

GEOGRAPHY 814

Territory, Bodies, Violence

Sara Smith
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11-12:30
Stop by during these hours or make an appointment.

Thursday 5 to 7:30
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I have framed this course around feminist and other critical approaches to territory and territorialization. The questions that drive the readings are on the relationship between the body, bodies, and territory. How do bodies make territory? When do bodies become territory? This will include a discussion of violence, not only in its spectacular form but also in its more mundane and everyday forms.

Structure of the course

We'll begin the course thinking through some of the meanings of territory, and then move on to engage with the relationships between bodies and territory and the ways that the body itself becomes a contested territory. Each week will focus on a particular approach to the relationship between territory and the body, from bodies as a site of medical knowledge to colonialism, sexuality, and the body. We'll draw on recent literature in political geography, particularly approaches drawing on feminist and queer theory, but also from related fields such as anthropology. I have reserved the last part of class for student-directed topics.

Texts

Other readings will be posted on Blackboard. These books have been placed on reserve at the undergraduate library.

Deborah Cowen and Emily Gilbert (Eds). 2008. *War, citizenship, territory*. New York: Routledge

Stuart Elden. 2009. *Terror and territory: the spatial extent of sovereignty*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

Derek Gregory and Allan Pred. 2007. *Violent geographies: Fear, terror, and political Violence*. New York: Routledge.

Jasbir K. Puar. 2007. *Terrorist assemblages: Homonationalism in queer times*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Assignments

You will be assessed according to a combination of assignments: participation, reaction papers, seminar leadership, participation in the student-directed readings, and your final papers. Each of these components comprises approximately 20% of your grade in the course. Participation means making productive contributions to our discussion.

Reaction Papers

These short papers are due weekly, no later than 11 AM on the day of the seminar meeting. Please post them to Blackboard so that the seminar leaders can see initial reactions before class. You must submit six over the course of the semester. These are very short papers, no more than 750 words, and should be written as critical assessments of the readings. Please don't spend time summarizing the readings – you may do that briefly in a few sentences but no more than that. Instead I look forward to careful and thoughtful discussions, ideally with an argument about the reading, about how the ideas from the readings could be pushed further, or about the insights the readings hold for your own research. Here are some suggestions to get you started, but you need not be confined to these:

- How does the author make his or her arguments? What is most promising about these arguments? What are their limitations?
- What is the "take home" message of the readings, and is it productive for your own research agenda?
- What does the approach allow us to think about? What perspectives does it foreclose? What is omitted?
- If they are building an empirical case, does their evidence fit their theoretical approach? How does the ethnographic or other research contribute to the formation of their argument or theoretical framework?
- On weeks with more than one author: bring the readings in conversation with one another. One possibility is to consider the ways that they define or use key terms.

Seminar leadership

We will alternate leadership of the seminar between January 20th and Seminar leaders will guide us through the readings and provoke discussion on the topics at hand. This should include doing a little research to find out the disciplinary backgrounds of the authors and other relevant information, as well as placing them in context in terms of the theorists they draw on or the theoretical approaches to which they contribute. Seminar leaders should arrange to meet with me and discuss their presentations before

seminar – ideally by the Wednesday before class. This leadership will be done in pairs and each participant should lead twice over the course of the semester. I will bring a schedule to class January 13th. If you have creative or innovative ideas for leading seminar, you are absolutely encouraged to experiment!

Student-directed readings

On March 3rd we'll spend some time deciding on topics for these weeks and divide into groups to plan and select the readings. My goal with these weeks is to provide space for you to a) pick up one of the threads that we've encountered in the course and take it further, b) choose a different approach to the subject, i.e. one that we have not covered, or c) choose a particular case study to focus on for that week in order to think through the body-territory relationship with more specificity. We will discuss this more in class as March 3rd approaches. If topics do not materialize as I intend I have a wealth of additional topics and readings at hand for us to consider.

Semester paper

The final component of class is a research paper to be devised in discussion with me. I suggest that you use this component to bring ideas from class into conversation with your own research focus. If you have an alternative suggestion, please feel free to talk to me about it! I am very flexible on this assignment provided it draws on work from the class but also takes it beyond the cases and readings that we have covered. This paper should be between 10 and 15 single-spaced pages including references, and will be due May 3.

Schedule

This list of readings is somewhat preliminary and will be adjusted following our discussion on the first day of class.

