SC 4880D POLICING & SECURITY

\\ Wednesdays

@ 12 pm

@ AS1-02-12

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- 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

arguments r context specific, can the argument can be applied to other contexts?; relate to your own experiences in sg

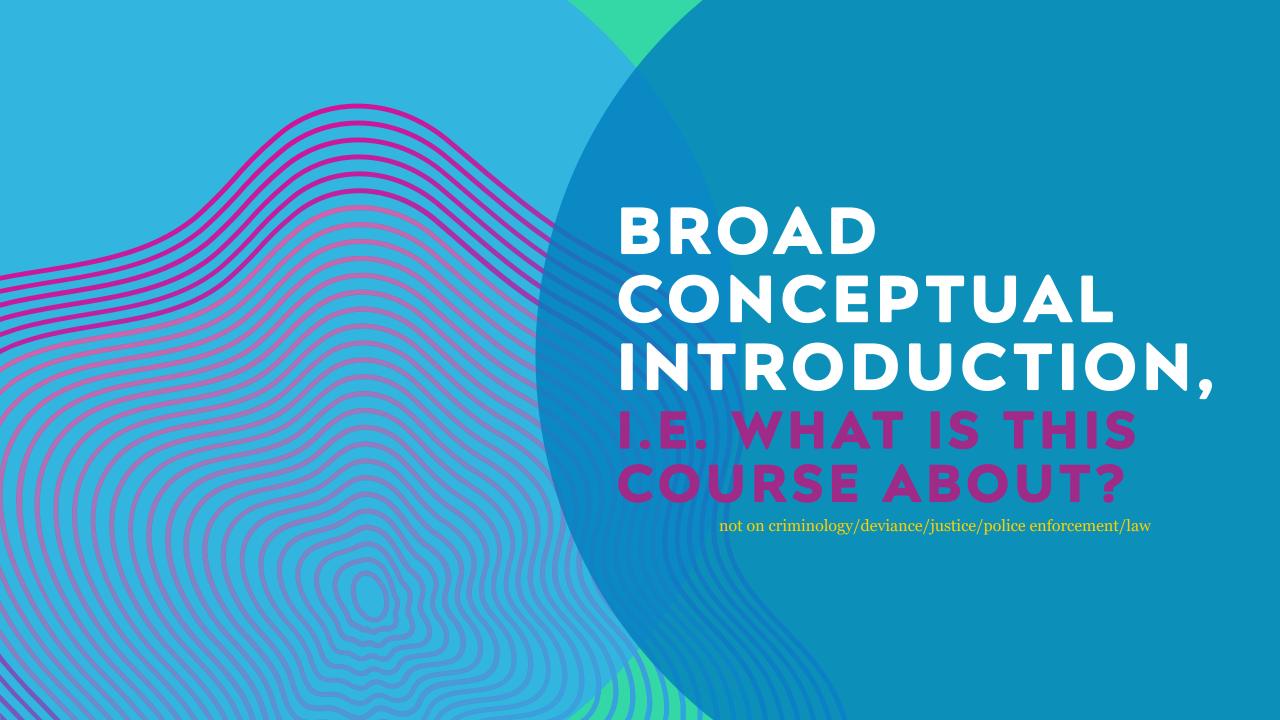
- Reading response 20% (4 x 5% each)
- Pick 1-2 sentences that are most striking to you. Explain what/why you learn from it. Raise a question/point that you would like to discuss in class. Post by 6 pm on Tues.
- Discussion lead 15%
- Sign up groups of 3 or 4. Put together an analytical summary main arguments, your critical engagement, what questions did the readings raise? Max 30 mins.
- Visual Analysis 20% choose one film/video from syllabus or other videos brought up in class, and analyse
- Research paper or podcast 30%

2 ppl how to communicate ur ideas to a broader audience (mass public) in contrast to a research paper (academic style)

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



profession of police + practice of policing

- Profession and practice of maintaining social order

(how)

- 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



historically: sociology of policing has been very urban-related (neighbourhood crime, gangs, urban segregation); urban policing; policing actors [tho this does not equate to the total sum of security concerns in the world today like in the media, border control, airport...]

- police is the most visible representation of state authority, empowered to use coercive force to achieve their goals --> this is normalised
- we r part of socio political systems with authorities that are legally permitted to use force --> we question, contest the use of these forces; abuse if any; legitimacy; sovereignity...

