



LAW AND ORDER in Latin America

LAS 4935 - LAS 6938 - ANG6930 - ANT4930

Fall 2014

Wednesday 3-5 periods (9:35-12:35)

Location: Flint Hall 121

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What are the consequences of law replacing politics as a mechanism in conflict resolution? What role does each of them play in social contestations over sovereignty, security and justice? Conversely, what happens when law is suspended in the name of maintaining order? This course uses anthropological approaches to examine institutions, regimes and processes of law and order in contemporary Latin America. Focusing on three key concepts - sovereignty, security and justice - we will trace their meanings and practices across disjunctive political, legal, and cultural landscapes. A closer look at maximum-security prisons and militarized borders, police governance and discretion, spectral character of the law in marginal communities, and forms of popular justice will allow us to reconsider, among other things, shifting forms of statecraft and citizenship in the Western Hemisphere.

Throughout the course we will combine social theory with ethnographic material. Our case studies include the U.S.-Mexico border, where securitization has been accompanied by the escalation of violence and criminalization of migration; production of legal silence in Ecuador's prisons; the hybrid state in Jamaica and Brazil, where the government shares functions of law and punishment with criminal organizations; police governance in Argentina; citizen security

and vigilante justice in rural Mexico and urban Bolivia; demobilization and reintegration of paramilitaries in Colombia; as well as transnational activism and legal interventions in post-conflict societies, among other topics. In addition to the readings and documentaries outlined in this syllabus, as a class we will visit Florida State Prison in Starke.

Required books: (in the order they are assigned)

Seri, Guillermina

2012 Seguridad: Crime, Police Power, and Democracy in Argentina. New York: Continuum.

Goldstein, Daniel

2012 Outlawed: Between Security and Rights in a Bolivian City. Duke University Press.

The books are available for 2-hour loan at Reserve Desk at UF Library West. All remaining class readings can be downloaded from Canvas site.

Assignments and Grading:

Student grades will be based on 100 points divided as follows: active participation in class discussions (26 points); weekly reading notes (24 points); weekly reflection paragraphs (14 points), prison essay (6 points), and a research project (30 points).

Attendance: Absence for reasons of illness, religious holiday or official university business is excused. Please inform me as early as possible and provide appropriate documentation. You are responsible to contact a classmate to obtain notes on the materials covered. You are allowed one unexcused absence. After the second unexcused absence your final grade will be reduced a full letter (A to B, A- to B-, etc). Students with four or more unexcused absences will automatically fail the course.

Participation (26 points)

This is a discussion-based class. Careful preparation for each of the seminars during Weeks 1-13 and informed contribution is expected. Always bring an electronic or print copy of that day's readings to class, and come to the seminar with questions and ideas. To receive 2 points for the seminar your comments must demonstrate that you have done the assigned readings. Participation in discussions without showing your familiarity with the readings will be awarded a maximum of 1 point.

Weekly Reading Notes (24 points)

During Weeks 2-13, in preparation for class, you should read the assigned texts and write 1-2 pages of notes, double-spaced. These notes are informal and there is no correct way of writing them. It is expected that each of you will develop your own preferred style. The following are some guidelines to get started:

- Write down the main points, important quotes or phrases you would like to remember from the readings, and explain them in your own words;
- If you are puzzled by the text (or its parts), write your questions or list the arguments you disagree with and why;
- Use the material from the text to reflect on your research subject or on another topic that is of interest to you;
- Compare and contrast the text with other readings assigned for the class.

Reading notes are due on Canvas by the start of the seminar each week. You should also bring a print copy to class. You will get 2 points for each set of notes, if you complete the assignment in a timely manner and critically engage with the texts.

Weekly Reflection Paragraphs (14 points)

During Weeks 1-13 and for Week 16, after each class you should write a short paragraph, in which you reflect upon and critically appraise what you have learned during the week. Your reflections should be no shorter than half a page and no longer than one page, double-spaced.

Use the following questions as guidelines:

- What new have I learned this week?
- What were the key concepts presented?
- Does this new information make sense to me?
- How might I apply this knowledge in a novel/different situation?
- Are they useful for my research project?

The reflection paragraph should be posted on Canvas by noon on Friday of the same week as the seminar. You do not need to bring a print copy to class.

Prison Essay (6 points)

In the week following the visit to Florida State Prison you should submit a 2-page, double-spaced, reflection piece, in which you discuss what impact this experience had on your understanding of carceral politics and practices. The short essay should be posted on Canvas. You do not need to bring a print copy to class.

