## Course Outline

**LAWS 4106A**

**Prerequisites:** Law and Violence

**Term:** Winter 2016

**Day & Time:** Thursdays 11:35 – 2:25

**Room:** UC 279

**Instructor:** Dr. Amy Bartholomew

**Contact Office:** D585 LA (Loeb)

**Office Hours:** Thursdays 2:30 to 4:30

**Email:** Amy_Bartholomew@carleton.ca

**Telephone:** 520-2600 x. 3696

### Academic Accommodations:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation:** 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. For more details visit the Equity Services website: [http://carleton.ca/equity/](http://carleton.ca/equity/)

**Religious obligation:** 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. For more details visit the Equity Services website: [http://carleton.ca/equity/](http://carleton.ca/equity/)

### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable) at [http://carleton.ca/pmc/students/dates-and-deadlines/](http://carleton.ca/pmc/students/dates-and-deadlines/).
You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at http://carleton.ca/equity/

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the Internet. Plagiarism is a serious offence.

More information on the University’s **Academic Integrity Policy** can be found at: http://carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity/

**Department Policy**

The Department of Law and Legal Studies operates in association with certain policies and procedures. Please review these documents to ensure that your practices meet our Department’s expectations.

http://carleton.ca/law/current-students/

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**Calendar Description:**

Examination of how law defines, justifies, and addresses individual, collective and state violence: contemporary and historical case studies; theoretical inquiries into the relationship between law, legality and different forms of violence.

Prerequisite(s): fourth-year Honours standing.

Seminar three hours a week.

The Winter 2016 iteration of “Law and Violence” will concentrate on law, violence, and resistance in formal democracies and in spaces where sovereignty is less clear, as in Guantanamo Bay and other forms of “camps.” We will consider prisons, refugee and migrant camps, and various forms of resistance including civil disobedience and political violence. We will ask what forms of resistance to state violence and domination may be justifiable, if any, and we will concentrate on particular forms of bodily resistance, in particular, hunger striking and suicide bombing. Throughout the course, we will emphasize theoretical explorations of these issues and
then attempt to interpret and analyze these spaces and practices through the lens of these theories.

**Required Text:** There are no required texts for this seminar. We will read primarily from online e-journals.

**SEMINAR:**
This is a fourth year honours seminar. As a seminar, there will be virtually no lecture component. I view it as an intensive ‘reading seminar’ or ‘reading group’ the success of which is dependent on you, each member of the seminar, as well as upon me. I will attempt to guide the discussion where I think it needs guidance. I will also set the context for debates, where necessary. And, I will debate with you and sometimes (be prepared) suggest you need to rethink matters, or, even, that I think you are wrong.

This seminar is a completely collective project for which we are all responsible and should be embraced as such by each of you. **If you do not wish to be part an active participant in a seminar that seriously considers both theoretical and grounded literature, please don’t take this one!**

**You absolutely must read everything, carefully,** for the seminar, before the seminar. The success of a seminar depends on informed, lively and critical student participation. Regular attendance in seminar is necessary, but not sufficient, to constitute participation. The participation mark is a solid 20% of your overall mark so, please make the most of it. The foundation for informed participation (not to mention evaluation and critique) is close study of the readings before the class in which they are assigned and coming to seminar with summaries of the material along with questions and evaluations to be addressed in seminar.

**EVALUATION:**

Evaluation will be based on the following combination of seminar participation and written work, as follows:

1. **Participation mark based on weekly seminar participation. 20%**
   The participation mark is a composite mark evaluating your performance over the entire term and with respect to discussion leadership, weekly seminar participation, and discussion of the literature on the basis of summaries prepared for seminar each week. You are expected to participate in seminar on the basis of having read and reflected seriously on the literature and issues each week. Please come to seminar **with your readings, your summary** of the readings (see below), **and a question, an objection, or an issue** you would like to discuss and be prepared to discuss it with the seminar. Our discussion will focus on making sense of and evaluating the claims the literature makes.

2. **Eight weekly summaries of the readings handed in in seminar. 15%**
   Please prepare a summary (not an outline) of each reading for weeks 2 through 11. Each summary should be (ideally) no longer than 1-2 pages (single-spaced). **You must include a proper citation and your name.** Also, pose at least one question (on any of the readings) for the seminar possibly to address. Put this on a separate sheet, typed out twice, with your name on each half so you can hand
one copy to me and one to your discussion group. You may use the summary to inform your seminar participation and then hand it in to me at the end of each seminar. I will mark these summaries as 0 (no summary or a summary that is completely inadequate), 1 (solid summary), or 2 (excellent) each. They are for your preparation and capacity-building. They will also help you prepare for and write the essays and take-home examination.

You may fail to write summaries two weeks between week 2 and week 11 (inclusive) without losing marks. Therefore, failure to hand in 8 complete sets of summaries on time over the course of seminar will result in a loss for each week you do not hand them in.

3. **2 short essays** 6 -8 pages (max.) (double-spaced) **20% for the first essay, 20% for the second,** for a total of **40%**. Essays should be submitted to the Law Dept. drop box.

