

JHR 510

Fall 2009 – Draft (2) Syllabus -- Sands 327

Problem-based Seminar in Social Justice & Human Rights

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Political Evil, Economic Crime, & Alternative Cultural Practices in a Global Era

Interdisciplinary seminar examines current problems in social justice and human rights from several different theoretical and analytical viewpoints. May be repeated once for credit.

This interdisciplinary graduate seminar is an analysis of the following contemporary problems related to advancing social justice and human rights in the present world context of neoliberal globalization:

1. State Terror, Surveillance, Securitization & Human Rights Violations: State of Exception and “Bare Life”

Remedies: Beyond the “War on Terror” ,
the “

War on Drugs” and Repressive Biopolitics

2. Corporate Crime & the (Re)production of Inequalities

Remedies: Democratizing Economic
Globalization

3. Unequal Exchange: Inequalities of Global Trade

Remedies: Fair Trade: Market-based
Social Change

4. Globalization, Gender-focused Crime, & the Militarization of City Life

Remedies: Networks, Social Movements &
Visibility

5. Illicit Flows & the Global Criminal Economy

Remedies: Reframing Justice in a
Globalizing World

6. Global Sex Trafficking, Crime & Modern-Day Slavery

Remedies: A Framework for Abolition

7. Narcoterrorism, the “War on Drugs, & Human Rights Violations

Remedies: A Case Study of Indigenous
Cultural Alternatives for Democracy,
Economic Well-being, Sustainability &
Spiritual Well-being

One of the goals of this course is to achieve a better understanding of the above topics. Hence, there will be considerable attention to different theoretical analyses of globalization, globalization's effects on social justice and human rights, and the potential transformative impact of alternative cultures and social networks on globalization processes.

A second goal is to assess some of the scholarship in the field.

A third goal is to exercise and develop your analytical and communication skills.

Requirements:

1) Attend class and participate in discussions (15% of final grade)

The positive criteria by which you are evaluated are as follows:

- presence in class
- preparation-your contribution demonstrates you carefully read the readings and understand the key points
- quality of argument: you contribute accurate, relevant evidence with sound and insightful reasoning
- quality of expression: your contribution is clear, concise, audible and directed to your peers
- contribution to the discussion: you listen to others' comments, build upon their ideas, respond to them, respectfully critique them, and/or ask constructive questions

Negative criteria that will lower your grade include:

- unresponsiveness
- disruptiveness: you disrupt discussion with social chatter, your contribution is unrelated to the current discussion and is distracting, you are insensitive to others, you attempt to dominate the conversation, or you arrive to class late or leave early.

2) Lead (or Co-lead) one seminar meeting. (15% of final grade)

The seminar discussion leader(s) is (are) expected to identify the main issues and questions (theoretical, empirical, and policy-related) in the readings. The discussion leader(s) is (are) not expected to answer those questions alone—that is the task of the entire class. In leading a discussion, each leader should expect to spend NO MORE than 15 minutes at the beginning of the seminar presenting the readings in a critical fashion: what are the main questions arising from the articles/books, what are the main problems, how do the works contrast with or complement each other? Each leader must also prepare a list of 5 questions which the entire class may discuss, and a one page summary of the main points of the readings. Each leader should post that list of questions by 5pm on the Sunday prior to the course on blackboard and use email to send a note to everyone that the questions have been posted. You may delay distribution of the abstracts of the readings until class.

3) Write 1 short paper during the semester. (20% of final grade)

The short paper must be five (5) or six (6) pages and must be 1 ½-spaced. I will ask you to choose the week of your paper in democratic fashion in class in collaboration with all other seminar members. You must choose to do your short paper about a week's readings for which you are NOT a seminar leader. The papers are due on the Monday of the seminar, no later than 6:05 pm on the evening that those readings are to be discussed in class.

The object of the short papers shall be to identify the central issues that the assigned readings of the week address, to locate the authors' positions vis-à-vis those issues, and to comment critically on the state of the debate and the value of the individual contributions to it. You should keep the following questions in mind: What are the central issues at stake in this literature? What are the principal arguments of the works under study? What does each contribute to our

understanding of the topic in question, or to the broader topic of globalization, social justice, and human rights? What are the main theoretical or empirical strengths or weaknesses of the major studies? How valuable and viable is the theory that each proposes? Is the empirical evidence appropriate and convincing? In short, you are writing a brief review essay. It should go beyond summary of the readings toward critical commentary and a discussion of the issues that unite the works. Or, the paper may be a position paper, positing and supporting an explanation of a phenomenon.

