

Geography 905: Special Topics in Geography

Biopolitics: Life, power, and space

Dr. Kristin Sziarto
Fall 2016
Tuesdays, 5:00 – 7:40 pm
Bolton 487

Office hours:
Tuesdays 3:30 – 4:30,
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Refugees at Hungarian border, 2015

Source: <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/inpictures/2015/09/refugees-caught-hope-harsh-laws-europe-150916065801112.html>

‘Power would no longer be dealing simply with legal subjects over whom the ultimate domination was death, but with living beings, and the mastery it would be able to exercise over them would have to be applied at the level of life itself; it was the taking charge of life, more than the threat of death, that gave power its access event to the body’

–Michel Foucault, *History of Sexuality*, vol. 1

“...“biopolitics” signifies from the start a conceptual complexity that is in keeping with real tensions between the simultaneous promotion of individual freedom and the justification of coercive strategies in liberal societies.”

–Sujatha Raman & Richard Tutton, *Science, Technology, & Human Values*, vol.35

This course will investigate conceptualizations of life and death, power and subjectivity, and space and place enabled by scholarly work on “biopolitics.” Coined by Foucault, the concept of biopolitics has been taken up as potentially useful for understanding contemporary formations of power, identity, and spatialities, including the politics of national borders and refugee movements, public health and reproductive health, and even of the notion of “population.” This course will survey key pieces by Foucault and those engaging with his work theoretically, as well as empirical work in political and critical geographies; urban studies; feminist and gender studies; science studies and environmental politics; and related fields. The critical questions driving the course are: How can the concept of biopolitics inform our research? How has it been understood and critiqued – and used in empirical work? What are its strengths, its weaknesses, and its limits? The first half of the semester’s readings will be set by the instructor; then, based on graduate students’ interests and input, and a bibliography created by the instructor, the class will plan readings for the second half of the course.

This course has three aims:

- To survey perspectives on biopolitics, especially those that have been influential within critical geography, including research on the topics of (but not limited to) health, security, emergent diseases, terrorism, borders, refugees, violence, medical technologies, human reproduction, animal-human relationships, education, environmental politics, ethics of care, sexuality, etc.;
- To become acquainted with critical debates around power and spatialities within these perspectives, and their relation to theoretical terms/fields such as neoliberalism,

necropolitics, critical race theory & postcolonial theory, subjectivity, intersectionality, hegemony, ideology, resistance, affect, gender, sexuality, population, the environment, and the urban.

- To consider how theorizations and applications of biopolitics have their own geographies (their own conceptual maps, as well as their particular geographies of emergence), and how these shape their production, reception, and translation in activist and academic practice.

To achieve these aims, we will read both recent scholarship on and in biopolitics and the biopolitical, as well as foundational texts from Foucault. Critical points of debate include the meaning and significance of 'class' and 'the economy' in politics; the relations between social movements and the state; understandings of social movements through the notion of representation vs. constitution, ideology vs. culture, discourse vs. framing; and ways of thinking about identity, collectivities, and agency.

This course is a seminar: Graduate students will be expected to read thoughtfully, deepen their engagement with the literatures through responsive writing and discussion, and build their own critical perspectives on the theories addressed. Assessment will stress preparation for class, participation in discussion, and engagement as made evident in written and oral practice. Students will write not only critical response pieces throughout the semester, but also work on longer essays using the course material to advance their own research.

READINGS will be available online, at electronic course reserve, on the course D2L site, and/or online. You may want to purchase one or more of the three books from which large portions are excerpted, *Society Must Be Defended; Security, Territory, Population*; and *The Birth of Biopolitics*. Nevertheless, digital copies are available on the course D2L site.

I strongly recommend printing the readings, as you will need them in class discussion, and underlining on the page is a useful practice. If you really prefer to use a digital copy only, you must download and save it to your device ahead of time for easy access in class (do not depend on an internet connection in class, and time spent online in class will detract from your engagement during our face-to-face time).

