
CRITICAL SECURITY STUDIES

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

TUESDAY

8AM – 9:30AM

INSTRUCTOR : ANTHONY AMICELLE

Course Description

This course is designed to provide a thorough overview of *Critical Security Studies*. It is intended to introduce and discuss theoretical perspectives and research objects at the heart of this burgeoning academic field. In doing so the course supports a reflexive approach to the transformation of security, its related concepts and their empirical applications in close connection with key issues such as development, environment, migration, citizenship and finance. It is organized in two main sections :

- Section 1) looks at the variety of theoretical perspectives in critical security studies.
- Section 2) confronts students to ongoing critical security research objects.

Course Goals

The overall aim of the seminar is to provide students advanced understanding of contemporary security politics in the light of a dedicated sub-field of International Relations.

By the end of this seminar, the students will have developed their empirical and analytical grasp of the core aspects of contemporary security politics, with a critical focus on development, environment, migrant, citizenship and finance security related matters. Furthermore, they will have advanced their capacity to engage critically with the academic literature in the topics examined by the course, in order to master the normative implications of contemporary security politics.

Course Structure and Expectations

Each session of the seminar will be organized in two parts. Lasting approximately from twenty to thirty minutes, the first part will be in the form of a collective discussion of the assigned reading. Each weekly reading will be introduced by a small group of students. Lasting approximately one hour, the second part will mainly involve lecturing about the session content.

More generally, full participation is expected of students throughout the course. In particular, each student is expected to come to the seminar having completed the assigned readings, and being prepared to discuss them in class. While it is impossible to be comprehensive, either in the selection of course themes or assigned material, the readings provide a broad and diverse overview of topics of theoretical and empirical interest in Critical Security Studies.

Assessment Methods

1) Class preparation and participation (20%)

The level and quality of seminar preparation and participation will be considered for final grades, especially in relation to the weekly critical paper discussion/presentation. The latter is not simply an oral summary of the main ideas of the paper, but an analysis of the assumptions, claims, conclusions and findings. A good presentation will identify the key topics and debates that the article/chapter engages with. Some questions you want to keep in mind while reading the paper include : what is the debate that the article engages with ? Are there tensions between the assumptions, claims, findings of the article ? Which argument(s) you find convincing, and why ? Can you come up with criticisms of the author's claims, findings or assumptions ? Answering these questions should enable you to discuss the substance of the paper without summarising it, and focus on the key points that the author makes.

2) Final Exam (80%)

The final exam will consist in a written exam checking the students' knowledge of the course content.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Students are reminded that plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct will be referred to the disciplinary section of Sciences Po Bordeaux. Please see below the anti-plagiarism charter : https://www.sciencespobordeaux.fr/plugins/flipbook/www/shared-resource-flipbook/all/FICHIERS/Charte_anti_plagiat.pdf/book.html

Schedule

CLASS 1 – 07/09/2021

INTRODUCTION

- **General introduction** to the course.

CLASS 2 – 14/09/2021

SECURITY : INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES

- **Assigned Reading**
 - o Zedner, L. (2009). *Security*. London : Routledge, **Chapter 1**.
- **Additional Reading***
 - o Neoclous, M. (2000). Against Security. *Radical Philosophy*, 100 : 7-15.

CLASS 3 – 21/09/2021

FROM INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS TO CRITICAL SECURITY STUDIES

- **Assigned Reading**
 - o Huysmans, J. (1998). Security! What Do You Mean? From Concept to Thick Signifier. *European Journal of International Relations*, 4(2) : 226-255.
- **Additional Reading***
 - o Krause, K. and Williams, M. C. (1996). Broadening the Agenda of Security Studies: Politics and Methods. *Mershon International Studies Review*, 40 : 229-254.

SECTION 1 : CRITICAL SECURITY PERSPECTIVES

CLASS 4 – 28/09/2021

SECURITY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

- **Assigned Reading**

- Bigo, D. (2006). Internal and External Aspects of Security. *European security*, 15(4) : 385-404.

- **Additional Reading***

- Bigo, D. (2016). Sociology of Transnational Guilds. *International Political Sociology*, 10(4) : 398-416.

CLASS 5 – 05/10/2021

SECURITY STUDIES IN THE FACE OF POSTCOLONIALISM

- **Assigned Reading**

- Barkawi, T. and Laffey, M. (2006). The Postcolonial Moment in Security Studies. *Review of International Studies*, 32(2) : 329-352.

- **Additional Reading***

- Bilgin, P. (2010). The 'Western-Centrism' of Security Studies: 'Blind Spot' or Constitutive Practice? *Security Dialogue*, 41(6) : 615-622.