Prose and style matter. Be focused and to-the-point and USE SPELL CHECK. Also, do your own, non-computer mediated PROOFREADING.

4) -Write a research paper on a topic to be arranged (50% of the final grade)

This should be on a substantive and/or theoretical question or set of questions which are related to the topics covered in the course, and 20-pages (1 ½-spaced) in length, using a variety of academic sources and data. Prose and style matter. Be focused, terse and selective, and USE SPELL CHECK and do your own, non-computer mediated PROOFREADING.

You must give me a two-page outline of the proposed topic and likely sources no later than Oct. 26, 2009 in class. Failure to meet that deadline will result in an E for the course.

For all students, the research paper is due in class on **Dec. 7, 2009**.

- In all activities and work pertaining to this class, you are required to adhere to the University Student Academic Integrity Policy. Plagiarism on any one assignment constitutes grounds for failure of the course.

Course/Instructor Evaluation

The course/instructor evaluation for this course will be conducted online 7-10 days before the last official day of classes of each semester or summer session. Your response(s) to the course/instructor are anonymous and will not be returned to your instructor until after grades have been submitted. The use of a course/instructor evaluation is an important process that allows our college to (1) help faculty improve their instruction, (2) help administrators evaluate instructional quality, (3) ensure high standards of teaching, and (4) ultimately improve instruction and student learning over time. Completion of the evaluation is not required for you to pass this class and will not affect your grade, but your cooperation and participation in this process is critical. About two weeks before the class finishes, watch for an e-mail with "ASU Course/Instructor Evaluation" in the subject heading. The email will be sent to your official ASU e-mail address, so make sure ASU has your current email address on file.

Required Books for Purchase at the ASU West Campus bookstore:

Giorgio Agamben, *Homo Sacer: Sovereign Power and Bare Life*. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 1998.

Harry Glasbeek, *Wealth By Stealth: Corporate Law, Corporate Crime, And The Perversion Of Democracy*. Toronto: Between the Lines Press, 2003.

Kathleen Staudt, *Violence and Activism at the Border: Gender, Fear, and Everyday Life in Ciudad Juárez*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2008.

Siddharth Kara, *Sex Trafficking: Inside the Business of Modern Slavery*. New York City: Columbia University Press, 2009.

Other Materials

As noted in the Schedule of Readings below, the professor will employ Blackboard to distribute, as appropriate, news articles and other documents for us to consider, and we may be viewing parts of some films and/or documentaries, including, among others:

Feature Film: "District 9"

- Illustrates Giorgio Agamben's concept of "naked" or "bare life" of the individual subject to the sovereign (the government) exercising power over life in the context of a "state of exception".
- Also illustrates Agamben's concept of the "state of exception" during which the sovereign (the government) -- operating in a liminal space neither inside nor outside of the law -- breaks constitutional rules which he/she safeguards.
- Practice of "public security" becomes organized crime

Books on Reserve at the ASU West Fletcher Library:

Patrick Hayden, *Political evil in a global age : Hannah Arendt and international theory*. London: Routledge, 2009.

Laura T Raynolds, *Fair Trade: The Challenges of Transforming Globalization*

Kimberly Grimes, et, al., eds. *Artisans and Cooperatives: Developing Alternative Trade for the Global Economy*.

Schedule of Readings

Week 1, Aug. 24 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Introductions

View Feature Film at Harkins Metrocenter 12: "District 9"

Browse: Patrick Hayden, Political Evil in a Global Age: Violating the human status : the evil of genocide and crimes against humanity -- Superfluous humanity : the evil of global poverty -- Citizens of nowhere : the evil of statelessness -- Effacing the political : the evil of neoliberal globalization.

Week 2, Aug. 31 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

State Terror, Surveillance, Securitization & Human Rights Violations:
State of Exception and “Bare Life”

Remedies: Beyond the “War on Terror” , the
“War on Drugs” and Repressive Biopolitics

Agamben, Homo Sacer: pp. 1- 86.

Discussion of “District 9” in relation to Agamben

Discussion of the Social Construction of Crime

Week 3, Sept. 7 - LABOR DAY - No Class

Week 4, Sept. 14 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

State Terror, Surveillance, Securitization & Human Rights Violations:
State of Exception and “Bare Life”

Remedies: Beyond the “War on Terror” , the
“War on Drugs” and Repressive Biopolitics

Agamben, Homo Sacer: pp. 87 - 188.