All UWM course policies apply; please be familiar with the following:

Student Rights & Responsibilities: <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/SyllabusLinks.pdf>

For scholars, **academic integrity is of the utmost importance**, and you should conduct your scholarly practice in such a way as to acknowledge the intellectual labor of others. For the relevant UWM policy, see http://www4.uwm.edu/acad_aff/policy/academicmisconduct.cfm

If you need certain accommodations because of physical ability, financial limitations, and/or the limits of UWM technology, please contact Kristin about this as soon as possible, for direct assistance or guidance to services on the UWM campus.

Please check your university email regularly for occasional class announcements; such announcements will also be posted on the course D2L page. In case of an influenza outbreak, severe weather events, or other disruptive large-scale phenomena, alternative arrangements will be made for class and a new syllabus will be distributed to organize the completion of remaining assessed work.

To request an office appointment or ask a quick question by email, always include “GEOG 905” in the subject header. Please use your UWM e-mail; e-mail from other accounts may go to the junk folder. I usually answer my e-mail within 48 hours. If you do not get an answer from me within a day, though, feel free to e-mail again to make sure I received your e-mail. --Kristin

ASSESSMENT

Your work in this course will be assessed as follows:

Assessment	Learning Goals	% of grade	Grading basis
Response papers (10 papers @ 1 p each)	Develop critical understanding of concepts and methods in poststructuralist & critical geography through independent reading and writing Develop scholarly analytical and writing skills	4 <u>10</u> papers @ 3% each for a total of 33%	Out of 2 points (2= meets at least 80% of criteria; 1= meets <80% of criteria; 0=not submitted)
Class participation, including leading class discussion for 2 sessions	Develop facility and self-confidence in scholarly debate and engagement with peers	17%	Letter
Final paper(s): DRAFT	Develop scholarly writing skills, including working with critique	10%	Out of 5 points
Final paper: PEER REVIEW	Develop scholarly engagement through reading, develop familiarity with critical review processes	5%	Out of 5 points
Final paper(s): FINAL version	Demonstrate ability to synthesize insights from materials covered in class and identify new research questions relevant to the themes of discussion in this course Develop independent research skills and deep engagement with an case study or area of theoretical inquiry Demonstrate writing and analytical skills appropriate to graduate level	35%	Letter

RESPONSE PAPERS ASSIGNMENT

One of your tasks as a researcher/scholar is to develop your thinking, especially critical thinking. One of the most important ways to do this is through writing. This does NOT mean that you read a lot, think critically, then write about it. Rather, writing practice may actually start to tell you what you are thinking. To this end, in this course you will write at least **10 responses to the readings**. You should write an approximately one-page, single-spaced piece (about 250-300 words) in response to the assigned reading(s), and circulate it to the entire class by posting it to that week's folder in the D2L Dropbox by 6 pm on the Monday before class. Earlier is better – but better late than missing...

I recommend you use this assignment to work toward several different goals:

- ✓ Establishing a habitual process of writing (as thinking)
- ✓ Developing your ability to respond critically to reading
 - grasping the arguments even as you subject them to critical scrutiny
 - relating them to other scholarly work
- ✓ Getting around writer's block by free-writing before you are sure of your argument
- ✓ Developing arguments through responding to & revising your writing

What should you strive to do in these response pieces? You might, depending on the reading(s), focus on a particular term, and trace how the author develops her/his argument about that concept, OR how several authors use different conceptualizations of the same term (and think about which conceptualization works best for you). You might focus on grappling with one or two difficult concepts or passages by trying to summarize them, and relating them to the rest of the work. You might relate a reading to a previous week's reading(s), by comparing and contrasting their approaches to a topic.

REMINDER: Response pieces are due to the course D2L Discussion page by Tuesday, 6 pm, to give everyone time to read them before Wednesday's class. See the instructions on that page regarding how to post your response paper. Earlier is fine, too (perhaps Monday night would be good). If your work schedule makes this impossible in some way, talk with Kristin as soon as possible.

Resources on writing as thinking:

<http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/summer/summer6>

<http://www.capella.edu/writingcenter/overview.aspx>

LEADING DISCUSSION

You will work with one or more other classmates to facilitate discussion twice in the semester. This work will count as part of your participation grade. At the first class meeting you will sign up for your two sessions. How should you go about this? There are many ways to approach the readings, and your plans should take the nature of the readings, and the questions they raise, into consideration. Some readings will clearly lay out a theoretical approach (more or less clearly, which you may need to address). Some readings will obviously conflict with others. Some readings could work best when put into conversation with readings from previous weeks.

