

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: **Global Governmentality**

Course Number and Section:

CGS

3529G 550

Instructor Name(s): Dr. Mark Franke

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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:

After a brief introduction to the theory of governmentality, our studies in this course begin with inquiries into how governmentality has been historically crucial in the development of European colonial power and dominance globally. In this respect, we will gain understanding of how the study of governmentality involves examinations of the formation of governance as a perceived possibility and social good, rather than an applied system of power in the world. We will move on to examine examples of how such governmentality has worked to justify further violence against peoples in the name of freedom and against their own politics of self-determination. We will take time to consider how the forces of governmentality are established in terms of the economisation and the reproduction of life, through relations of power aimed at biological systems. We will study and consider how governmentality itself has been and is mobilised through racist and sexist orderings of human bodies and the exploitation of these discriminatory regimes through values of rights and freedom. We will explore how governmentality, especially as recognisable in neoliberalism, is deeply entrenched in social orders, allowing for and promoting its reproduction against the interests of those caught up in its systems. And we will reflect on ways in which governmentality also establishes the conditions under which its systems may be resisted and re-worked, focusing on the force of persons' efforts to determine the directions, meanings, spaces, and impacts of their own lives against the freedoms valued as governable.

Learning Outcomes:

Students in this course will gain knowledge of governmentality as a subject of study and learn to recognise and critically analyse the functions of governmentality historically and within social systems that they themselves may encounter and experience. In these regards, students will have opportunities to deepen their understandings of colonial impacts in shaping the postcolonial world. Students will gain understandings of how modern and contemporary regimes of liberty, freedom, and choice celebrated in economic globalization are deeply susceptible to regimes of governance that are prone to value interests of capitalism itself rather than personal freedom and self-determination. Students will learn how practices of gendering and racialisation of persons are caught up within power relations of social governance. Students will learn how political freedoms are rendered in economic terms within systems of governmentality. And students will learn how governmentality and notions of "good governance" may be criticised, challenged, and resisted. Students will gain substantial experience and exercise in learning how to develop and communicate interpretive analyses of study and research materials. Students will gain experience in this course in developing their own sites and problems of research and analysis, through the development of interdisciplinary field studies. And students will gain deep practice in the development of all aspects of major academic research papers.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

- selections from: Michel Foucault. The Essential Foucault, eds. Paul Rabinow & Nikolas Rose (The New Press, 2003).
- selections from: Benjamin D. Hopkins. Ruling the Savage Periphery: Frontier Governance and the Making of the Modern State (Harvard University Press, 2020).
- selections from: Florian Wagner. Colonial Internationalism and the Governmentality of Empire, 1893-1982 (Cambridge University Press, 2022).
- Tina Loo. Moved by the State: Forced Relocation and Making a Good Life in Postwar Canada (UBC Press, 2019).
- Michelle Murphy. The Economization of Life (Duke University Press, 2017).
- Denise Noble. Decolonizing and Feminizing Freedom: A Caribbean Genealogy (Palgrave MacMillan, 2020).
- Veronica Gago. Neoliberalism from Below: Popular Pragmatics & Baroque Economies. (Duke University Press, 2017).
- Martina Tazzioli. Spaces of Governmentality: Autonomous Migration and the Arab Uprisings (Rowman & Littlefield, 2015).

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
four Critical Reading Studies	throughout term	40%
Governmentality Study Proposal	March 7, 2024	5%
Governmentality Study	April 4, 2024	40%

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
participation	throughout term	15%

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

Tuesday, November 26, 2024