SC 4880D POLICING & SECURITY

\\ Wednesdays

@ 12 pm

@ AS1-02-12

DR. SAHANA GHOSH

\\sahana.ghosh@nus.edu.sg

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INTROS

- Discussion based

- Brief remarks

- Lead presentation

- Discussion will draw on responses posted for the week

- Videos/films

- No recordings

- Close reading of texts, critical thinking on themes

Course policies/structure

- Participation 15%

- Reading response 20% (4 x 5% each)

Pick 1-2 sentences that are most striking to you. Explain what/why you learn from it. Raise a question/point that you would like to discuss in class. Post by 6 pm on Tues.
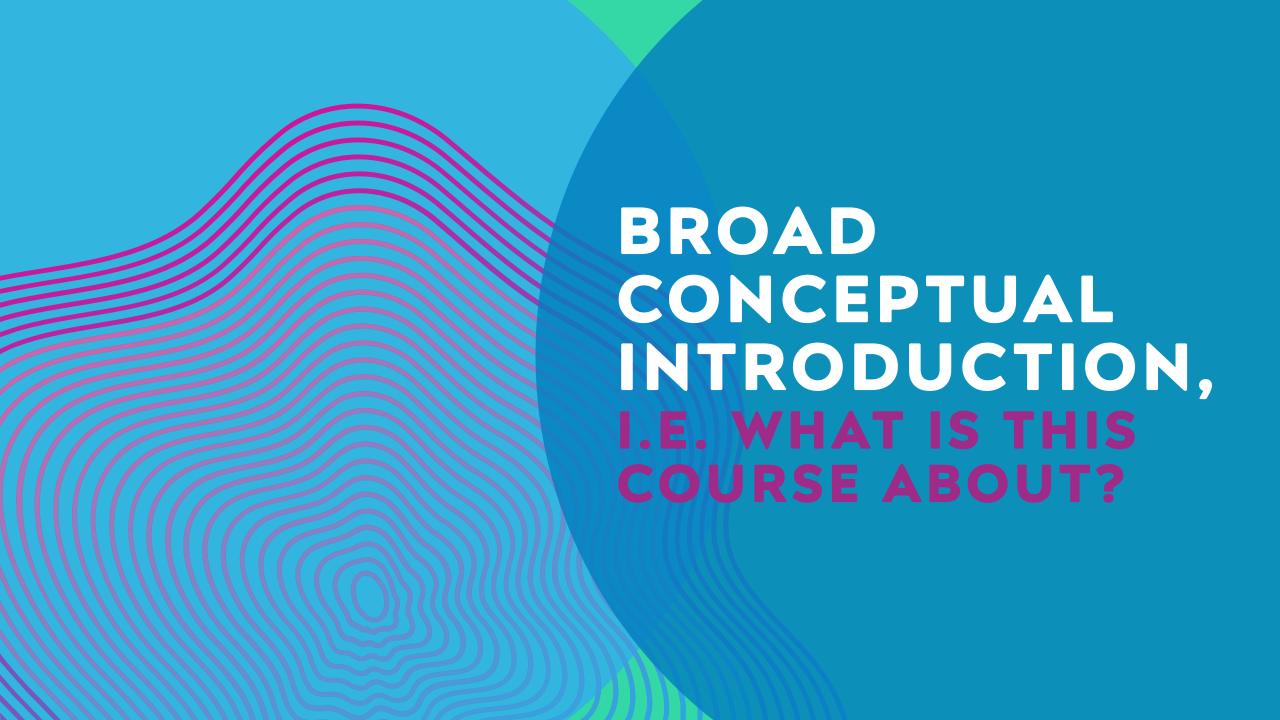
- Discussion lead 15%

Sign up – groups of 3 or 4. Put together an analytical summary – main arguments, your critical engagement, what questions did the readings raise? Max 30 mins.

- Visual Analysis 20%

- Research paper or podcast 30%

Assessments

Week	Date	Topic
1	11 Jan	Introduction
2	18 Jan	Colonial Foundations
3	25 Jan	Securing the City
4	1 Feb	Police Labor: Inside Institutions
5	8 Feb	Intimate Policing and Surveillance
6	15 Feb	Media Power
~~	~~	Recess Week
~~	*26 Feb*	*Submit Visual Analysis*
7	1 March	Distributing Monopoly on Violence
8	8 March	Connecting Policing, Security, Militarism
9	15 March	Security, Citizenship, Masculinity
10	22 March	Geopolitics and Gendered Labor
11	29 March	Security Emotions
12	5 April	Digital Security and Surveillance
13	12 April	Where do we go from here?
	24 April	*Submit Final Paper/Podcast*

Course schedule

BROAD CONCEPTUAL INTRODUCTION, I.E. WHAT IS THIS COURSE ABOUT?

