

Policing the Globe:

The Historical Origins of Contemporary Police Power

Instructor: Amit Prakash

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Office Hours: 312 Twilight Hall; Tues. & Thurs. 9:00AM-10:00AM

Meeting Place & Time: 301 Twilight Hall; Mon.-Thurs., 10:30AM-12:30PM

Weekly Film Viewing: Twilight Hall Auditorium; Wednesdays, 7:00PM-9:30PM

Course Description:

It has become commonplace to speak of the militarization of the police forces in many parts of the world as a recent phenomenon borne of the War on Terror. While it is the case that police militarization is a key feature to the contemporary security apparatus of many states, the overlap of war-making and policing has a deeper history that reaches back into the nineteenth century. Taking as its basic premise that global phenomena have global origins, this course will trace the history of contemporary policing norms and practices by studying the concept of the police, the rise of modern police forces alongside and in dynamic relation to colonial policing, the police and the War on Drugs in America, decolonization and counterinsurgency, and the present-day policing of dissent. As a culminating project, students will select a contemporary topic in policing and write a research paper, make a podcast, create a website, or make a documentary video.

Required Texts:

Radley Balko, *The Rise of the Warrior Cop: The Militarization of America's Police Forces* (Public Affairs, 2013).

Bernard Harcourt, *The Counterrevolution: How Our Government Went to War Against Its Own Citizens* (Basic Books, 2018).

Clifford Rosenberg, *Policing Paris: The Origins of Immigration Control between the Wars* (Cornell University Press, 2006).

Micol Seigel, *Violence Work: State Power and the Limits of the Police* (Duke University Press, 2018).

Roger Trinquier, *Modern Warfare: A French View of Counterinsurgency* (Praeger, 2006).

Lesley J. Wood, *Crisis and Control: The Militarization of Protest Policing* (Pluto Press, 2014).

Week 1

Mon., January 7 - Class 1: Course Introduction

Course introduction, expectations, and discussion of culminating research projects

Tues., January 8 - Class 2: Concept of the Police

The Modern State, Governmentality, and the Police

-Michel Foucault, *Security, Territory, Population* (Picador, 2004), 312-358.

-Mark Neocleous, *The Fabrication of Social Order: A Critical Theory of Police Power* (Pluto, 2000), 1-21.

Wed., January 9 - Class 3: Global History and the Police

Contemporary Police Power and Its Global Origins

-Sebastian Conrad, *What is Global History?* (Princeton, 2016), 62-89.

-Jana Honke and Markus-Michael Muller (eds.), *The Global Making of Policing: Postcolonial Perspectives* (Routledge, 2016), 1-20.

Film Viewing: *Do Not Resist* (Atkinson, 2016) – Twilight Auditorium (7pm-9:30pm)

Thurs., January 10 – Class 4: The Emergence of the Modern Police

State Power, Police Power

-His-Huey Liang, *The Rise of the Modern Police and the State System from Metternich to the Second World War* (Cambridge University Press, 1992), 1-10.

-Franz-Ludwig Knemeyer and Keith Trib, “Polizei” *Economy and Society*, Vol. 9, No. 2 (May 1980), 172-196.

-Marc Raeff, “The Well-Ordered Police State and the Development of Modernity in the 17th and 18th Century Europe: An Attempt at a Comparative Approach,” *American Historical Review*, Vol. 80, No. 5 (Dec., 1975), 1221-1243.

Week 2

Mon., January 14 – Class 5: Policing the Colony and Metropole

Paris and the Colonial Situation

-Clifford Rosenberg, *Policing Paris: The Origins of Modern Immigration Control Between the Wars* (Cornell University Press, 2006), 109-167.

-Amit Prakash, “Colonial Techniques in the Imperial Capital: The Prefecture of Police and the Surveillance of North Africans in Paris, 1925-c.1970,” *French Historical Studies*, Vol. 36, No. 3 (Summer, 2013), 479-510.

Tues., January 15 – Class 6: The Algerian War and the War-Police Fusion (I)

War as Policing in the Colonies

-*The Struggle for Algeria* – packet of secondary and primary documents (35 pages)

*****VIDEO CONFERENCE WITH DERAY MCKESSON*** 10:30am-11:30am**

Wed., January 16 – Class 7: The Algerian War and the War-Police Fusion (II)

French Counterinsurgency and War-Police

-Col. Roger Trinquier, *Modern Warfare: A French View of Counterinsurgency* (Praeger Security International, 2006 (first pub. 1964), 1-34, 45-50.

Film Viewing: *The Battle of Algiers* (Pontecorvo, 1966) – Twilight Auditorium (7pm-9:30pm)

Thurs., January 17 – Class 8: Meetings to Discuss Research Projects

-Individual meetings with students or groups to check in on research progress

Week 3

Mon., January 21 – NO CLASS – Happy MLK Day!

Suggested reading:

<http://origins.osu.edu/article/policing-police-civil-rights-story>

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/apr/04/martin-luther-king-cornel-west-legacy>

Tues., January 22 – Class 9: The Origins of Police Militarization in America: National Logic

-Nikhil Pal Singh, *Race and America's Long War* (Oakland, CA; University of California Press, 2017), 35-73.

-Radley Balko, *Rise of the Warrior Cop: The Militarization of America's Police Forces* (Public Affairs, 2014), 32-42, 51-74, 96-97, 132-133, 136-137, 145-147, 206-214, 300-304, 307-308.

Wed., January 23 – Class 10: The Origins of Police Militarization in America: Global Logic

-Bernard Harcourt, *The Counterrevolution: How Our Government Went to War Against Its Own Citizens* (Basic Books, 2018), 1-56, 129-180, 199-212. – Skype Discussion with Bernard Harcourt

*****VIDEO CONFERENCE WITH BERNARD HARCOURT*** 11:00am-11:30am**

Film Viewing: *Detroit* (Bigelow, 2017) – Twilight Auditorium (7pm-9:30pm)

Thurs., January 24 – Class 11: Global Circulations of Police Techniques

The American Empire, Foreign and Domestic

-William Rosenau, “Our Ghettos, Too, Need a Landsdale’: American Counterinsurgency Abroad and at Home in the Vietnam Era,” C.W. Gventer, D.M. Jones, and M.L.R. Smith (eds.), *The New Counterinsurgency Era in Critical Perspective* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2014), 111-126.

-Micol Seigel, *Violence Work: State Power and the Limits of Police* (Duke University Press, 2018), 1-72, 121-145.

Week 4: Policing Dissent Today

Mon., January 28 – Class 12: Force and Dissent

Social Resistance and Police Power across the Globe

-Lesley Wood, *Crisis and Control: The Militarization of Protest Policing* (Pluto Press, 2014), 1-53, 68-93.

Tues., January 29 – Class 13: Protest as the Enemy

The Logic of Repression

-Wood, *Crisis and Control*, 124-168.

<https://what-democracy-looks-like.org/policing-political-protest-paradoxes-of-the-age-of-austerity/>

Wed., January 30 – Class 14: Presentations

Student presentations on culminating projects

Thurs., January 31 – Class 15 : Presentations

Student presentations on culminating projects