DEPARTMENT OF

GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

GPHY 229 – Place, Space, Culture, and Social Life



| Contact Time | 2x 1.5hr lectures/week |
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| Format | Lecture & discussions, online course notes + readings |
| Class Assessment | Participation points; midterm; film essay; final exam (subject to change) |

COURSE OVERVIEW Space and place are central to how we experience the world. In this course we will be social geographers, examining how intersecting relations of power such as capitalism, ableism, heteronormativity, and colonialism produce place, and how we in turn are affected by the spaces we inhabit, engage, and consume. Our geographical interrogations will take us from favela tours in Rio de Janeiro to harm reduction organizing in our own backyard. We will consider collective responses to infectious disease in South Africa, and the makings of Caribbean identity in the restaurants of Scarborough. We will follow Wonder Woman to Egypt and witness the Mi'kmaq battling zombies on Turtle Island. Our course materials will include both academic literature and cultural artefacts like films, music videos, and novels that we encounter in our daily lives. While this is a lecture course wherever possible we will engage active learning in order to develop course concepts in meaningful ways. The course is divided into six modules: Place and Space; Carceral and Abolition Geographies; Nature and Embodiment; Geographical Imaginaries; Land(scape); and Borders.

COURSE TOPICS Landscape, place, space, borders, diaspora, prison, abolition, harm reduction, Indigenous cosmologies, digital geographies, political ecology, embodiment, Orientalism, geographical imaginaries, memorialization, Afro-futurism, refugee camps

COURSE READINGS (a selected list subject to change)

- Orozco, Elva Fabiola. (2019). Mapping the trail of violence: The memorialization of public space as a counter-geography of violence in Ciudad Juárez. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 18(3): 132-157.
- Rosenberg, Rae & Oswin, Natalie. (2015). Trans embodiment in carceral space: Hypermasculinity and the US prison industrial complex. *Gender, Place & Culture 22*(9).
- Trotz, Alissa. (2011). Bustling across the Canada-US border: Gender and the remapping of the Caribbean across place. *Small Axe* 15(2): 59-77.
- Shabazz, Rashad (Nov 2021). Prince & Place: A primer on the geography of music. *Places Journal*.
- *Blood Quantum* [film]
- Liboiron, Max. (2021). *Pollution is Colonialism*. Duke University Press. [selections]
- Chariandy, David. (2017). *Brother*. Random House. [novel]
- Mountz, Alison. (2011). The enforcement archipelago: Detention, haunting, and asylum on islands. *Political Geography 30*: 118-128.
- Said, Edward. (1978). *Orientalism* (Introduction). Pantheon Books.
- Freire-Medeiros, Bianca (2009). The favela and its touristic transits. *Geoforum 40*: 580-588.
- Walia, Harsha (2021). Border and Rule: Global Migration, Capitalism, and the Rise of Racist Nationalism. Fernwood Publishing