CLASS 6 – 12/10/2021

SECURITY IN THE LIGHT OF CRITICAL THEORY

- **Assigned Reading**

- Booth, K. (1991). Security and Emancipation. *Review of International Studies*, 17 : 313-326.

- **Additional Reading***

- Jones, R. W. (1999). *Security, Strategy, and Critical Theory*. Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc. **Introduction.**

SECTION 2 : CRITICAL SECURITY FIELDS

CLASS 7 – 19/10/2021

SECURITY & DEVELOPMENT

- **Assigned Reading**

- Duffield, M. (2010). The Liberal Way of Development and the Development–Security Impasse : Exploring the Global Life-Chance Divide. *Security Dialogue*, 41(1): 53-76.

- **Additional Reading***

- Sandvik, K. B. and Lohne, K. (2014). The Rise of the Humanitarian Drone : Giving Content to an Emerging Concept. *Millenium : Journal of International Studies*, 43(1) : 145-164.

CLASS 8 – 26/10/2021

SECURITY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Assigned Reading**

- Burke, A. et al. (2016). Planet Politics: A Manifesto from the End of IR. *Millenium : Journal of International Studies*, 44(3): 499-523.

- **Additional Reading***

- Dalby, S. (2018). Firepower : Geopolitical Cultures in the Anthropocene. *Geopolitics*, 23(3) : 718-742.

CLASS 9 – 09/11/2021

SECURITY & MIGRATION

- **Assigned Reading**

- Frowd, P. M. (2014). The Field of Border Control in Mauritania. *Security Dialogue*, 45(3) : 226-241.

- **Additional Reading***

- Johnson, H. L. (2018). The Other Side of the Fence : Reconceptualizing the “Camp” and Migration Zones at the Borders of Spain. *International Political Sociology*, 7(1): 75-91.

CLASS 10 – 16/11/2021

SECURITY & CITIZENSHIP

- **Assigned Reading**

- Muller, B. (2004). (Dis)qualified bodies: securitization, citizenship and “Identity Management”. *Citizenship Studies*, 8(3): 279–294.

- **Additional Reading***

- Salter, M. (2007). Governmentalities of an Airport: Heterotopia and Confession. *International Political Sociology*, 1(1) : 49–66.

CLASS 11 – 23/11/2021

SECURITY & FINANCE

- **Assigned Reading**

- De Goede, M. (2017). The Chain of Security. *Review of International Studies*, 44(1): 24-42.

- **Additional Reading***

- Amicelle, A. (2017). When Finance met Security : Back to the War on Drugs and the Problem of Dirty Money. *Finance and Society*, 3(2) : 106-23

CLASS 12 – 30/11/2021

CONCLUSION

- Concluding Remarks and open questions about the course.

General References

Aradau, C., Huysmans, J., Neal, A. and Voelkner, N. (eds.) (2015). *Critical Security Methods : A New Framework for Analysis*. London ; New York : Routledge.

Basaran, T., Bigo, D., Guittet, E-P and Walker R. B. J. (eds.) (2016). *International Political Sociology. Transversal Lines*. New York : Routledge.

Buzan, B. and Hansen, L. (2009). *The Evolution of International Security Studies*. Cambridge : Cambridge University Press.

De Goede, M., Bosma, E. and Pallister-Wilkins, P. (2019). *Secrecy and Methods in Security Research : A Guide to Qualitative Fieldwork*. London : Routledge.

Gros, F. (2019). *The Security Principle : From Serenity to Regulation*. New York : Verso Book.

Krause, K. and Williams, M. C. (2002). *Critical Security Studies : Concepts and Strategies*. London ; New York : Routledge.

Zedner, L. (2009). *Security*. London ; New York : Routledge.

Salter, M. B. and Mutlu, C. E. (eds.) (2013). *Research Methods in Critical Security Studies : An Introduction*. London : Routledge, 2013.

Academic Journals

Alternatives: Global, Local, Political; Big Data and Society; Borderlands e-journal; Citizenship Studies; Cooperation and Conflict; Critical Asian Studies; Critical Military Studies; Critical Studies on Security; Critical Terrorism Studies; Cultures et conflits; Environment and Planning D: Society and Space; European Journal of International Relations; European Security; Geopolitics; International Political Sociology; International Security; Journal of International Relations and Development; Journal of Narrative Politics; Journal of Refugee Studies; Millennium: Journal of International Studies; Migration Studies; Political Geography; Review of International Studies; Security Dialogue; Security Studies; South Atlantic Quarterly; Studies in Social Justice; Surveillance & Society; Survival; Third World Quarterly.