What are the consequences of law replacing politics as a mechanism in conflict resolution? What role does each of them play in social contestations over sovereignty, security and justice? Conversely, what happens when law is suspended in the name of maintaining order?

This course uses anthropological approaches to examine institutions, regimes and processes of law and order in contemporary Latin America. Focusing on three key concepts - sovereignty, security and justice - we will trace their meanings and practices across disjunctive political, legal, and cultural landscapes. A closer look at maximum-security prisons and militarized borders, police governance and discretion, spectral character of the law in marginal communities, and forms of popular justice will allow us to reconsider, among other things, shifting forms of statecraft and citizenship in the Western Hemisphere.

Throughout the course we will combine social theory with ethnographic material, media reports with documentary film. Our case studies include the U.S.-Mexico border, where securitization has been accompanied by the escalation of violence and criminalization of migration; Brazil and Jamaica, where the government shares functions of law and punishment with criminal organizations; citizen security and vigilante justice in rural Mexico and urban Bolivia; demobilization and reintegration of paramilitaries in
Colombia; as well as transnational activism and legal interventions in post-conflict societies, among other topics.

**Required books:**
(Listed in the order in which they are assigned)

Denyer Willis, Graham  

Tate, Winifred  

Goldstein, Daniel  

The books are available for 2-hour loan at Reserve Desk at the library.
All remaining class readings can be downloaded from Canvas site.

**Assignments and Grading:**

Grades will be based on **100 points** divided as follows: active participation in class discussions (13 points); weekly reading notes (24 points); research project (45 points), public commentary (10 points), and attending the Crimescapes conference and lecture series (8 points & extra credit).

**Attendance**: Absence for reasons of illness, religious holiday or official university business is excused. Please inform your instructor as early as possible and provide appropriate documentation. You are responsible to contact a classmate to obtain notes on the materials covered. You are allowed one unexcused absence. After the second unexcused absence your final grade will be reduced a full letter (A to B, A- to B-, etc). Students with four or more unexcused absences will automatically fail the course.

**Participation (13 points)**

This is a discussion-based class. For weeks 1-14, careful preparation for each of the seminars and informed contribution is expected. Always bring an electronic or print copy of that day’s readings to class, and come to the seminar with questions and ideas. To receive 1 point for the seminar your comments must demonstrate that you have done the assigned readings. Participation in discussions without showing your familiarity with the readings will not be awarded points.

**Weekly Reading Notes (24 points)**

During weeks 2-14, in preparation for class, you should read the assigned texts and write 2 pages of notes, single or double-spaced. These notes are informal and there is no correct way of writing them. It is expected that each of you will develop your own preferred style. The following are some guidelines to get started:

- Write down the main points, new concepts, important quotes or phrases you would like to remember from the readings, and explain them in your own words;
- If you are puzzled by the text (or its parts) or would like to know more about a certain subject, write down your questions;
- You can list the arguments you disagree with and why;
- Use the material from the text to reflect on your research subject or on another topic that is of interest to you;
- Compare and contrast the text with other readings assigned for the class.

Reading notes are due on Canvas by the start of the seminar each week. You should also bring a print copy to class. You will get 2 points for each set of notes, if you complete the assignment in a timely manner and critically engage with the texts.

**Research Project (45 points)**
During the first few weeks of the course you will choose a research question, which will guide your individual work. It must be directly related to the themes addressed in the course, but you can adjust this assignment to make it contribute towards the development of a thesis, dissertation chapter, conference paper or publication. When choosing your research question, you should visit the Latin American Collection and browse through the UF library resources available online. While thinking about possible topics, you are also highly encouraged to meet with the instructor early on in the semester to share your ideas. All students will write a 1-page research proposal (5 points) and an annotated bibliography (10 points) of their chosen topic. Specific instructions for preparing the proposal and the bibliography will be announced in class. Students will also give 10 min in-class presentations of their project (10 points). 10-12-page research paper (20 points) is due on the last day of class.

**Commentary (10 points)**
The commentary is the final phase of your research project, which links it to the broader concepts and ideas addressed in this course. Your task is to decide what findings you want to communicate to the general public with no specialized knowledge of the topic. It is important that you demonstrate why anyone should care about the issue that you have investigated, so it might be helpful to frame it as a critique or an opinion piece on the existing or proposed policies or interventions (for example, the funding of the “war on drugs” in the U.S. or in Mexico, the increase in the number of Border Patrol agents on the U.S. Southwest border, the legalization of marijuana in Uruguay, etc.) Your commentary should be 750-1200-words in length. It is due by April 25. All commentaries will be posted on the course website and will be shared with the public.

**Crimescapes conference (8 points & extra credit)**
On March 24-26, 2016 the Center for Latin American Studies and the Crime, Law, and Governance in the Americas program is holding an international conference entitled “CRIMESCAPES: Space, Law and the Making of Illegality in the Americas.” In conjunction with the conference, four prominent scholars will visit campus to give talks on how legal and criminal acts are variously constituted across distinct geographical and social spaces throughout the Americas. The Crimescapes conference and the Bacardi lecture series are open to students. You will get 2 points for every public talk and conference panel you attend. To receive credit, you should provide a copy of your notes from the event (half a page to a page long, handwritten or typed) by the next day of class. Participation for extra credit must be approved before the event and is limited to a maximum of 8 extra points. The schedule of the Bacardi lecture series and the Crimescapes conference will be announced in class and posted on Canvas.

