

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: Place and Movement

Course Number and Section: CGS 4013F 550

Instructor Name(s): Masaya Llavaneras Blanco

Instructor Email(s): mllavane@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

Place and movement are central aspects of our human experience. We live in, experience and "make" places through everyday practices. Movement is also an essential aspect of our livelihoods, cultural and political practices. Inasmuch as place and movement are inherent to our existence, they are also deeply embedded in global relations of power that find their expression in the existence of borders.

Borders are a central to how to imagine "the global". They shape us even before we are aware of their existence. Even if we are not always aware of their everyday functions, transnational borders act as geopolitical demarcations of belonging and responsibility and exist at the very heart of global power relations. Where we are born, the religions or forms of faith that we are born into, our gender and sexual orientation, as well as other markers such as race and class determine our relationship with borders and even how much we think about them. Depending on our social positions, the same geopolitical demarcation may appear seamless or unsurmountable.

This course is an opportunity to "unveil" borders, examining some of the mechanisms in which they operate. We will look at borders from a transdisciplinary lens, reading and discussing the works of geographers, anthropologists, sociologists, political scientists, and indigenous thinkers. Together we will explore how borders relate to global relations of power, paying specific attention to how they are manifest in territory and space, in legal systems and categories, that ultimately seek to govern mobility and belonging.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will gain a strong analytical basis to engage with discussions about global relations of power, migration studies and human mobilities.

Will refine their analytical and conceptual skills, identifying key actors and issues in global border-making and resistance.

Will gain practice in research dissemination practices.

Will refine research and writing skills, producing a strong academic essay.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Delaney, D. (2005). Territory: a short introduction. Malden, MA: Blackwell Pub. (optional) Smith, S. (2020). Intimate geopolitics: Love, territory, and the Future of India's Northern

Threshold. Rutgers University Press.

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
4 reading memoranda and discussion leadership	Throughout the term	40
Borderland workshop	10/23/24	10
Borderland Research Proposal	11/13/24	10
Borderland research essay	12/04/24	25
Multimedia research dissemination	12/04/24	15

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Monday, August 19, 2024