Course Outline

Course: LAWS 5306F / SOCI 5305 F – Police and Capital

Term: Fall 2009-10

Class: Day & Time: Monday – 2:30-5:30 pm
Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location

Instructor: Professor George S. Rigakos

Contact: Office: D496 LA (Loeb)
Office Hrs: Monday & Wednesday - 11:30-14:00
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Description:
This course critically examines the idea of ‘police’ as a general historical project aimed at the fabrication of social order; as a response to risk and crime; and as a foundational theoretical concern for the development of eighteenth century liberal political philosophy, political economy and security. These formative theoretical notions about police are extended to a consideration of trends in contemporary public and private security provision including the influence of commodification, militarization, class conflict, and the effect of risk thinking.

Course Texts:

[Available at: Octopus Books: 116 Third Ave., Ottawa Ont., 613-233-2589]

+ All additional articles and course materials available on WebCT.

Evaluation:
Participation is a key requirement of graduate courses. This course is structured in as a seminar which requires active involvement from students.

Participation: 50%
1. Presentation(s)
   Due throughout course
2. In-class discussion

Two Papers (15 pages each): 50%
1. First paper is due October 26th.
2. Second paper is due end of term

Presentation:

1. Make sure to cover all of the key points and arguments made in each of the articles you are assigned;
2. Do not feel obliged to give a verbatim account of the assigned readings and especially try to avoid reading from your notes for a prolonged period of time;
3. Construct topics for discussion as well as questions that may prompt or stimulate debate;
4. You have 15-20 minutes to present;
5. It is always helpful to provide an outline or notes for fellow classmates.

Papers:
Students will write two papers of equal worth (25%) on a topic or reading discussed in the course. I would suggest that you consider making the papers relate to your presentation. Information about the paper requirements will be posted on WebCT.
COURSE TOPICS BY WEEK

1. **What is ‘Police and Capital’?**
   An introduction to the course. No assigned readings.

2. **Surveillance and Consumption – Some Links.**

3. **General Tendencies of Capitalist Production.**

4. **The Idea of ‘Police’ I: Cameralism**

5. **The Idea of ‘Police’ II: Liberalism**

6. **“The Supreme Concept of Bourgeois Society.”**
7. **Is policing unproductive labour?**


8. **Security fetishism.**


9. **The problem of the lumpen, “vagabonds” and other “masterless men.”**


10. **Ordering the ‘Polis’: Part I – A Plan.**


11. **Ordering the ‘Polis’: Part II – A Critique.**

12. **Trends in Policing I: Paramilitarism, Parapolicing and zero tolerance.**


13. **Trends in Policing II: Risk management, simulation, and decentralization.**

