledeen, M. Debacle: The American Failure in Iran
Lenczowski, G. (Ed). Iran Under the Pahlavis
McDaniel, T., Autocracy, Modernization and Revolution in Russia and Iran.*
Milani, M., The Making of Iran’s Islamic Revolution.
Moaddel, Class, Politics, and Ideology in the Iranian Revolution.
Moazemi, Behrooz. State, Religion, and Revolution in Iran, 1796 to the Present.
Munson, Henry. Islam an Revolution in the Middle East.
Poulson, Stephen. Social Movements in Twentieth-Century Iran.
Saikal, A., The Rise and Fall of the Shah.
Major Works on Comparative Revolutions

Arendt, H. On Revolution
Calvert, Peter. Revolution (1979)
Cohen, G. Karl Marx’s Theory of History
Draper, Marx’s Theory of Revolution.
Dunn, J. Modern Revolutions
Edwards, Lyford, The Natural History of Revolution (1927)
Eisenstadt, S., Revolution and the Transformation of Societies
Friedrich, Carl (Editor), Revolution Special Issue of Namos, Vol. VIII.
Friedland, N., Revolutionary Theory.
Goldstone, J. Revolutions: Theoretical, Comparative and Historical Studies.
Greene, T., Comparative Revolutionary Movements
Gurr, T. Why Men Rebel
Hagopian, Mark. The Phenomenon of Revolution (1964)
Johnson, Chalmers. Revolutionary Change
Kimmel, M. Revolution: A Sociological Interpretation.
Marx, K. On Revolution (Edited by S. Padover).
Mazlish, B. (Edit), Revolution: A Reader.
Parker, N. Revolutions and History.
Richards, M. Revolutions in World History.
Skocpol, T. States and Social Revolution.
Stone, Bailey, The Anatomy of Revolution Revisited
Tilly, Charles. From Mobilization to Revolution
Wertheim, W. Evolution and Revolution.
Wolf, Eric Peasant Wars in the Twentieth Century.