

Course Literature

Actors and Strategies for Change | Spring 2016

The literature consists of three parts: The book *Ways of Social Change* by Garth Massey, ONE book chosen from the list below and the online course reader (with both written articles, videos and other resources).

COURSE READER (online):

The course reader can be found on the course website (www.cemus.uu.se/asc). You should prepare for class by reading (or watching) the resources assigned to each class. *Note that you must be logged in to Studentportalen to access many of the articles (they are protected from access by non-students and are stored on the Studentportalen server).*

In this course you will read two books. The books are available for reading in the CEMUS library, or they can be purchased at adlibris.se or bokus.se.

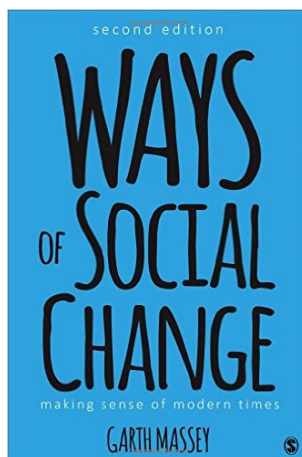
COURSE BOOK 1 - *Ways of Social Change* by Garth Massey

When to read the book?

Read chapter 1-3 during module I

Read chapter 4-9 before the literature seminar Apr. 4th in module II.

The literature seminar on April 4th will be about this book.



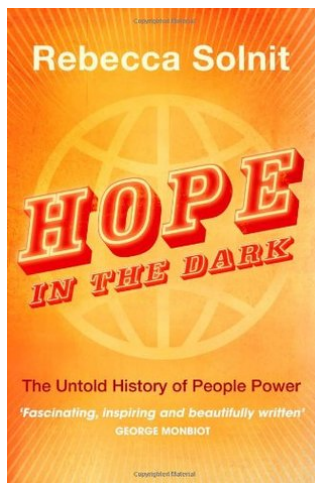
Massey, G (year) *Ways of Social Change* (2nd edition)

The world is at our fingertips, but understanding what is going on has never been more daunting. Garth Massey's *Ways of Social Change* is a primer for making sense of both rapidly moving events and the cultural and structural forces on which social life is built, while teaching critical thinking skills needed to understand social change. With an approach that is fresh, timely, challenging, and engaging, *Ways of Social Change* shows students how social change is both a lived experience and the result of our actions in the world. It invites the reader into the realm of social science, where clarification, understanding, and inquiry provide for both informed opinions and a path to effective involvement. The core of the book focuses on five forces that powerfully influence the direction, scope and speed of social change: science and technology, social movements, war and revolution, large corporations, and the state. A concluding chapter encourages students to examine their own perspectives and offers ways to engage in social change, now and in their lifetime

COURSE BOOK 2 – Choose one of the following

These books will allow you to dive deeper into a particular approach to creating change that you're interested in. You will read this book during Module II and discuss the book in reading groups with others who have chosen the same book. You sign up for these reading groups on Studentportalen during week 7.

We have selected books according to various broad strategies for change. You will pick **one** of the following books to read. Choose the topic you are most interested in!



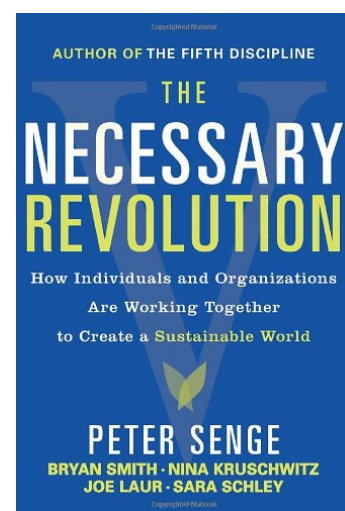
Hope in the Dark: Untold Histories Wild Possibilities (2004) – Rebecca Solnit

When the first edition of *Hope in the Dark* was published in mid-2004 it gained an instant cult audience. Many readers were so inspired by Solnit's book that they bought multiple copies to give to friends. This new, significantly expanded edition covers, among other things, the political territory of America and the world after George Bush's re-election. Acclaimed author Rebecca Solnit draws on her life as a writer and activist, on the events of our moment, on our deepest past, to argue for hope - hope even in the dark. Solnit reminds us of how changed the world has been by the activism of the past five decades. Offering a dazzling account of some of the least expected of those changes, she proposes a vision of cause-and-effect relations that provides new grounds for political engagement in the present.