You should also consider the practicalities of the 5:00 – 7:40 pm time. It is unlikely that we will all be able to focus on one singular task for the entire class period.

I strongly recommend that you arrange to meet with your co-facilitators at least a day or two before class. Also consider arranging to meet with me. I will generally be available to meet Monday or Tuesday afternoons (please e-mail to make specific arrangements).

FINAL PAPER ASSIGNMENT

You should use this course, and especially the final paper assignment, to further your graduate research project in some way. You may be building your preliminary reading lists, or writing your thesis or final master's paper, or writing your dissertation proposal, or writing an article.....Therefore, I expect you to take one of these options for the final paper, and tailor it to your needs.

Option 1: A review of literature, 20-25 pages. If you are working toward your preliminary exams, or writing your thesis, this might be what you need most. A thorough review of literature, in which you explore and critique several themes in a literature, or use multiple literatures to set up a framework for research, is an important task early in any research project.

Option 2: An analytical essay or position paper, 20-25 pages. If you are working on a final master's paper, or on an article to submit for publication, this might be the best choice. In this assignment you would explicate the relevant literature in a short review, then apply and/or critique that literature, possibly through the analysis of your research findings.

Option 3: A research proposal, 20-25 pages. Again, whether this option is appropriate depends on at what stage you are in your research project.

Option 4: Do you have some other idea? Schedule a meeting with Kristin to talk about it, ASAP.

This assignment will proceed in several stages. First, by Friday, September 9, midnight, you should submit a proposal (1/2 to 1 page) for the paper(s) to Kristin via the D2L Dropbox. This part of the assignment is not for credit, but is crucial to your successful accomplishment of the later stages. Also, I recommend you discuss this assignment, and its role in furthering your academic project, with your adviser around the time you write the paper proposal.

Second, you will write a full draft of the paper(s) for Kristin and a peer to review. See the course calendar on page 22 of the syllabus for due dates.

Third, you will review at least one classmate's draft paper (details TBA, depending on topics). You will write up your constructive criticism, answering these questions: Is the argument clear? How can it be clarified? Is it developed throughout the paper, and in relation to research findings (depending on which kind of paper)? Are relevant literatures addressed? What is the paper's intellectual contribution and significance, in terms of theory and/or empirical work? And so on. WHY are we doing peer reviewing? Because scholarship is a collective endeavor, involving conversations (proximate, or at a distance) and debates about knowledge production. Peer review is an important part of this endeavor.

The final version of the paper is due to the D2L Dropbox by midnight, Sunday, December 18th.

SCHEDULE AND READINGS, WEEK BY WEEK

Week 1: What does “biopolitics” mean? What do we do with this idea?

These are drawn from across several disciplines, most not even geography or urban studies. I chose them for their contrasting approaches to biopolitics, and in some cases, for their clarity. As you read, consider where & how they agree on "what does biopolitics mean?" as well as how they point to different understandings and uses of the concept.

Required reading:

Giroux, H. (2006). Reading Hurricane Katrina: Race, Class, and the Biopolitics of Disposability. *College Literature* 33 (3), 171-196.

Garrison, L. (2013). Biopolitics: An Overview. *The Anthropology of Biopolitics*. Available online at <https://anthrobiopolitics.wordpress.com/2013/01/21/biopolitics-an-overview/>

Gormley, L. (2015). Biopower, Holocaust and Europe's 'Refugee Crisis.' *The Student's Post*, August 13, 2015. Available online at <http://thestudentspost.com/biopower-holocaust-and-europes-refugee-crisis/>

Rabinow, P. & N. Rose. (2003). Thoughts on the concept of biopower today. Available at London School of Economics, Department of Sociology, <http://www.lse.ac.uk/sociology/pdf/RabinowandRose-BiopowerToday03.pdf>

Lilja, M. and S. Vinthagen. (2014). Sovereign power, disciplinary power and biopower: resisting what power with what resistance? *Journal of Political Power*, 7 (1), 107-126.

