

INS504 – IR Topics: Human Security and Urban Violence

Instructor: Dr. Catherine Slakmon

Schedule: Intersession - Winter 2010 / Monday to Friday, 13h30-17h00

Office hours: by appointment

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Course Description

This course employs a multidisciplinary approach and a comparative methodology to study theoretical, empirical, and normative dimensions of human security in urban environments plagued with high levels of violence. Focusing on the city as the main unit of analysis and case-studies in Latin America, we will examine the root causes of urban violence and discuss citizen, community, and policy responses to daily insecurity.

While its paradigmatic value can and will be questioned, human security presents an interesting and useful conceptual framework to study security from a people- rather than state-oriented perspective, and to understand daily issues of urban violence as experienced by ordinary citizens across the class spectrum. To identify, quantify, and explain multi-faceted aspects of human (in)security in selected city case-studies, course lectures and readings will draw from diverse development-related fields as well as film and fiction.

Evaluation

I. Participation (25%): Based on daily attendance and active participation in class discussions.

II. Oral presentation and short paper (40%): You will select one of the ten course topics (listed below) for which you will submit a short review paper (**2-pages**, single-space) and do a **30-minutes** presentation with power-point slides. In both the paper and the presentation, you are required to answer the following five questions for the *mandatory readings* assigned that day:

1. Identify and define key words and concepts
2. Summarize the authors' main arguments and findings
3. Identify and explain the methodology employed
4. Assess the readings' analytical value (e.g. *So what?*)
5. Give one major critique for each reading

The short paper is due at the beginning of class on the day of your oral presentation.

III. Take-home exam (35%): You will be required to answer one question (out of a choice of five) based on material discussed in class and course readings exclusively (mandatory and recommended).

*The exam will be distributed at the end of class on **Friday, January 15** and is **due Monday, January 18** by 16h00. You must provide a **hardcopy** (in my departmental mailbox in the Ferré Building) **and** send me an **electronic copy** at: catherine.slakmon@gmail.com*

Course Lectures and Mandatory Readings

All course materials will be available on reserve at the Otto G. Richter Library.

1. January 4- Introduction: The Human Security Agenda

UN-Habitat, 2007. *Global Report on Human Settlements 2007: Enhancing Urban Safety and Security*:
-Chapter 1, pp. 7-22: "Current Threats to Urban Safety and Security"
-Chapter 2, pp. 23-41: "Vulnerability, Risk, and Resilience: Towards a Conceptual Framework"

Recommended

Moser, E., 2004. "Urban Violence and Insecurity: An Introductory Roadmap," in *Environment and Urbanization* 16; 3, pp. 1-15.

2. January 5- Paradigmatic Shift or Policy Fad? Theoretical Debates and Measurement Issues

Canadian Consortium on Human Security, 2008. *Human Security for an Urban Century: Local Challenges, Global Perspectives*: pp. 1-116:
http://www.humansecuritycities.org/sites/hscities/files/Human_Security_for_an_Urban_Century.pdf

Recommended

Tajdbakhsh, S., and A. Chenoy, 2007. *Human Security: Concepts and Implications* (New York: Routledge): pp 1-97.

Arias, E. D., 2006. *Drugs and Democracy in Rio de Janeiro: Trafficking, social networks, and Public Security* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press):
-Chapter 7, pp. 189-206: "Theorizing the Politics of Social Violence"

Sartori, G., 1970. "Concept Misformation in Comparative Politics," in *The American Political Science Review* 64 (No. 4: December): pp. 1033-1053.

Khun, T., 1962. *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press):
-Chapter 1, pp. 1-9: "Introduction: A Role for History"
-Chapter 2, pp. 10-22: "The Route to Normal Science"
-Chapter 3, pp. 23-34: "The Nature of Normal Science"

3. January 6- Insecurocracy? Fear, Crime, and Violence in the City

UN-Habitat, 2007. *Global Report on Human Settlements 2007: Enhancing Urban Safety and Security*:
-Chapter 3, pp. 49-83: "Urban Crime and Violence: Conditions and Trends"

Koonings, K, and D. Kruijt, 2007. *Fractured Cities. Social Exclusion, Urban Violence and Contested Spaces in Latin America* (London: Zed books): pp. 7-22.

McIlwaine, C., and C. Moser, 2007. "Living in Fear: How the Urban Poor Perceive Violence, Fear, and Insecurity," in Koonings and Krujit eds., *Social Exclusion, Urban Violence and Contested Spaces in Latin America*, pp. 117-137.

Recommended

Smulovitz, C., 2003. "Citizen Insecurity and Fear: Public and Private Responses in Argentina," in J. Tulchin and H. Frühling eds., *Crime and Violence in Latin America: Citizen Security, Democracy, and the State* (Washington, D.C.: Woodrow Wilson Center Press): pp. 125-152.

Leeds, E., 2007. "Rio de Janeiro," in Koonings and Krujit eds., *Social Exclusion, Urban Violence and Contested Spaces in Latin America*, pp. 23-35.

4. January 7- Uh Oh, It's The Police: Corruption, Violence, and Vigilantism

Caldeira, T., 2000. *City of Walls* (Berkeley: University of California Press):
-Chap 5, pp. 158-210: "Police Violence under Democracy"

Chevigny, P., 2003. "The Control of Police Misconduct in the Americas," in J. Tulchin and H. Frühling eds., *Crime and Violence in Latin America: Citizen Security, Democracy, and the State* (Washington, D.C.: Woodrow Wilson Center Press): pp. 45-68.

Recommended

Soares, L., Batista, A., and R. Pimentel, 2008. *Elite Squad* (New York: Weinstein Books).