The **first essay** must be written on Week 6 readings approached through the lens of either Week 4 or Week 5 readings (i.e. through Mbembe, Agamben, or Arendt). **Due February 23 by 4pm.**

The **second essay** must be written on Weeks 7 and 8 readings. **Due March 14 by 4pm.**

No late essays will be accepted unless you discuss the matter with me ahead of time and have a very good reason.

The short essays should **evaluate** some aspect of the **literature** for the relevant week(s). Your evaluation must be based on a clear, concise, demonstration that you understand the literature but it should also go beyond mere description or summary of the literature. The paper should be conceptual in nature, not merely empirical. The short essays will be marked on the basis of **demonstrated understanding of the main themes in all of the literature for that essay**, the thoughtfulness of the issue(s) chosen for consideration, and the evaluation **and argument** provided. Writing style, grammar, proper citation etc. will count in your mark.

Please provide a title page for your essay that includes your name, student number, date, course number. Please number your pages.

I will return your marked essays in seminar within two weeks of their submission. If you are not in seminar that day, I will leave them in the main Law Dept. office for you to pick up.

**OPTIONAL:** Since the essays are written fairly late in the term, if you would like to write an additional essay on Week 4 readings, due February 2 by 4pm, I will mark it and this optional essay and your next essay (on Week 6) will each count as 10%. Or, you may elect for this first additional essay not to count at all. You’re choice.

4. **Take-home examination or research essay 25%**. **Due Monday April 11 by 4pm.**

The **take-home examination** will be distributed in the final seminar. Late exams will result in failure in the course in the absence of a medical excuse that I judge to be adequate. You may submit your exam as an email attachment so long as: (1) you get it to me before noon on the due date, and (2) you take the responsibility for any technological failures. In other words, late exam answers will not be accepted. The take home examination will pose a question and ask you to
integrate and assess the literature we have read and discussed this term. You will not be required
to do outside research for the examination. But, you will be expected to have mastered a wide
swath of the literature. The exam answer should be approximately 3000 words (about 8 double
spaced pages) and no longer than 3500 words (about 10 pp double spaced, Times New Roman 12).

You may do a research essay instead of the take home examination. If you choose this option
please clear the subject with me by March 17. The research essay must draw on an area of
research related to the course. You will be required to do research beyond the readings in the
course. The essay must be original to this course. The research essay should be about 5000
words (about 15 pp. double spaced) and no more than 5500 words (about 18 pages double-
spaced) not including endnotes. It is due Monday April 11 by 4pm. Late essays will result in
failure in the course in the absence of a medical or other excuse accepted by me.

GENERAL RULES:

Failure to complete any aspect of the requirements may result in failure in the course.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. There is a zero tolerance policy on plagiarism which means
that any act of plagiarism – whether intentional or inadvertent – will be taken directly to the
Dean.

The OED (Oxford English Dictionary) defines plagiarism as follows: “The action or practice of
taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own; literary theft.”¹
Plagiarism includes failing to use quotation marks around quoted material, even if one provides a
citation, or providing an inadequate citation such as failing to provide a page number for quoted
material.

In addition to Carleton’s site on plagiarism, a very useful source is:
http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize

"Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty
Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are
final until they have been approved by the Dean."

Please note: The seminar schedule, readings and the precise tasks for seminar participation are
subject to change.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Week Two: Sovereignty, State violence, coercion, domination and resistance  Jan. 14
For this week, write a summary of the chapter from Bargu, and of Dunn, and Haralambous. Just read or view the rest but come prepared to discuss all.


Supp:


Week Three: Detention, violence, making live, and letting die; state, law and violence
Jan 21


Supp:

Week Four: Biopolitics/Homo Sacer/Letting Die
Jan 28


Supp:

**February 2: Optional essay due by 4pm.**
Week Five:  Hannah Arendt: Refugees, Rightlessness, the Right to Have Rights, and the Camps  Feb. 4


Supp:

Week Six:  Homo Sacer? Camps as spaces of domination, agency, and resistance  Feb 11


Supp:

**FIRST ESSAY DUE FEB. 23 by 4pm.**

**Forms of protest, resistance, and violence**

**Week Seven:** “Nonviolent” protest, civil disobedience, and resistance  
Feb 25


Supp:  

**Week Eight:** “Violent” protest, criminal disobedience, and revolution  
Mar. 3


Week Nine: Hunger strikes as the weaponization of life or civil disobedience?  Mar. 10


Supp:
Film: Hunger by Steve McQueen


**SECOND ESSAY Due March 14 by 4pm**

**Week Ten:** Hunger strikes as weaponization of life or civil disobedience, cont’d? Mar. 17


**Week Eleven:** “Terrorism” Mar. 24

Hage, Gassan. “Comes a Time We are All Enthusiasm’: Understanding Palestinian Suicide Bombers in Times of Exighophobia.” *Public Culture* 15, no. 1 (2003): 65-89.


Supp:
http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/terrorism/
Week Twelve: Wrap up/Catch Up/Reflect Mar. 31

Final exam will be handed out in seminar.