Research Project (30 points)

During the first few weeks of the course you will choose a research question, which will guide your individual work. It must be directly related to the themes addressed in the course. When choosing your research question, you are encouraged to visit the Latin American Collection and browse through the UF library resources available online. All students will write an annotated bibliography of their chosen topic, which is worth a total of 10 points, and is due during your individual 15min conference, scheduled for the first week of November. Specific instructions for preparing the bibliography will be given in early October. You can then choose to either do a 15 min in-class presentation of your project on the last day of class (December 10) or write a 10-15-page long research paper due on the last day of class (December 10). The class presentation or the paper will earn you a maximum of 20 points.

Course Rules:

Prison Visit: Students will sign for one of two group visits to the Florida State Prison: On Thursday, October 2 at 1:15pm or on Tuesday, October 21 at 1:15pm. In order to enter the prison, you will need to clear a background check. Further instructions and travel arrangements will be discussed in class.

Written work: Please follow these style guidelines:

- Use 12-point Times New Roman or similar font;
- Your documents should be double-spaced, with 1 inch margins;
- Include your last name and page number in the header/footer of each page;
- Cite all sources consistently, using the style of your choice.

Late Work and Extensions: If you know you will not be able to turn in the assignment on time, please notify me as early as possible. Extensions must be arranged in advance. Assignments will be marked down for each day they are late.

Grading Scale:

A = 94 and above; A- = 90-93; B+ = 87-89; B = 83-86; B- = 79-82; C+ = 76-78; C = 72-75; C- = 69-71; D+ = 66-68; D = 62-65; D- = 59-61; E = 58 and below.

Passing Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
Grade Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	.67

For further information, please consult UF grading policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Grade Appeals: Grades will not be discussed via e-mail. If you have a question or a complaint about your grade, please contact me within 48 hours of posting to arrange a meeting time.

Academic Honesty: All work submitted by a student for a grade must be completed by that student and free from unauthorized assistance or deliberate misrepresentations. The penalty for plagiarism or cheating is a grade of zero points on the assignment in question; in such cases an incident form will also be sent to the Office of the Dean. If you have questions about what constitutes academic misconduct, please consult the UF Honor Code as well as the UF Policies on Academic Honesty, Student Rights and Responsibilities. These are available online at: <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>.

Accommodations for Disabilities: Students who need classroom accommodation or other reasonable modifications to complete assignments successfully and satisfy course criteria are encouraged to meet with the instructor as early in the course as possible. You will be asked to supply a letter from the Disability Resource Center to assist in planning accommodations. Contact the Disability Resource Center at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>.

Health and Counseling:

Health and counseling services are available for students in the event personal problems threaten to hinder academic performance. You can contact UF Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>; 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Course Evaluations:

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Please note: The Instructor may make minor adjustments to class readings or assignments during the course of the semester. Any modifications will be announced ahead of time.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1, August 27

Course and Class Introductions

Asfura-Heim, Patricio and Ralph H. Espach

2013 The Rise of Mexico's Self-Defense Forces. *Foreign Affairs*. July/August 2013.

Althaus, Dudley and Stephen Dudley

2014 Mexico's Security Dilemma: Michoacán's Militias. The Wilson Center & InSight Crime.

Week 2, September 3

Contested Sovereignty

Hobbes, Thomas

1651 *Leviathan* (chapters XIII-XIV, XVII, XXVI-XXVIII)

[<http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/phl302/texts/hobbes/leviathan-contents.html>].

Jaffe, Rivke

2013 The Hybrid State: Crime and Citizenship in Urban Jamaica. *American Ethnologist* 40(4):734-748.

Penglase, Ben

2009 States of Insecurity: Everyday Emergencies, Public Secrets, and Drug Trafficker Power in a Brazilian Favela. *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review* 32(1):47-63.

Week 3, September 10

States of Exception

Schmitt, Carl

1985 "Definition of Sovereignty." *In* Political Theology: Four Chapters on the Concept of Sovereignty. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. Pp. 5-15.

Agamben, Giorgio

1998 "Introduction" and "The Paradox of Sovereignty." *In* Homo Sacer: Sovereign Power and Bare Life. Stanford: Stanford University Press. Pp. 1-29.

Coronil, Fernando, and Julie Skurski

2006 "Dismembering and Remembering the Nation: The Semantics of Political Violence in Venezuela." *In* States of Violence. F. Coronil and J. Skurski, eds. Pp. 83-143. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Week 4, September 17

Securitization and Militarization

Buzan, Barry, Jaap de Wilde, and Ole Waever

1998 Security Analysis: Conceptual Apparatus. *In* Security: A New Framework for Analysis. Pp. 21-48. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Pub.

