

Carleton University Course Outline

GEOGRAPHY 5400 / INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS 5402, WINTER 2015

TERRITORY AND TERRITORIALITY

Weekly Seminars on Mondays, 18:05-20:55, A220 Loeb

Professor: Dr. Victor Konrad, A301B Loeb; email: Victor.Konrad@carleton.ca

Office hours: Mondays 16:00-18:00, or by appointment

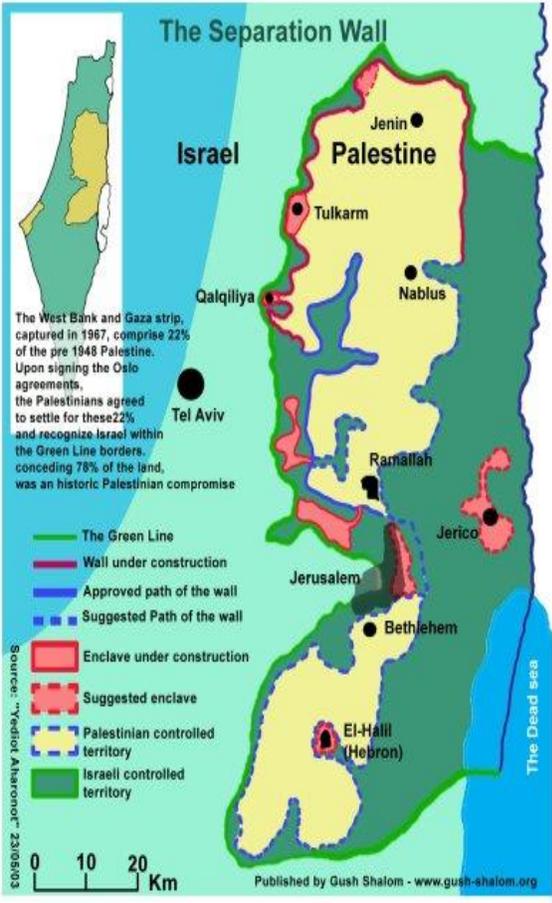
Context:

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 postmodernity. 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. In one sense, now the capabilities of territorially defined political entities seem ever more doubtful in the face of processes of urbanization, globalization, the "war on terror", contemporary militarization and climate change. Yet, borders are increasing in number and being enhanced in an ostensibly borderless world.

Critical thinking of many forms – post structural, feminist, post-colonial most prominent among them – 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 of these things have repeatedly questioned the spatial premises of contemporary political thinking. In doing so the territorial specifications of politics are repeatedly put in question.

Objectives:

This course explores 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. In the balance of the course, these theoretical issues will be used to interrogate specific topics selected by course participants for seminar presentations.



Territorial Separation and Re-alignment



Course Evaluation:

Participation and seminar presentation 50%; paper 50%. 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 Reading:

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

Please note that readings listed may be updated further late in the fall of 2014 to include the most recent literature on the topics. This may result in some of the readings replaced with more current contributions to the literature.

Weekly Schedule of Seminar Topics and Required Readings:

Week 1 (January 5) Introduction and Orientation

Week 2 (January 12) Knowing Spaces

John Agnew, (2009) Making the strange familiar: Geographical analogy in global geopolitics, *Geographical Review* 99 (3): 426-443.

Alexander B. Murphy, (2013) Territory's Continuing Allure, *Annals, Association of American Geographers* 103 (5): 1212-1226.

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

Juan-Manuel Trillo-Santamaria and Valeria Paul (2014) The Oldest Boundary in Europe? A Critical Approach to the Spanish-Portuguese Border: The *Raia* Between Galicia and Portugal, *Geopolitics* 19, 1: 161-181.

Week 3 (January 19) Territorial Foundations

John Agnew, (2010) Still trapped in territory? *Geopolitics* 15 (4): 779-784.

Reid Simon-Henry, (2010) The territorial trap fifteen years on, *Geopolitics* 15 (4): 752-756.

Sami Moisiö and Anssi Paasi (2013) Beyond State-Centricity: Geopolitics of Changing State Spaces, *Geopolitics* 18 (2): 255-266.

Seung-Ook Lee, (2014) The Production of Territory in North Korea: 'Security First, Economy Next' *Geopolitics* 19, 1: 206-226.

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

Week 4 (January 26) Critical Geopolitics

Simon Dalby, (2008) Imperialism, domination, culture: The continued relevance of critical geopolitics, *Geopolitics* 13 (3): 413-436.

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

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

Mark Salter (2012) Theory of the /: The Suture and Critical Border Studies, *Geopolitics* 17 (4): 734-755.

Week 5 (February 2) Borders and Borderlands

Christophe Sohn (2014) Modelling Cross-Border Integration: The Role of Borders as a Resource, *Geopolitics* 19, 3: 587-608.

Marcela Alvarez Perez and Mark T. Berger, (2009) Bordering on the ridiculous: MexAmerica and the new regionalism, *Alternatives* 34: 1-16.

Klaus Dodds (2013) 'I'm Still Not Crossing That': Borders, Dispossession, and Sovereignty in *Frozen River* (2008) *Geopolitics* 18 (3): 560-583.

Stephane Rosiere and Reece Jones, (2012) Teichopolitics: Re-considering globalization through the role of walls and fences, *Geopolitics* 17 (1): 217-234.

Week 6 (February 9) Crossing Territories

Jennifer Hyndman, (2012) The geopolitics of migration and mobility, *Geopolitics* 17 (2): 243-255.

Martin van der Velde and Ton van Naerssen, (2011) People, borders, trajectories: An approach to cross-border mobility and immobility in and to the European Union, *Area* 43 (2): 218-224.