Suggested/related reading:

Atlantic, The. (2016). America Is Ignoring Another Natural Disaster Near the Gulf. *The Atlantic*, 17 August 2016. Available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2016/08/america-is-ignoring-another-natural-disaster-near-the-gulf/496355/>.

G.R. (2016). Uncovered: Most of Louisiana's flood victims lack insurance. *The Economist*, 22 August 2016. Available online at <http://www.economist.com/blogs/democracyinamerica/2016/08/uncovered>.

Atlantic, The. (2016). Obama in Louisiana: 'I Don't Worry Too Much About Politics'. *The Atlantic*, 24 August 2016. Available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/news/archive/2016/08/obama-louisiana-flooding/497009/>.

Beilin, K. O. (2015). *In Search of an Alternative Biopolitics Anti-Bullfighting, Animality, and the Environment in Contemporary Spain*. Columbus: Ohio State University Press. Chapter 1, also either 5 or 6.

Giroux, H. (2007). Violence, Katrina, and the Biopolitics of Disposability. *Theory, Culture, & Society* 24 (7-8), 305-309.

Week 2: Biopolitics in greater depth

And now we dive into more disciplined/disciplinary approaches to biopolitics: Geographers, a sociologist, and a philosopher. Again, what are their points of departure – that is, why are they wanting to use biopolitics, for what? What does it mean and do for them? What does this way of thinking allow them to ask? How do they agree or converge in their interpretation of biopolitics, and how do they differ?

Required reading:

Tyner, J. (2012). State sovereignty, bioethics, and political geographies: the practice of medicine under the Khmer Rouge. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 30, 842 – 860.

Lemke, T. (2001). ‘The birth of bio-politics’: Michel Foucault’s lecture at the Collège de France on neo-liberal governmentality. *Economy and Society* 30 (2), 190–207.

Genel, K. (2006) The Question of Biopower: Foucault and Agamben, *Rethinking Marxism*, 18:1, 43-62.

Braun, B. (2007). Biopolitics and the molecularization of life. *cultural geographies* 14: 6-28.

Suggested reading:

Coleman, M., & Grove, K. (2009). Biopolitics, biopower, and the return of sovereignty. *Environment & Planning D: Society & Space*, 27(3), 489-507.

Legg, S. (2011). Assemblage/apparatus: using Deleuze and Foucault. *Area*, 43(2), 128-133.

Rose, M. (2014). Negative governance: vulnerability, biopolitics and the origins of government. *Transactions of the Institute Of British Geographers*, 39(2), 209-223.

Cadman, L. (2010). How (not) to be governed: Foucault, critique, and the political. *Environment & Planning D: Society & Space*, 28, 539-556.

Raman, S. and R. Tutton. (2010). Life, Science, and Biopower. *Science, Technology, & Human Values* 35(5), 711-734.

Week 3: (bio)politics and space...spatialities

Foucault was not a geographer, but much of his work pays attention to the configurations of space(s) in relation to power – that is, *spatialities*. Before we dive into reading his lectures, let’s look at how some researchers have read Foucault and Foucauldian work with a focus on spatialities.

Required reading:

Philo, C. (2000). "The Birth of the Clinic": An Unknown Work of Medical Geography, *Area* 32, 11-19.

Moran, D., Piacentini, L., & Pallot, J. (2012). Disciplined mobility and carceral geography: prisoner transport in Russia. *Transactions Of The Institute Of British Geographers*, 37(3), 446-460.

Elden, S. (2007). Governmentality, calculation, territory. *Environment & Planning D: Society & Space*, 25(3), 562-580.

Ek, R., 2006: Giorgio Agamben and the spatialities of the camp: an introduction. *Geografiska Annaler* 88 B (4), 363-386.

Suggested:

Jessop, B. (2007). From micro-powers to governmentality: Foucault's work on statehood, state formation, statecraft and state power. *Political Geography*, 26(1), 34-40.

Kearns, G. (2014). Governing vitalities and the security state. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 32, 762 – 778.

Legg, S. (2009). Of scales, networks and assemblages: the League of Nations apparatus and the scalar sovereignty of the Government of India. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* NS 34, 234-253.

Mayhew, R. J. (2009). Historical geography 2007-2008: Foucault's avatars – still in (the) Driver's seat. *Progress in Human Geography* 33(3), 387-397.