**Campus Resources:**
The Latin American Collection: Located on the third floor of the Smathers Library (East), the Latin American and Caribbean Collection (LACC) holds approximately 500,000 volumes, over 50,000 microforms, thousands of current and historical serial titles, and a large number of digital resources. You
should consult this extensive collection when choosing your research topic and use it while working on your individual project. More information, including hours, is available here: http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/lac/Index.aspx.

Writing Studio: If you want to improve your writing, the Writing Studio is a free service for current UF graduate and undergraduate students providing you with the opportunity to work one-on-one with a consultant to help you become a more effective writer. Schedule an appointment online at http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/for-students/schedule-an-appointment/.

Course Rules:

Written Assignments:
Please follow these style guidelines:
- Use 12-point Times New Roman or similar font;
- Your documents should be double-spaced, with 1 inch margins;
- Include your last name and page number in the header/footer of each page;
- Cite all sources consistently, using the style of your choice.

Late Work and Extensions: If you know you will not be able to turn in the assignment on time, please notify me as early as possible. Extensions must be arranged in advance. Assignments will be marked down 1 point for each day they are late.

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Points</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>D-</th>
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<tr>
<td>Passing Grade</td>
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<td>3.67</td>
<td>3.33</td>
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<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.33</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>.67</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For further information, please consult UF grading policies:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Grade Appeals: Grades will not be discussed via e-mail. If you have a question or a complaint about your grade, please contact me within 48 hours of posting to arrange a meeting time.

Academic Honesty: All work submitted by a student for a grade must be completed by that student and free from unauthorized assistance or deliberate misrepresentations. The penalty for plagiarism or cheating is a grade of zero points on the assignment in question; in such cases an incident form will also be sent to the Office of the Dean. If you have questions about what constitutes academic misconduct, please consult the UF Honor Code as well as the UF Policies on Academic Honesty, Student Rights and Responsibilities. These are available online at: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/.
Accommodations for Disabilities: Students who need classroom accommodation or other reasonable modifications to complete assignments successfully and satisfy course criteria are encouraged to meet with the instructor as early in the course as possible. You will be asked to supply a letter from the Disability Resource Center to assist in planning accommodations. Contact the Disability Resource Center at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc.

Health and Counseling: Health and counseling services are available for students in the event personal problems threaten to hinder academic performance. You can contact UF Counseling and Wellness Center: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc; 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Course Evaluations: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: January 6
Course and Class Introductions

Horton, Gillian

Bargent, James

In-Class Documentary: Cartel Land (Matthew Heineman, 2015)

Week 2: January 13
Contested Sovereignty

Hobbes, Thomas
1651 Leviathan (chapters 13, 14, 17, 26, 27, 28). [https://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/h/hobbes/thomas/h68l/]

Smith, Jennie Erin

Jaffe, Rivke
Week 3: January 20

States of Exception

Schmitt, Carl

Agamben, Giorgio

Agamben, Giorgio

Fassin, Didier

Week 4: January 27

Securitization and Militarization

Buzan, Barry, Jaap de Wilde, and Ole Waever

Jusionyte, Ieva

Wacquant, Loïc

Week 5: February 3

Organized Crime

Denyer Willis, Graham

*Special Guest: Dr. Graham Denyer Willis, University of Cambridge (Skype-in)*

Week 6: February 10

Carceral Spaces

Foucault, Michel

Kafka, Franz
1919 In the Penal Colony. [http://records.viu.ca/~johnstoi/kafka/inthepenalcolony.htm]
Garces, Chris

Krishnan Aggarwal, Neil

Week 7: February 17
War on Drugs

Tate, Winifred

*SPECIAL GUEST: DR. WINIFRED TATE, COLBY COLLEGE (SKYPE-IN)

Week 8: February 24
Governing the Border

De Genova, Nicholas

De León, Jason

Dorsey, Margaret E. and Díaz-Barriga, Miguel

In-Class Documentary: Who Is Dayani Cristal? (Gael García Bernal and Marc Silver, 2013)

Week 9: March 2
No Class - Spring Break

Week 10: March 9
Between Security and Human Rights

Goldstein, Daniel

*SPECIAL GUEST: DR. DANIEL GOLSTEIN, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY (SKYPE-IN)

Week 11: March 16
Politics and Registers of Law

Greenhouse, Carol
Warren, Kay

Gandsman, Ari

Ellison, Susan

Week 12: March 23

Postwar Effects

Nelson, Diane M.

Moodie, Ellen

Kernaghan, Richard

In-Class Documentary: Granito: How to Nail a Dictator (Pamela Yates, 2011)

Week 13: March 30

Insurgent Citizens

Gordillo, Gastón

Holston, James

Theidon, Kimberly

In-Class Documentary: Bodies at War (Emily Cohen, 2014)

Week 14: April 6

Statecraft and Lawfare

Comaroff, John L., and Jean Comaroff
2006 “Law and Disorder in the Postcolony: An Introduction.” In Law and Disorder in the

Sieder, Rachel

Jusionyte, Ieva

Week 15: April 13
Student Presentations

Week 16: April 20
Student Presentations