

CARLETON UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINE

GEOGRAPHY 5400/ INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS 5402, FALL 2010

"TERRITORY AND TERRITORIALITY"

Schedule: Seminars on Tuesdays, 14:35-17:25, B220 Loeb

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Office Hours: Thursdays 11:00-13:00, or by appointment.

Geopolitical changes at the end of the cold war challenged then conventional notions of the importance of boundaries and territories in the political organization of (post) modernity. Shifting political identities after the cold war were no less dramatic; new states appeared regularly; often justified in terms of self-determination. The concurrent debate about globalization was in part one about the new geographies of politics and culture as well as recognition of the new economic realities of the times. Academic studies of territoriality and boundaries have evolved to reflect and analyze these changing geopolitical patterns and processes. But now too the capabilities of territorially defined political entities seem ever more doubtful in the face of processes of urbanization, globalisation, the “war on terror”, contemporary militarization and now very obviously climate change too.

Critical thinking of many forms – poststructural, feminist and post-colonial only most obviously – have engaged the assumptions of stable territorial political identities and suggested that spatial assumptions are part of what need to be investigated if scholars are to unravel the complexities of contemporary forms of violence, culture, economy and politics. The ethics of inter-cultural dialogue are set in the contexts of boundaries and immigration, diasporic politics and mobile subjectivities. Interdisciplinary investigations of all these things have repeatedly queried the spatial premises of contemporary political thinking; in doing so the territorial specifications of politics are repeatedly put in question.

Objectives:

This course investigates territoriality as a political and intellectual strategy through an investigation of contemporary writings on international relations, geopolitics, security, war, sovereignty, ethics and identity politics. To do so it draws on the contemporary literature in international relations, political geography and more generally on literature in contemporary social and political theory. The first portion of the course will examine theoretical issues drawing from geographical, international relations and social theory literatures. Subsequently these theoretical perspectives will be used to interrogate specific topics selected by course participants for seminar presentations.

Course Evaluation:

Participation and seminar presentation 40%; paper 60%. (Participation will be judged on the basis of thoughtful contributions to the weekly discussion and a single page commentary on the assigned readings submitted at the beginning of the seminar each week.)

REQUIRED TEXTS

All required readings for this course are journal articles available online through Carleton University Library.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SEMINAR TOPICS AND REQUIRED READINGS

Week 1. (14 September) Introduction and Orientation

Week 2. (21 September) Knowing Spaces

John Agnew "Making the strange familiar: Geographical analogy in global geopolitics"

Geographical Review 99(3): 2009. 426-443.

Joel Wainwright and Trevor J. Barnes "Nature, economy, and the space - place distinction"

Environment and Planning D: Society and Space 27: 2009. 966-986.

Valerie November, Eduardo Camacho-Hubner and Bruno Latour "Entering a risky territory: space in the age of digital navigation" Environment and Planning D: Society and Space 28: 2010. 581-599.

Andrea Mubi Brighenti "On Territorology Towards a General Science of Territory" Theory, Culture & Society 27(1): 2010. 52-72.

Week 3. (28 September) Territorial Foundations

Adam Rosen-Carole "Belated Foundations" Alternatives 34: 2009. 299-337.

Hans Vollard "The Logic of political territoriality" Geopolitics 14(4): 2009. 687-706.

Charlie Jeffrey "The challenge of territorial politics" Policy and Politics 36(4): 2008. 545-557.

Gordon MacLeod and Martin Jones "Territorial, scalar, networked, connected: In what sense a 'regional world'?" Regional Studies 41(9): 2007. 1177-1191.

Week 4. (5 October) Critical Geopolitics

Jennifer Hyndman "The question of 'the political' in critical geopolitics: Querying the 'child soldier' in the 'war on terror'" Political Geography 29(5): 2010. 247-255.

Gearóid Ó Tuathail "Localizing geopolitics: Disaggregating violence and return in conflict regions" Political Geography 29(5): 2010. 256-265.

Derek Gregory "Seeing Red: Baghdad and the event-ful city" Political Geography 29(5): 2010. 266-279.

Katharyne Mitchell "Ungoverned space: Global security and the geopolitics of broken windows" Political Geography 29(5): 2010. 289-297.