Alison Mountz, (2011) The enforcement archipelago: Detention, haunting and asylum on islands, *Political Geography* 30 (3): 118-128.

Reece Jones, (2012) Spaces of refusal: Rethinking sovereign power and resistance at the border, *Annals, Association of American Geographers* 102 (3): 685-699.

Reading Week February 16-20

Week 7 (February 23) Environmental Spaces

Melanie Sommerville, Jamey Essex and Philippe Le Billon (2014) The 'Global Food Crisis' and the Geopolitics of Food Security, *Geopolitics* 19, 2: 239-265.

Jason Dittmer, Sami Moisiu, Alan Ingram, Klaus Dodds (2011) Have you heard the one about the disappearing ice? Recasting Arctic geopolitics, *Political Geography* 30 (4): 202-214.

Gabriela Valdivia, Wendy Wolford and Flora Lu (2014) Border Crossings: New Geographies of Protection and Production in the Galapagos Islands, *Annals, Association of American Geographers* 104, 3: 686-701.

Robyn Eckersley, (2007) Ecological intervention: Prospects and limits, *Ethics and International Affairs* 21 (3): 293-316.

Week 8 (March 2) Governance and Geography

James A. Tynen and Stian Rice, (2012) Moving beyond the 'Arab Spring': The ethnic, temporal, and spatial bounding of a political movement, *Political Geography* 31 (3): 131-134.

Karen Culcasi, (2011) Cartographies of supranationalism: Creating and silencing territories in the 'Arab Homeland', *Political Geography* 30 (8): 417-428.

Christian Sellar (2014) Building a Transnational Fusion Bureaucracy? A Case Study of State Officials and Opinion Leaders in (Rousse) Bulgaria and Transcarpathia (Ukraine), *Geopolitics* 19, 3: 540-564.

Stefan Borg (2014) Euro-Crafting at Border Zones: The Case of the Greco-Turkish Border and the Question of a European Union 'Beyond the State', *Geopolitics* 19, 3: 565-586.

Samer Alatout, (2009) Walls as technologies of government: The double construction of geographies of peace and conflict in Israel politics, 2002-present, *Annals, Association of American Geographers* 99 (5): 956-968.

Week 9 (March 9) New Directions and Debates

Noel Parker, (2009) From borders to margins: A Deluzian ontology for identities in the postinternational environment, *Alternatives* 34: 17-39.

Stuart Elden (2013) Secure the volume: Vertical geopolitics and the depth of power, *Political Geography* 34 (2): 35-51.

Katharine Meehanlan, Graham Ronald Shaw, Sallie Marston (2013) Political geographies of the object, *Political Geography* 33 (8): 1-10.

Vicki Squire (2014) Desert 'trash': Posthumanism, border struggles, and humanitarian politics, *Political Geography* 39: 11-21.

Weeks 10, 11, 12 (March 16, 23, 30) Student Presentations / Discussions

Week 13 Conclusion (April 6, paper deadline)

Grades and Evaluation

Participation is an important component of this course, and the seminar will work only as a venue to explore the difficult issues raised by the contemporary literature on territoriality if there is a sustained dialogue among all students. A 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 second 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 will 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 must be limited to **ten minutes**. You will be requested to stop your presentation if you exceed twelve minutes.

Papers may be an elaborated version of the seminar presentation. The papers may address 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 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 and 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: April 6 in class.**

Note on Institutional Offences and Academic Accommodations

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

Please see <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/>.

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course instructor. A rigorous investigation is conducted by the Office of the Faculty Dean, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial.

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 and Society* (23, 2&3, May, 2006) may be helpful for many aspects of contemporary social theory. Resources related to this course may be found as well in the NPSIA reading room, DT 1326.

Basics, classic discussions, and interpretations from various fields of inquiry may be found in David Delaney *Territory: A Short Introduction* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2006), R.D. Sack *Human Territoriality: Its Theory and History* (Cambridge, 1986), Anthony Burke *Beyond Security, Ethics and Violence* (Routledge, 2007), Jean Bethke Elshtain *Sovereignty: God, State and Self* (Basic Books, 2008), Saskia Sassen, *Territory, Authority, Rights: From Medieval to Global Assemblages* (Princeton, 2008), Avery Koler *Land, Conflict and Justice: A Political Theory of Territory* (Cambridge, 2009) and R.B.J. Walker *After the Globe, Before the World* (Routledge, 2010), Stuart Elden, *The Birth of Territory* (Chicago, 2013).

Other books and articles will be suggested for expanded reading with regard to each theme during the first half of the seminar course.

Instructor's autobiographical note

Victor Konrad is Adjunct Research Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University. He is co-director of the SSHRC Partnership Project 'Borders in Globalization'. Dr. Konrad was Visiting Professor at the Karelian Institute, University of Eastern Finland, in spring and summer 2014, and Visiting Fellow at the Border Policy Research Institute, Western Washington University in 2009. From 1990-2001, he established the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program and the Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States. During the 1970s and 1980s, he was a Professor of Geography and Anthropology at the University of Maine, and Director of the Canadian-American Center. Dr. Konrad was President of the Association of Canadian Studies in the United States and recipient of the Donner Medal. His most recent book, *Beyond Walls: Re-Inventing the Canada-United States Borderlands*, was published in 2008 by Ashgate. He is currently writing a book titled *Border Culture: Imagining and Experiencing Boundaries*. Dr. Konrad has been engaged in border research and public policy since the early 1980s. He is Past-President of the Association of Borderlands Studies and serves on the International Advisory Board of the *Journal of Borderlands Studies*.