SOCIOLOGY OF POLICING

- Profession and practice of maintaining social order

- Enforcing the law through the street-level prevention, detection, and investigation of crime

- Police as most visible instances of state authority, empowered to use coercive force to achieve their goals

SOCIOLOGY OF POLICING

Fundamental sociological questions

1. What is the function of police in society?
2. What do (can/should) police do to fulfil their mandate?

ANTHROPOLOGY OF SECURITY

Opening up the questions of
WHO is policing
WHERE are the sites of
policing & militarism
WHAT ideas/desires/fears
come to define security

ANTHROPOLOGY OF SECURITY

- "security" is a socially, politically, historically specific idea
- Beyond the police as an institution
- Policing as form of social control – always contested
- Actors in the business of security are multiple, police is just ONE of them

POLICE: MANDATE, STRATEGIES, APPEARANCES (MANNING, 1978)
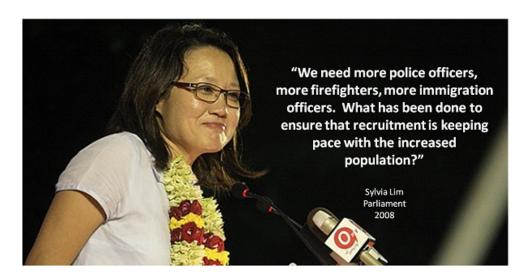
What is a professional mandate?

- Having a socially, politically, and legally defined right and license to carry out certain activities that others do not

- Comes from the division of labor and expertise in society for the common good

- The licensed right to perform an occupation includes a claim to the right to define codes of conduct in order to accomplish their work

Police mandate

TASKS / DOMAIN OF AUTHORITY

RESOURCES

Professional mandates are contested

- Individuals in an organization like the police are performing their roles for various audiences

- Different audiences have different standards for judging police and policing

- Who are key audiences for the police?
- Internal organization
- Dominant public
- Multiple minority publics
- Politicians/policymakers

Police performances – occupational culture

"Because their mandate automatically entails mutually contradictory ends – protecting both public order and individual rights – the police resort to managing their public image and the indexes of their accomplishment."

- Manning, p. 13

Tensions in mandate & performances

Is policing law enforcement or peacekeeping?

?

- Police and policing as political – and changing

- Ideas of efficiency – and categories of threats, crimes - as socially constructed

- Police themselves are sociological analysts themselves

- Styles of policing have legal, sociocultural, and moral elements

Social and political production of policing

SECURITY BLURS

-- Social issues understood as security issues – problematized
e.g. urban security, border security, national security, digital security

-- Sovereignty, power, legitimacy of actors

-- What political and sociocultural dynamics are at play that define
understandings and debates around security

Security as a keyword

"what security is, who is providing it, whom it is provided for, and how it can be interpreted by the actors involved"

Security blur e.g. in Tel Aviv

"Security blurs emerge when different actors interact, thereby reconfiguring security ideas, logics and practices. However, security blurs should not be equated with instances of collaboration or competition; rather, we should understand the negotiation of boundaries – state/ non-state, formal/informal, human/non-human and corporate/voluntary – as central to political practice."
(p.3)

Security blurs

3 layers

- Structural

- Performative

- Effective

- Labor perspective -- everyday work of policing in a variety of institutions – national, local, transnational

- Ethical questions of policy, training, and implementation

- Gender, class, and race – policing and security as ideas, desires, and processes embedded in social relations and hierarchies

- Nothing natural or fixed about norms & acts – how they are produced, internalized, contested

- Processual, performance, visual

Ethnographic approach

What do you think about ethnographic methods – possibilities, ethical concerns, limitations? – in studying policing & security?

Even though police & policing ostensibly have the mandate to enforce laws, **policing**,
security, and
justice
can be working in contradiction, in tension, and mean v different things (socially, legally, morally)

The relations between these also change over time and are context-specific
i.e. racial privilege