Week 5. (12 October) Mapping Border Territories

Eiki Berg "Re-Examining sovereignty claims in changing territorialities: Reflections from 'Kosovo syndrome'" Geopolitics 14(2): 2009. 219-234.

Klaus Dodds, "Flag planting and finger pointing: The Law of the Sea, the Arctic and the political geographies of the outer continental shelf" Political Geography 29(2): 2010. 63-73.

Marcela Alvarez Perez and Mark T. Berger "Bordering on the Ridiculous: MexAmerica and the New Regionalism" Alternatives 34: 2009. 1-16.

Reece Jones "Geopolitical boundary narratives, the global war on terror and border fencing in India" Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers NS 34: 2009. 290-304.

Week 6. (19 October) Environmental Spaces?

(Deadline to finalize readings/seminar topics and schedule for weeks 8-11)

- Gabriela Valdivia "Governing relations between people and things: Citizenship, territory, and the political economy of petroleum in Ecuador" Political Geography 27(4): 2008. 456-477.
- Nancy Lee Peluso "A political ecology of violence and territory in West Kalimantan" Asia Pacific Viewpoint 49(1): 2008. 48-67.
- David M. Lansing "Carbon's calculatory spaces: the emergence of carbon offsets in Costa Rica" Environment and Planning D: Society and Space 28: 2010. 710-725.
- Robyn Eckersley "Ecological Intervention: Prospects and Limits." Ethics and International Affairs 21(3): 2007. 293-316.

Week 7. (26 October) Governance and Geography

- R.B.J. Walker "Lines of Insecurity: International, Imperial, Exceptional" Security Dialogue 37(1): 2006. 65-82.
- Louisa Cadman "How (not) to be governed: Foucault, critique, and the political" Environment and Planning D: Society and Space 28(3): 2010. 539-556.
- Samer Alatur "Walls as technologies of government: The double construction of geographies of peace and conflict in Israeli politics 2002-present" Annals of the Association of American Geographers 99(5): 2009. 956-968.
- Noel Parker "From Borders to Margins: A Deleuzian Ontology for Identities in the Postinternational Environment" Alternatives 34: 2009. 17-39

Weeks 8, 9, 10, 11 (2, 9, 16, 23 November) Student Presentations/Discussions

Week 12 (30 November) Conclusion (Course wrap up, paper deadline, evaluations etc.)

GRADES AND EVALUATION

Participation: This is an important component of this course, the seminar will only work as a venue to explore the difficult issues raised by contemporary literature on territoriality if there is sustained dialogue among all students. The required weekly single sheet commentary on the readings is designed to focus attention on the key issues and to provide a vehicle for clarifying questions and comments to be raised in the seminar. It may be written as a series of questions, comments, meditations or personal reflections on the readings, but it must engage each of the assigned readings each week. It will not be formally graded but students will be notified if their contributions are not adequately coming to terms with the themes in the literature. As part of the participation component of the course students will also be expected to respond to each other's presentations in the latter part of the course; students will be assigned to briefly respond to two presentations by posing the presenter a number of prepared questions.

Seminar presentations: Presentations will, so far as possible, be grouped into thematically logical clusters, so that presentations on similar themes will occur on the same day. They may offer a critical interrogation of a particular text, or deal more broadly with the application of the theories discussed in the first half of the course to some particular historical or contemporary

problem involving territorial claims or conflicts. Each presenter is responsible for selecting their own topic, and for selecting one reading that acts as background and/or theoretical contextualization for the presentation. These have to be selected early enough so that they can be made available for reading in advance of the presentation. A single page outline of the presentation should be circulated in the seminar during the presentation. Presentations must be focused and to the point; they ought to be **ten** minutes long. They will be strictly limited to **twelve** minutes to allow plenty of discussion time.

Papers: Papers, which may be an elaborated version of the seminar presentation, are open to any empirical or theoretical issue that is germane to the course themes. The key requirement for an acceptable paper for this course is that the theoretical material on territoriality is put to work in the paper to interrogate some historical or contemporary theme. Theoretical papers on the themes of territory, territoriality and related matters of international relations, geopolitics and social theory are also encouraged.