VS anthropology of policing (next slides)

legal definitions that vary between countries, transnational institutions... social answers? moral answers? answers that change over time, place

eg. history of police in NA: slave patrol, police n white supremacy, police violence --> leads to qns of reform

Fundamental sociological questions -- far from being settled

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

 the ideal vs reality

SOCIOLOGY OF POLICING



ANTHROPOLOGY OF SECURITY

Opening up the questions of WHO is policing
WHERE are the sites of not just the frontlines (airport, border control etc.)
policing & militarism
WHAT ideas/desires/fears

come to define security



family networks are networks of surveillance in some minority communities marriage alliances...... for reasons different from state policing ---> qns of belonging and national security

what is considered a terrorist threat? how do countries consider someone a illegal migrant? (legal based, race, class... etc)

"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

ANTHROPOLOGY OF SECURITY





What is a professional mandate?

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

 e.g. we allow doctors to perform surgeries on us, but not others that are not certified/we wont trust the doctor on
- 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

 they can decide how to do their job as well

social support in the question of power: do we need support to have a professional mandate? groups that do not have social support but have the legal authority to use violence/force on ppl

Police mandate

alot of forms of policing/social control that we accept in our lives/find unproblematic

their opinions on non-health related problems

~ Foucault readings

TASKS / DOMAIN OF AUTHORITY



what do u need to do the task u have? push n pull tensions in the fight for resources

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 do tasks for performance assessments, accord to the norms/rules of the public
- Dominant public —
- Multiple minority publics
- Politicians/policymakers

criminals.. deemed by the state.. u wont have a thief without police (police r the ones who call them thiefs)

police popularity/reputation within the public perception

media's role in creating public perception/discourse; how the police performs for the media.

media's role in creating public perception/discourse; how the police performs for the media and other audience (image management, creating a record to present to the public to cr8 a certain image for the public; but ofc also doing their job)

Police performances – occupational culture

"Because their mandate automatically entails mutually often protecting public order 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

policing as peacekeeping: daily mundane tasks of maintaining social order, mediating policing as law enforcement: solving crimes, justice

Is policing law enforcement or peacekeeping?

my take: policing is law enforcement to peacekeep

manning's take is that police should be peacekeeping but now they are more on law enforcement

what is public order? arguments b/w two neighbours; riots (whose interests should be protected?)

- Police and policing as political and changing
- Ideas of efficiency and categories of threats, crimes as socially constructed
- Police themselves are sociological analysts themselves criminology work in enforcement, making assessments about people, criminal profiling
- Styles of policing have legal, sociocultural, and moral elements

Social and political production of policing



social issues seen as security issues that must be solved using security solutions

poor ppl criminalised instead of poverty as the problem migrants problematised as a threat for border security

- -- 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"

eg. neighbourhood police not employed by the police but contracted by a security company for additional patrol in a poor neighbourhood

Security blur e.g. in Tel Aviv

overlaps b/w actors, sites, interests

"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 of security blur

- Structural eg. SG police force manpower constraints --> go to CISCO, auxiliary police to add on to manpower to events whr the SPF have not enough manpower for; non-human actors such as dog-shaped robots [volunteer force, community, digital solutions]

- Performative
- Effective

- performance of authority: checking IDs of people in school uniforms, enforcing authority
- structural: KPI/incentives to meet that are invisible to the public/data to collect/professional performance, they just need to check/just doing their duty/part of their everyday labour (maybe they were bored), assuring ppl that police are around (a performance put up to show that the police are doing their work, meet the ppls' expectations of the police)
- effective: ppl/students who are not doing anything but must be careful/must be policed

Security blurs

- Labor perspective -- everyday work of policing in a variety of institutions national, local, transnational
- Ethical questions of policy, training, and implementation institutions are not ignorant of ethical problems
- Gender, class, and race policing and security as ideas, desires, and processes
 embedded in social relations and hierarchies
 deas of propriety: who should be where and what time? (female/student/from what school? class? race?)
- Nothing natural or fixed about norms & acts how they are produced, internalized, contested
- Processual, performance, visual

Ethnographic approach

how do we study policing n security?

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

Studying policing & security

police reform wont work; holding police accountable:

legal frameworks created to allow police to use high lvls of violence w/o accountability

always blamed the few "Bad apples", but is actl a problem of structure that criminalises the

police brought in in many areas like public mental health, schools, drug problems --> but we should look to support local social workers to solve these problems instead eg. housing ppl instead of criminalising those who sleep on roads



DEBATES ON 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