Thrale, C. (2007). Changing addresses: social conflict, civic culture, and the politics of house numbering reform in Milwaukee, 1913-1931. *Journal of Historical Geography*, 33, 125-43.

Rutherford, P., & Rutherford, S. (2013). The Confusions and Exuberances of Biopolitics. *Geography Compass*, 7(6), 412-422.

Rutherford, S., & Rutherford, P. (2013). Geography and Biopolitics. *Geography Compass*, 7(6), 423-434.

Schlosser, Kolson. (2008). Bio-Political Geographies. *Geography Compass* 2 (5): 1621-1634.

Week 4: What did Foucault say about biopower? In his own words

Required reading:

Selection (pp. i-xxiii, 1-86, and 239-293) from

Foucault, Michel. 2003 [1997]. *Society Must Be Defended: Lectures at the College de France, 1975-1976*, trans. David Macey. New York: Picador (1997 edition Paris: Editions du Seuil/Gallimard).

Suggested:

Foucault, Michel. 1984. Space, knowledge, and power. In *The Foucault reader*, ed. P. Rabinow, 239-256. New York: Pantheon Books.

- Foucault, Michel. 1991. Governmentality. In *The Foucault effect: Studies in governmentality*, ed. G. Burchell, C. Gordon, and P. Miller, 87–104. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (Different translation of Chapter/Lecture 4 in required reading.)
- JanMohmed, Abdul. (1995). Refiguring Values, Power, Knowledge: Or, Foucault's Disavowal of Marx. Pp. 31-64 in Bernd Magnus and Stephen Cullenberg (eds.), *Whither Marxism?* London: Routledge.
- Foucault, Michel. (1997). "Of Other Spaces," in *Rethinking Architecture: A Reader in Cultural Theory*, ed. Neil Leach. Routledge, pp. 350-355. (also available as: Foucault, Michel. (1984). *Of other spaces. Architecture /Mouvement/ Continuité*, October, 1984. Available online at <http://foucault.info/documents/heteroTopia/foucault.heteroTopia.en.html>)

Week 5: In Foucault's own words, part 2

Required reading:

Selections from

Foucault, Michel. 2007 [2004]. *Security, Territory, Population: Lectures at the College de France, 1977-1978*, trans. Graham Burchell. New York: Palgrave MacMillan (2004 edition Paris: Editions du Seuil/Gallimard).

Week 6: Foucault's own words, part 3

Selections from

Foucault, Michel. 2008 [2004]. *The Birth of Biopolitics: Lectures at the College de France, 1978-1979*, trans. Graham Burchell. New York: Picador (2004 edition Paris: Editions du Seuil/Gallimard).

Suggested:

<http://ineteconomics.org/ideas-papers/collections/a-symposium-on-neoliberalism>

Week 7: What exactly is neoliberalism, and what does it have to do with biopolitics?

Required reading:

Larner, W. (2003). Guest editorial: Neoliberalism? *Environment and Planning D: Society & Space* 21, 509-512.

Larner, W. and R. LeHeron. (2005). Neo-liberalizing Spaces and Subjectivities: Reinventing New Zealand Universities. *Organization* 12 (6), 843-862.

Peck, J. N. Theodore, and N. Brenner. (2012). Neoliberalism Resurgent? Market Rule after the Great Recession. *South Atlantic Quarterly* 111 (2), 165-288.

Barnett, C., N. Clarke, P. Cloke & A. Malpass. (2008). The Elusive Subjects of Neo-liberalism: Beyond the analytics of governmentality. *Cultural Studies* 22 (5), 622-653.

Suggested:

Peck, J. and Tickell, A. (2002) Neoliberalizing Space. *Antipode* 34(3): 380-404.

Barnett, C. (2005). The consolations of neoliberalism. *Geoforum* 36, 7-12.

Soederberg, S. (2012). The Mexican Debtfare State: Dispossession, Micro-Lending, and the Surplus Population. *Globalizations*, 9(4), 561-575.

Joronen, M. (2013). Conceptualising New Modes of State Governmentality: Power, Violence and the Ontological Mono-politics of Neoliberalism. *Geopolitics*, 18(2), 356-370.