Wacquant, Loïc

2008 The Militarization of Urban Marginality: Lessons from the Brazilian Metropolis.

- International Political Sociology* 2(1):56-74.
- Larkins, Erika Robb
 2013 Performances of Police Legitimacy in Rio's Hyper Favela. *Law & Social Inquiry* 38(3):553-575.

Week 5, September 24
Carceral Space

- Foucault, Michel
 1977 Panopticism. In *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. Pp. 195-228. New York: Pantheon Books.
- Garces, Chris
 2010 The Cross Politics of Ecuador's Penal State. *Cultural Anthropology* 25(3):459-496.
- Garces, Chris
 2014 Ecuador's "Black Site": On Prison Securitization and Its Zones of Legal Silence. *Focaal-Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology* 68:18-34.

Week 6, October 1
Policing

**Special Guest: Dr. Guillermina Seri, Union College*

- Seri, Guillermina
 2012 Seguridad: Crime, Police Power, and Democracy in Argentina. New York: Continuum. (Ch. 1-4 required; Ch. 5 optional; Ch. 6 required for graduate students, optional for undergraduate students)

Week 7, October 8
Governing the Border

- Inda, Jonathan Xavier
 2006 Border Prophylaxis: Technology, Illegality, and the Government of Immigration. *Cultural Dynamics* 18(2):115-138.
- Chavez, Leo R.
 2013 Spectacle in the Desert: The Minuteman Project on the U.S.-Mexico Border. In *Governing Immigration Through Crime: A Reader*. J. Dowling and J.X.R.R. Inda, eds. Pp. 115-128. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Doty, Roxanne Lynn
 2011 Bare Life: Border-Crossing Deaths and Spaces of Moral Alibi. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 29(4):599-612.

In-Class Documentary: *The 800 Mile Wall* (John Carlos Frey, 2010)

Week 8, October 15
Between Security and Human Rights

**Special Guest: Prof. Daniel Goldstein, Rutgers University*

Goldstein, Daniel

2012 *Outlawed: Between Security and Rights in a Bolivian City*. Duke University Press.

Week 9, October 22

Languages of Law

Poole, Deborah

2004 *Between Threat and Guarantee: Justice and Community in the Margins of the Peruvian State*. In *Anthropology in the Margins of the State* V. Das and D. Poole, eds. Pp. 35-65. Santa Fe, NM: School of American Research Press

Gordillo, Gastón

2006 *The Crucible of Citizenship: ID-paper Fetishism in the Argentinean Chaco*. *American Ethnologist* 33(2):162-176.

Gandsman, Ari

2009 "A Prick of a Needle Can Do No Harm": Compulsory Extraction of Blood in the Search for the Children of Argentina's Disappeared. *The Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* 14(1):162-184.

Week 10, October 29

Postwar Effects

Nelson, Diane M.

2009 *Hidden Powers, Duplicitous State/s*. In *Reckoning: The Ends of War in Guatemala*. Pp. 208-241. Durham: Duke University Press.

Sieder, Rachel

2011 *Contested Sovereignities: Indigenous Law, Violence and State Effects in Postwar Guatemala*. *Critique of Anthropology* 31(3):161-184.

In-Class Documentary: *Granito: How to Nail a Dictator* (Pamela Yates, 2011)

Week 11, November 5

From Victims to Citizens

Holston, James

2009 *Insurgent Citizenship in an Era of Global Urban Peripheries*. *City & Society* 21(2):245-267.

Tate, Winifred

2013 *Proxy Citizenship and Transnational Advocacy: Colombian Activists from Putumayo to Washington, DC*. *American Ethnologist* 40(1):55-70.

Theidon, Kimberly

2009 *Reconstructing Masculinities: The Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration of Former Combatants in Colombia*. *Human Rights Quarterly* 31(1):1-34.

Week 12, November 12

Homefront

Coutin, Susan Bibler

2005 Being En Route. *American Anthropologist* 107(2):195-206.

Menjívar, Cecilia, and Leisy J. Abrego

2012 Legal Violence: Immigration Law and the Lives of Central American Immigrants. *American Journal of Sociology* 117(5):1380-1421.

Stuesse, Angela, and Mathew Coleman

2014 Automobility, Immobility, Altermobility: Surviving and Resisting the Intensification of Immigrant Policing. *City & Society* 26(1):51-72.

Week 13, November 19

Lawfare

Comaroff, John L., and Jean Comaroff

2006 Law and Disorder in the Postcolony: An Introduction *In* Law and Disorder in the Postcolony. J.L. Comaroff and J. Comaroff, eds. Pp. 1-56. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Week 14, November 26

No Class (Thanksgiving)

Week 15, December 3

No Class (American Anthropological Association meeting in DC)

Week 16, December 10

Student Presentations and Final Reflections