Date	Topic and Readings
Jan 13	Introductions and framework for the course
Jan 20	Territory, bodies Short selections from the <i>Dictionary of Human Geography</i> Cohen, Deborah and Emily Gilbert. "The politics of War, Citizenship, Territory." <i>War, Citizenship, Territory</i> . (1-30) Longhurst, Robyn. "The body," in <i>Cultural Geography: a critical dictionary of key concepts</i> . Saldanha, A. 2008. The political geography of many bodies. In <i>The Sage Handbook of Political Geography</i> , eds. K. R. Cox, M. Low and J. Robinson, 323-333. London: Sage Publications. <i>Violent Geographies</i> , (Introduction and essays by Olund and Secor: pages 1-55)
Jan 27	Critical, feminist, and other geopolitics Dowler, L., and J. Sharp. 2001. A feminist geopolitics? <i>Space & Polity</i> 5 (3):165-176. Hyndman, Jennifer. 2007. Feminist geopolitics revisited: Body counts in Iraq. <i>Professional Geographer</i> 59 (1):35-46. Hyndman, Jennifer and Alison Mountz, "Refuge or Refusal," in Derek Gregory and Allan Pred (Eds). <i>Violent Geographies</i> . New York: Routledge. 77-92. Koopman, Sara. 2008. "Imperialism Within: Can the Master's Tools Bring Down Empire?" <i>ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies</i> 7 (2):283-307 Ó Tuathail, Geróid and Simon Dalby eds. 1998. "Introduction: Rethinking Geopolitics: Toward a Critical Geopolitics" <i>Rethinking Geopolitics</i> . New York: Routledge. 1-15. OPTIONAL: Jones, Laura and Daniel Sage, with contributions of Gearóid Ó Tuathail, Jennifer Hyndman, Fraser MacDonald, Emily Gilbert and Virginie Mamadouh. "New directions in critical geopolitics: an introduction." <i>Geojournal</i> 75:315-325

Feb 3 **Embodied nationalisms**

- Abu-Zahra, Nadia. "IDs and territory: Population control for resource expropriation." in *War, Citizenship, Territory*.
- Das, R. 2004. Encountering (cultural) nationalism, Islam and gender in the body politic of India. *Social Identities* 10 (3):369-398.
- Cowen, Deborah and Emily Gilbert, "Citizenship in the 'homeland'" in *War, Citizenship, Territory*.
- Harker, C. (2011) 'Geopolitics and family in Palestine.', *Geoforum*.
- Nast, H. J. 2000. Mapping the 'unconscious': Racism and the Oedipal family. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 90 (2):215-255.
- Mayer, Tamar. "Embodied nationalism," in *Mapping Women, Making Politics*

Feb 10 **Colonialism, Race, and the global intimate**

- McClintock, Anne. 1995. *Imperial leather: Race, gender, and sexuality in the colonial contest*. New York: Routledge.
- Mountz, Alison and Jennifer Hyndman. 2006. "Feminist approaches to the global intimate. *Women's Studies Quarterly* 34:446-463.
- Nast, H. J. 2000. Mapping the 'unconscious': Racism and the Oedipal family. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 90 (2):215-255.
- Saldanha, A. 2007. *Psychedelic White: Goa trance and the viscosity of race*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Stoler, A. L. 2002. *Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power: Race and the intimate in colonial rule*. Berkeley, CA: Berkeley.

SUGGESTIONS:

- McClintock: If you can only read on chapter, make it Chapter 1, but the introduction is pretty short.
- Mountz and Hyndman, "Feminist Approaches to the global and intimate."
- Saldanha: Please read at least the intro and chapters 1, 3, and 15. More portions of the book are included.
- Stoler: If you can only read one chapter, make it chapter five ("Carnal Knowledge").

OPTIONAL:

- Young, Robert. 1995. *Colonial Desire: Hybridity in theory, culture and race*. New York: Routledge.

