YORK UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE PROGRAM IN SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES

SLST 6030 3.0
Politics of Security and Regulation
Winter 2011

Mondays, 11:30-2:30
Ross S101

Professor: Dr. Amanda Glasbeek, Ross South 724A, Phone: 736-2100, ext 33749
Email: aglasbee@yorku.ca
Webpage: www.yorku.ca/aglasbee

Office Hours: Thursdays 10-11:30 or by appointment

Course Description:

This course engages in a critical examination of security and regulation in historical and contemporary settings. Drawing upon interdisciplinary scholarship in history, sociology, criminology and urban geography, this course explores questions and debates about the relationships between security, regulation, state-oriented policing, non-state governance, and the production of modern subjectivities. While many scholars treat security as a new (or newly signified) phenomenon, buttressed by technology, that has dramatically transformed global and domestic affairs since September 11, 2001, this course asks not only what is new about the politics of security and regulation in the twenty-first century but, also, what historical continuities are evident, and what can these long standing patterns can tell us about the arrangement of a secure order. Most importantly, the course engages the concepts of ‘security’ and ‘regulation’ as expansive, flexible, and often subjective terms through which law and legal ordering meet broader extralegal social concerns about (in)equality, access, freedom and justice to reflect and produce particular constellations of identities, possibilities and closures.

Summary of Assignments and Evaluation:

1  Seminar Participation  30%
2  Critical Reflection Papers (3 x 10%)  30%
3  Research Paper (due April 4)  40%
Seminar Participation – 30%
Given that this is a graduate seminar course, it is required that everyone maintains regular attendance and contributes meaningfully in the weekly seminars. You must come to class having read all the material, and prepared to discuss it in an engaged, critical manner. In addition, each student will be responsible for taking a leading role in one seminar during the term. This will require you to facilitate a discussion based on the readings and course themes.

Critical Reflection Papers (3) - 30% (10% each)
On any three (3) weeks of the course between January 24 and March 28, you will write a short paper that offers a critical overview of the central theme(s) of that week’s readings. Each paper will be approximately 3-5 pages in length, double-spaced, and will engage with the concepts, theories and/or data from the readings in an informed, analytic manner. There is no set way to conduct these: you may speak to the complementarity of the readings, the emerging contradictions, to absences, to insights, or any other form of critical engagement. Descriptive papers - i.e. papers that simply provide an overview of the contents of the readings - are to be avoided at all costs!

Outside/additional resources are not required.

NOTE: you may not do an analytic paper for the week during which you are facilitating the class discussion.

Papers are due at the beginning of class. You must attend class to hand in an analytic paper. Late papers will not be accepted.

Each paper is worth 10%.

Research Essay – 40%
Each student will write an essay on a topic relating to the politics of security and regulation, to be determined in consultation with the instructor. Students are expected to meet with the instructor no later than February 14 to discuss their choice of essay topic. The essay will be approximately 20-25 pages in length. The final paper is due on April 4 and is worth 40% of your grade.

Unless advance arrangements are made, late papers will be penalized by 5% per day (including weekends), and may not receive comments.

Further details about the major research essay will be discussed in class.
### POLITICS OF SECURITY AND REGULATION
#### SEMINAR AND READING SCHEDULE

**January 10**
**Introduction to Course/Getting Organized**

**January 17**
**Security and Regulation in Historical Context**


**January 24**
**Security and Regulation in the 21st Century**


**January 31**
**Commodification, Fear, and Exclusion**

Deborah Cowen and Emily Gilbert, “Fear and the Familial in the War on Terror,” in Rachel Pain and Susan J. Smith (eds), Fear: Critical Geopolitics and Everyday Life (Ashgate, 2008):49-58


**February 7**  
Risk (1): Theoretical Developments


**February 14**  
Risk (2): Everyday Practices


*** you must have an approved essay topic by this date ***

**February 21**  
READING WEEK

**February 28**  
Securing Visibility: Panopticism and Surveillant Assemblages


Didier Bigo, “Security, exception, ban and surveillance,” in David Lyon (ed), Theorizing Surveillance: The
Panopticon and Beyond (Willan Publishing, 2006):46-68


March 7    Regulating the City


March 14    Securing Identity

Katja Franko Aas, ”'The body does not lie': Identity, risk and trust in technoculture,” 2 (2) Crime, Media, Culture 2006:143-158

Benjamin Muller, ”(Dis)Qualified Bodies: Securitization, Citizenship and ‘Identity Management’,” 8 (3) Citizenship Studies 2004:279-294

Torin Monahan, ”Identity theft vulnerability: Neoliberal governance through crime construction,” 13 (2) Theoretical Criminology 2009:155-176


March 21    Regulating Gender and Sexuality


Kevin Walby, ”'He asked me if I was looking for fags…': Ottawa’s National Capital Commission Conservation Officers and the Policing of Public Park Sex,” 6 (4) Surveillance and Society 2009:367-379
March 28  Resisting Security and Regulation

David Bell, “Surveillance is Sexy,” 6 (3) Surveillance and Society 2009:203-212


Surveillance Camera Players: http://www.notbored.org/the-scp.html

April 4  ESSAYS DUE