Caldeira, T., 2000. *City of Walls* (Berkeley: University of California Press):
-Chap 4, pp. 138-157: "The Police: A Long History of Abuses"

5. January 8- Police Reform and Community Policing

Frühling, H., 2003. "Police Reform and the Process of Democratization," in J. Tulchin and H. Frühling eds., *Crime and Violence in Latin America: Citizen Security, Democracy, and the State* (Washington, D.C.: Woodrow Wilson Center Press): pp. 15-44.

Arias, E. D., and Ungar, M., 2009. "Community Policing and Latin America's Citizen Security Crisis," in *Comparative Politics* 41 (No. 4: July).

Recommended

Moncada, E., 2009. "Toward Democratic Policing in Colombia? Institutional Accountability through Lateral Reform," in *Comparative Politics* 41 (No. 4: July): pp. 431-449.

Mesquita Neto, P., and Loche, A., 2003. "Police-Community Partnerships in Brazil," in J. Tulchin and H. Frühling eds., *Crime and Violence in Latin America: Citizen Security, Democracy, and the State* (Washington, D.C.: Woodrow Wilson Center Press): pp. 179-204.

6. January 11- Kids, Gangs, Guns, and Drugs (Part 1)

Melo, P., 2002. *Inferno*. (London: Bloomsbury Publishing).

7. January 12- Kids, Gangs, Guns, and Drugs (Part 2)

Arias, E. D., 2006. *Drugs and Democracy in Rio de Janeiro: Trafficking, social networks, and Public Security* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press):
- Preface, pp. ix-xviii: "Departure"
Introduction, pp. 1-17: "Thinking About Social Violence in Brazil"
- Chapter 1, pp. 18-38: "Setting the Scene: Continuities and Discontinuities in a - Divided City"
- Chapter 6, pp.169-188: "Comparative Analysis of Criminal Networks in Brazil and Latin America"

Recommended

Kovats-Bernat, J. C., 2006. *Sleeping Rough in Port-au-Prince: An Ethnography of Street Children and Violence in Haiti* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida): pp. 1-67.

8. January 13- Urban Fearscape and Walls: From Gated Homes and Communities to Gated Borders

Caldeira, T., 2000. *City of Walls* (Berkeley: University of California Press):
-Chapter 7, pp. 256-296: "Fortified Enclaves: Building Up Walls and Creating a New Private Order"

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel, 2004. *Saving Lives: Israel's anti-terrorist fence: Answers to questions*: pp 1-26:
<http://www.mfa.gov.il/NR/rdonlyres/6706D746-F400-4215-A678-EF1A39B775F9/0/savinglives.pdf>

Recommended

Low, S. M., 2001. "The Edge and the Center: Gated Communities and the Discourse of Urban Fear," in *American Anthropologist* 103 (No. 1: March): pp. 45-58.

Wilson-Doenges, G., 2000. "An Exploration of Sense of Community and Fear of Crime in Gated Communities," in *Environment and Behavior* 32 (No. 5): pp. 597-611.

Caldeira, T., 2000. *City of Walls* (Berkeley: University of California Press):
-Chapter 6, pp. 213-255: "São Paulo: Three Patterns of Social Segregation"
-Chapter 8, pp. 297-338: "The Implosion of Modern Public Life"

9. January 14- Home Sweet Home? Insecurity and Gendered Violence

MacDowell Santos, C., 2005. "Feminist Debates over the Meaning of Violence against Women" in *Women's Police Stations. Gender, Violence, and Justice in São Paulo, Brazil* (Houndmills: Palgrave Mcmillan): pp. 97-128.

Morrison, A., Buvinic, M., and M. Shifter, 2003. "The Violent Americas: Risk Factors, Consequences, and Policy Implications of Social and Domestic Violence," in J. Tulchin and H. Frühling eds., *Crime and Violence in Latin America: Citizen Security, Democracy, and the State* (Washington, D.C.: Woodrow Wilson Center Press): pp. 93-121.

Recommended

Truong, T.-D., Wierninga, S., and A. Chhacchi, 2006. *Engendering Human Security. Feminist Perspectives* (London: Zed Books):
-Introduction, pp. ix-xxx: "Gender Questions in the Human Security Framework"
-Chapter 3, pp. 56-79: "Gender Power Dynamics in Jamaica's Ghetto Trap: Southside"

MacDowell Santos, C., 2004. "En-Gendering the Police: Women's Police Stations and Feminism in São Paulo," in *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 39 (No. 3): pp. 29-55.

10. January 15- Making Human Security Work

Tulchin, J., and Golding, H. A., 2003. "Looking Ahead: Steps to Reduce Crime and Violence in the Americas," in J. Tulchin and H. Frühling eds., *Crime and Violence in Latin America: Citizen Security, Democracy, and the State* (Washington, D.C.: Woodrow Wilson Center Press): pp. 259-266.

UN-Habitat, 2007. *Global Report on Human Settlements 2007: Enhancing Urban Safety and Security*:
-Chapter 4, pp. 84-108: "Urban Crime and Violence: Policy Responses"
-Chapter 10, pp. 239-261: "Reducing Urban Crime & Violence"
-Part 6, pp. 303-312: "Summary of Case-Studies"

Recommended

International Centre for the Prevention of Crime, 2008. *International Compendium of Crime Prevention Practices to Inspire Action Across the World* (Montreal: International Centre for the Prevention of Crime): pp. 1-132 and 183-206: (<http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org>)

Seigel, S., 2006. *Engaging Youth to Build Safer Communities. A report of the CSIS Post-Conflict Reconstruction Project* (Washington, D.C.: Center for Strategic and International Studies Press): pp. 1-34.

Messner, S. F., Baumer, E. P., and R. Rosenfeld, 2004. "Dimensions of Social Capital and Rates of Criminal Homicide," in *American Sociological Review* 69, (No. 6: December): pp. 882-903.