

HSPS Tripos, Part IIB

CRIM5

Global perspectives on social order, violence and organised crime

Course organiser: Dr Paolo Campana, Institute of Criminology; Dr Arushi Garg, Institute of Criminology

Lecturers: Dr Paolo Campana, Institute of Criminology (PC)
Prof Manuel Eisner, Institute of Criminology (MPE)
Dr Arushi Garg, Institute of Criminology (AG)
Dr Andrea Giovannetti, Institute of Criminology (AG2)
Dr Justice Tankebe, Institute of Criminology (JT)

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Course structure: The course will be taught in 16 two-hour lectures (Michaelmas Term and Lent Term) plus one two-hour revision lecture in Easter Term.

Time: Wednesdays, 9am – 11am (MT and LT).

Dates: The first lecture in Michaelmas is on October 11th and in Lent on January 24th. The Easter revision session is on April 25th.

Venue: B3/B4, Institute of Criminology, Sidgewick Avenue, Cambridge CB3 9DA

Aims and content:

This course offers an analytical exploration of social order, violence and organised forms of criminality. Particular emphasis will be placed on the mechanisms underpinning such phenomena. The course adopts a comparative approach to tease out similarities – and differences – between phenomena observed in different locales across the world and/or at different points in time.

The course begins in Michaelmas Term by exploring global perspectives on violence including the study of long-term trends in violence, global patterns of violence in contemporary societies, vigilante violence and extrajudicial killings, and colonialism, racial injustice and police violence. This part ends with two lectures discussing gender and violence and, finally, gang violence in the Global South. In Lent Term, the course focuses on issues related to organised crime. It starts with discussing what organised crime is, and then focuses on specific forms of organised crime: Mafias; gangs; human trafficking; migrant smuggling; drug production and trafficking and cybercrime.
The course is multidisciplinary and draws on concepts from sociology, law, criminology, history, industrial economics, political economy, political theory and developmental psychology.
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Paper structure and reading list

Michaelmas Term

Global Perspectives on Violence

Lecture 1

Global perspectives on violence: definitions, theories, prevention (MPE)

Required reading


Further reading


Small Arms Survey Yearbooks (2001 to 2015). https://www.smallarmssurvey.org/resources (then select yearbook from the ‘by type’ drop-down menu)


Lecture 2

Inequality, poverty, state failure:
why do levels of violence vary between societies? (MPE)

Required reading


https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2014.12.031

Further reading

https://doi.org/10.1002/ab.20049

https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyn153


https://doi.org/10.1086/338347


https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/39.3.369


Lecture 3

Justifying violence: Cultural context and individual mechanisms (MPE)

Required reading


Further reading


Lecture 4

Death squads, vigilantes, and extrajudicial killings (JT)

Required reading


Further reading


Lecture 5

Colonialism, racial injustice and police violence (JT)

Required reading


Further reading

Cunneen, C. (2023). Defund the police: An international insurrection. Policy Press (Chapters 2 and 8)


Lecture 6

Gender and Violence (I): Theory (AG)

Required reading


Further reading


Also read related guidance: https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/rape-and-sexual-offences-chapter-3-case-building


Lecture 7

Gender and Violence (II): Case Study [Gender, Violence and Sex Work] (AG)

Required reading


Further reading


Lecture 8

Gang violence (JT)

Required reading:


Further reading:


Bloch, S. (2022). Gangs, gang members, and geography. *Geography Compass, 16*(8), e12651


Lent Term

Organised Forms of Criminality

Lecture 9

Introduction: What is organised crime? (PC)

Required reading


Further reading


Klaus Von Lampe’s website on organized crime includes some 180 definitions of organized crime from around the world: http://www.organized-crime.de/organizedcrimedefinitions.htm
Lecture 10

Governance: States and the mafia

Required reading


Further reading


Lecture 11

Illegal governance in legal and illegal markets (PC)

Required Reading


Further Reading


Lecture 12

Gangs (PC)

Required Reading


Further Reading


A collection of a number of case studies from across the world can be found in:


Lecture 13

Human Trafficking (PC)

Required reading:


Further reading:


https://doi.org/10.1007/s13178-016-0254-9


https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/ProfessionalInterest/ProtocolonTrafficking.pdf


https://rm.coe.int/online-and-technology-facilitated-trafficking-in-human-beings-summary-1680a5e10c
Lecture 14

Human Smuggling (PC)

Required reading


Further reading


Lecture 15

Drug production and trafficking (PC)

Required reading:


Further reading:

Hales, G., du Mont, S., Desroches, C., & Redgrave, H. (2020). What is driving serious violence: drugs.“The marketplace is more volatile and violent than it has ever been”


Lecture 16

**Cybercrime (AG2)**

*Required reading:*


*Further reading*


Easter Term

Revision Lecture: May 3rd