Review Essay of Agamben’s State of Exeception: On reserve

Week 5, Sept. 21 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Documentary Film: “The Corporation” [View various segments]

Corporate Crime & the (Re)production of Inequalities

Harry Glasbeek, Wealth By Stealth: Chaps. 1 – 7.

Week 6, Sept. 28 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Corporate Crime & the (Re)production of Inequalities

Glasbeek, Wealth By Stealth: Chaps. 8 – 14.

Katja Franko Aas, "Crime, Fear, and Social Exclusion in the Global Village." In Katja Franko Aas, Globalization and Crime. Los Angeles: Sage, 2007. (On Library Reserve)

Week 7, Oct. 5 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Unequal Exchange: Global Trade & Inequalities

Kimberly Grimes, et, al., eds. Artisans and Cooperatives: Developing Alternative Trade for the Global Economy: Chaps. 1, 2, 8 and Postscript

Remedies?: Fair Trade: Market -based Social Change

Laura T Reynolds, Fair Trade: The Challenges of Transforming Globalization: Introduction and Chaps. 1 – 7.

Week 8, Oct. 12 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Remedies?: Fair Trade: Market -based Social Change

Laura T Reynolds, Fair Trade: The Challenges of Transforming Globalization: Introduction and Chaps. 8 - 13.

Week 9, Oct. 19 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Globalization, Gender-focused Crime, & the Militarization of City Life

Remedies: Networks, Social Movements & Visibility

Kathleen Staudt, Violence and Activism at the Border: Gender, Fear and Everyday Life in Ciudad Juárez: Chaps. 1 – 6.

Week 10, Oct. 26 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Illicit Flows & the Global Criminal Economy

Remedies: Reframing Justice in a Globalizing World

Katja Franko Aas, "The Deviant Migrant': Migration and Discourse about Crime." In Katja Franko Aas, Globalization and Crime. Los Angeles: Sage, 2007.

Julie A. Murphy Erfani, "Crime and Violence in the Arizona-Sonora Borderlands: NAFTA's Underground Economy as Source of In/security with Comparisons to the EU." In Kathleen Staudt, ed. Violence, Security, and Human Rights at the U.S.-Mexico Border. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2009. (To be posted on Library Reserve)

Moises Naim, Illicit: How Smugglers, Traffickers, and Copycats are Hijacking the Global Economy: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 (To be on Library Reserve)

Week 11, Nov. 2

Proposed Class Trip to Ciudad Juárez -- Approximately Oct. 30–Nov. 2
(Details to be deliberated in class)

Week 12, Nov. 9 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Ciudad Juárez – Agamben Discussion:

Giorgio Agamben: State of Exception: Chapters 1 – 6.

Week 13, Nov. 16 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Global Sex Trafficking, Crime & Modern-Day Slavery

Remedies: A Framework for Abolition

Siddharth Kara, Sex Trafficking: Inside the Business of Modern Slavery: Chapters 1-8.

Week 14, Nov. 23 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Narcoterrorism, the “War on Drugs, & Human Rights Violations

Narcoterrorism: Various UTube narcoterrorism posts, news accounts, and analyses of narcoterrorism to be posted on Blackboard

Human Rights Watch, “Uniform Impunity: Mexico's Misuse of Military Justice to Prosecute Abuses in Counternarcotics and Public Security Operations,” April 2009. (PDF file to be posted on Blackboard)

Week 15, Nov. 30 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Remedies: Transnational Networks for Human Security

Julie A. Murphy Erfani, “Whose Security? Dilemmas of US Border Security in the Arizona-Sonora Borderlands.” In Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly, Borderlands: Comparing Border Security in North America and Europe. Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 2007. (To be on reserve in ASU West Library)

Remedies: A Case Study of Indigenous Cultural Alternatives for Democracy, Economic Well-being, Sustainability & Spiritual Well-being

Philip Dahl-bredine, et. al. The Other Game: Lessons from How Life is Played in Mexican Villages. Orbis Books, Feb. 28, 2008: Entire book. (To be on reserve in ASU West Library)

Week 16, Dec. 7 (Meets 6:05 – 8:55 PM - SANDS 327)

Brief Presentations of Research Paper Arguments by All Students

ALL Research Papers Due in Class At 6:05 PM