Papers must be original, in that they will be written specifically for this course. They will be clearly organized and articulate a coherent theme or argument. They must use the appropriate literature and sources that would normally be expected for a paper being prepared for publication in a scholarly journal. They will be approximately 5,000, but no longer than 6,000 words in length (excluding references or notes), correctly and completely referenced, using any one of the standard academic reference or footnoting styles. Each of these factors will be taken into consideration in evaluating the paper. **Deadline: 30 November in class.**

Note on Institutional Offences and Academic Accommodations

Students are requested to read the section ‘Instructional Offences’ in the University’s Graduate Calendar and in the case of NPSIA students, appropriate material in the NPSIA Information Package. Cheating, plagiarism and/or complementarity will be severely penalised. Penalties range from a zero mark to expulsion or suspension from studies at the University. The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.”

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary letters of accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet and discuss your needs with me. This is necessary in order to ensure sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements. Please note the deadlines for submitting completed forms to the Paul Menton Centre.

BACKGROUND READING

The discussions in this course draw on a wide variety of intellectual sources in many disciplines. Various editions of The Dictionary of Human Geography may provide useful geographical reference material. The special double issue of Theory, Culture & Society 23(2&3), May 2006 containing their "encyclopedia" may be helpful for many aspects of contemporary social theory. (Please also note there are resources related to this course in the NPSIA reading room, DT1326.)

Students completely unfamiliar with the theme of territory might find David Delaney's Territory: A Short Introduction (Oxford: Blackwell, 2005) a useful starting place. The classic discussion is in R.D. Sack Human Territoriality: Its Theory and History (Cambridge University Press 1986). Anthony Burke's volume Beyond Security, Ethics and Violence (Routledge 2007) covers many of the themes in this course without the explicit territorial focus. On liberalism, war, violence and biopolitics see Michael Dillon and Julian Reid The Liberal Way of War (Routledge 2009). The unavoidable theme of sovereignty is reviewed once again recently in Jean Bethke Elshtain's Sovereignty: God, State and Self (Basic Books 2008). Lauren Benton's A Search for Sovereignty: Law and Geography in European Empires 1400-1900 (Cambridge University Press 2010) puts many imperial things in useful historical perspective. Saskia Sassen's Territory, Authority, Rights: From Medieval to Global Assemblages (Princeton 2nd edition 2008) covers many of the course themes too from a sociologist's perspective. Political theorists may find Avery Kolers' discussion of conquest and settlement interesting in his Land, Conflict and Justice: A Political Theory of Territory (Cambridge University Press 2009). R.B.J. Walker's After the Globe, Before the World (Routledge, 2010) offers a fascinating overview of relevant political theory focused on the spatial presuppositions in contemporary discourse.

Course texts used in previous years include R.B.J. Walker Inside/Outside: International Relations as Political Theory Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993; Thom Kuehls Beyond Sovereign Territory Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1996; Gearóid Ó Tuathail Critical Geopolitics Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1996; Michael Shapiro Violent Cartographies Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1997; David Newman (ed.) Boundaries, Territory and Postmodernity London: Frank Cass, 1999; "Territorialities, Identities, and Movement in International Relations" special issue of Millennium 28(3) 1999; David Campbell and Michael J. Shapiro (eds) Moral Spaces: Rethinking Ethics and World Politics Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1999; Mathias Albert, David Jacobson and Yosef Lapid (eds) Identities, Borders, Orders: Rethinking International Relations Theory Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2001; Warren Magnusson and Karena Shaw (eds) A Political Space: Reading the Global in Clayoquot Sound Montreal and Kingston: McGill Queen's Press 2002; Erin Manning Ephemeral Territories: Representing Nation, Home, and Identity in Canada Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2003; Daniel Drache Borders Matter: Homeland Security and the Search for North America Halifax: Fernwood, 2004; Angus Cameron and Ronen Palan The Imagined Economies of Globalization London: Sage, 2004; Matthew Sparke In the Space of Theory: Postfoundational Geographies of the Nation-State Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2005; Ronnie Lipschutz The Constitution of Imperium Boulder: Paradigm 2009.