Counting historic victories - from the fall of the Berlin wall to the Zapatista uprising to Seattle in 1999 to the worldwide marches against war in Iraq to Cancun in September 2003 - she traces the rise of a sophisticated, supple, nonviolent new movement that unites all the diverse and fragmentary issues of the eighties and nineties in our new century.

The Necessary Revolution: Working Together to Create a Sustainable World (2010)- Peter Senge

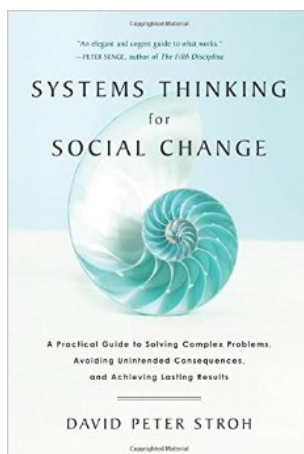
A revolution is underway in today's organizations. As Peter Senge and his co-authors reveal in *The Necessary Revolution*, companies around the world are boldly leading the change from dead-end "business as usual" tactics to transformative strategies that are essential for creating a flourishing, sustainable world. There is a long way to go, but the era of denial has ended. Today's most innovative leaders are recognizing that for the sake of our companies and our world, we must implement revolutionary—not just incremental—changes in the way we live and work.



Brimming with inspiring stories from individuals and organizations tackling social and environmental problems around the globe, *THE NECESSARY REVOLUTION* reveals how ordinary people at every level are transforming their businesses and communities. By working collaboratively across boundaries, they are exploring and putting into place unprecedented solutions that move beyond just being “less bad” to creating pathways that will enable us to flourish in an increasingly interdependent world. Among the stories in these pages are the evolution of Sweden’s “Green Zone,” Alcoa’s water use reduction goals, GE’s ecoimagination initiative, and Seventh Generation’s decision to shift some of their advertising to youth-led social change programs.

At its heart, *THE NECESSARY REVOLUTION* contains a wealth of strategies that individuals and organizations can use — specific tools and ways of thinking — to help us build the confidence and competence to respond effectively to the greatest challenge of our time. It is an essential guidebook for all of us who recognize the need to act and work together—now—to create a sustainable world, both for ourselves and for the generations to follow.

Systems thinking for social change (2015)- David Peter Stroh



Donors, leaders of nonprofits, and public policy makers usually have the best of intentions to serve society and improve social conditions. But often their solutions fall far short of what they want to accomplish and what is truly needed. Moreover, the answers they propose and fund often produce the opposite of what they want over time. We end up with temporary shelters that increase homelessness, drug busts that increase drug-related crime, or food aid that increases starvation.

How do these unintended consequences come about and how can we avoid them? By applying conventional thinking to complex social problems, we often perpetuate the very problems we try so hard to solve, but it is possible to think differently, and get different results.

Systems Thinking for Social Change enables readers to contribute more effectively to society by helping them understand what systems thinking is and why it is so important in their work. It also gives concrete guidance on how to incorporate systems thinking in problem solving, decision making, and strategic planning without becoming a technical expert.

Systems thinking leader David Stroh walks readers through techniques he has used to help people end homelessness and increase affordable housing, improve public health, strengthen public education and access to early childhood development services, protect child welfare, reform the criminal justice system, resolve identity-based conflicts, and more.

The result is a highly readable, effective guide to understanding systems and using that knowledge to get the results you want.