Feb 17 **Ways of thinking about the body and bodies**

- Callard, Felicity J. 1998. "The body in theory." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 16:387-400.
- Moss, Pamela and Isabel Dyck, 2003. "Embodying social geography." In *The Handbook of Cultural Geography*, eds. K. Anderson, M. Domosh, S. Pile and N. Thrift. 58-73.
- Nelson, Lise. 1999. "Bodies (and spaces) do matter: the limits of performativity." *Gender, Place and Culture*. 6(4):331-353.
- Iris Marion Young, "Throwing like a girl." In *Throwing like a Girl and other essays in Feminist Philosophy and Social Theory*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press. 149-159.
- Saldanha, A. 2008. The political geography of many bodies. In *The Sage Handbook of Political Geography*, eds. K. R. Cox, M. Low and J. Robinson, 323-333. London: Sage Publications.
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Feb 24

Security, fear, biological citizenship

- Biehl, J., and A. Moran-Thomas. 2009. Symptom: Subjectivities, social ills, technologies. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 38:267-288.
- Collier, S., and Lakoff, A. 2005. On regimes of living. In *Global assemblages: Technology, politics, and ethics as anthropological problems*, eds. A. Ong and S. J. Collier, Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing. 22-39.
- Fluri, J. "Bodies, bombs and barricades: geographies of conflict and civilian (in)security." *TIBG* or Loyd, J. M. 2009. "A microscopic insurgent": Militarization, health, and critical geographies of violence. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 99 (5):863-873.
- Petryna, A. 2009. *When experiments travel: Clinical trials and the global search for human subjects*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Rose, N., and C. Novas. 2005. Biological Citizenship. In *Global assemblages: Technology, politics, and ethics as anthropological problems*, eds. A. Ong and S. J. Collier, Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing. 439-463.

Optional:

- Ingram, A. 2005. The new geopolitics of disease: Between global health and global security. *Geopolitics* 10 (3):522-545.
- Lunstrum, E. 2009. Terror, territory, and deterritorialization: landscapes of terror and the unmaking of state power in the Mozambican 'Civil' war. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 99 (5):884-892.
- Katz, C. 2008. Me and my monkey: What's hiding in the security state. In *Fear: Critical Geopolitics and Everyday Life*, eds. R. Pain and S. J. Smith, 59-68. London: Ashgate.
- Martin, L. 2010. Bombs, bodies, and biopolitics: Securitizing the subject at the airport security checkpoint. *Social & Cultural Geography* 11 (1):17-34.
- Pain, R. (2009) 'Globalized fear ? towards an emotional geopolitics.', *Progress in human geography*., 33 (4). pp. 466-486.
- Ong, A. 1995. Making the biopolitical subject: Cambodian immigrants, refugee medicine and cultural citizenship in California. *Social Science and Medicine* 40:1243-57.

Mar 3

Political ecology

- Maureen Sioh, "An ecology of postcoloniality: disciplining nature and society in Malaya, 1948–1957." *Journal of Historical Geography* 30 (2004) 729–746.
- Sundberg, Juanita, and Bonnie Kaserman. 2007. "Cactus carvings and desert defecations: embodying representations of border crossings in protected areas on the Mexico-US border." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*. 2007, volume 25, pages 727-744.
- Valdivia, Gabriela. 2008. "Governing relations between People and Things: Citizenship, Territory, and the Political Economy of Petroleum in Ecuador." *Political Geography* 27:456-477.

Mar 10

Spring Break

Mar 17

Sovereignty, Indigeneity, Territory

- Alvaro Reyes visit
- Reyes, Alvaro and Mara Kaufman. 2011. "Sovereignty, Indigeneity, Territory: Zapatista Autonomy and the New Practices of Decolonization," *South Atlantic Quarterly: Special Issue: Sovereignty, Indigeneity and The Law*, 110(2).
- Michel Foucault. 1982. "The subject and power." *Critical Inquiry* Vol. 8, No. 4 (Summer, 1982), pp. 777-795.
- Paul Routledge. 2008. "Anti-geopolitics," in John Agnew, Katharyne Mitchell, and Gerard Toal (eds.) *A companion to political geography*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing. 236-248.
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Mar 24 **Terrorist Assemblages**

Stuart Elden. 2009. *Terror and Territory: The Spatial Extent of Sovereignty*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

- "Introduction: Terror and the State of Territory"
- "Territorial Integrity and Contingent Sovereignty"

Jasbir K. Puar. 2007. *Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

- "introduction: homonationalism and biopolitics"
- "1. abu ghraib and u.s. sexual exceptionalism"
- OPTIONAL: "2. intimate control, infinite detention: rereading the lawrence case"

Mar 31 **(Student-directed)**
TBA

Apr 7 **(Student-directed)**
TBA

Apr 14 **AAG: No meeting.**
Please meet with me the week before or after AAG to discuss your final paper.

Apr 21 **(Student-directed)**
TBA

May 3 **"Final"**