Venugopal, R. (2015). Neoliberalism as concept, *Economy and Society*, 44:2, 165-187.

Larner, W. (2000) 'Neo-Liberalism: Policy, Ideology, Governmentality', *Studies in Political Economy* 63: 5-26.

Larner, W. and Le Heron, R. (2002b) 'From Economic Globalisation to Globalising Economic Processes: Towards Post-Structural Political Economies', *Geoforum* 33(4): 415-19.

Larner, W. and Le Heron, R. (2003) 'Neoliberalising Universities?: Spaces of Policy, Practice and Performance', *New Zealand Journal of Sociology* 18(2): 102-14.

Ginn, F. (2014). "Being like a researcher": supervising Masters dissertations in a neoliberalizing university. *Journal Of Geography In Higher Education*, 38(1), 106-118.

Larner, W. and Le Heron, R. (2004) 'Governmentality, Geography and Globalising Processes: The Role of Calculative Practices', in W. Larner and W. Walters (eds) *Global Governmentality*. London: Routledge.

Brown, Wendy. 2003. "Neo-liberalism and the end of liberal democracy." *Theory & Event* 7 (1).

Week 8: What's urban about biopolitics?

Required reading:

Legg, Stephen , (2006) 'Governmentality, congestion and calculation in colonial Delhi', *Social & Cultural Geography* 7 (5), 709 - 729.

Rutland, T. (2015). Enjoyable life: Planning, amenity and the contested terrain of urban biopolitics. *Environment and Planning D: Society & Space* 33 (5), 850-868.

Rossi, U. (2013). On Life as a Fictitious Commodity: Cities and the Biopolitics of Late Neoliberalism. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 37 (3), 1067-74.

Zeiderman, A. (2013). Living dangerously: Biopolitics and urban citizenship in Bogotá, Colombia, *American Ethnologist* 40 (1), 71-87.

Suggested:

Sheppard, E., H. Leitner, and A. Maringanti. (2013). Provincializing Global Urbanism: A Manifesto, *Urban Geography* 34 (7), 1-8.

Garmany, J. (2009). The embodied state: governmentality in a Brazilian favela. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 10(7), 721-739.

- Hinchliffe, S., M.B. Kearnes, M. Degen, and S. Whatmore. (2005). Urban wild things: a cosmopolitical experiment. *Environment and Planning D: Society & Space* 23, 643-658.
- Kraftl, P. (2014). Liveability and urban architectures: mol(ecul)ar biopower and the 'becoming lively' of sustainable communities. *Environment and Planning D: Society & Space* 32, 274 – 292.
- MacIntyre, M. and H. J. Nast. (2011). Bio(necro)polis: Marx, Surplus Populations, and the Spatial Dialectics of Reproduction and “Race.” *Antipode* 43 (5), 1465-1488.
- Tyner, J. A., S. Henkin, S. Sirik, and S. Kinsroy. (2014). Phnom Penh during the Cambodian genocide: a case of selective urbicide. *Environment and Planning A* 46, 873 – 1891.
- Huxley, M. (2006). 'Spatial rationalities: order, environment, evolution and government', *Social & Cultural Geography*, 7 (5), 771 – 787.
- Brown, M. & L. Knopp. (2006). Places or polygons? *Population, Space, and Place*, 12, 223-242.
- Legg, S. (2007). *Spaces of Colonialism: Delhi's Urban Governmentalities*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Nast, H. J. (2011). “Race” and the Bio(necro)polis. *Antipode* 43(5), 1457-1464.
- Cross, N. (2010). *Luther*. BBC, 4 & 11 May 2010. (First two episodes of crime/police drama; look for the state, debates over sovereign power, gender & power, the role of knowledge/science, the city, race...)

Week 9: Necropolitics

Required reading:

- Mbembe, A. (2003). Necropolitics. *Public Culture* 15(1): 11-40.
- Alves, J. A. (2014). From Necropolis to Blackpolis: Necropolitical Governance and Black Spatial Praxis in São Paulo, Brazil. *Antipode* 46 (2), 323-339.
- McIntyre, M. and Nast H (2011) Bio(necro)polis: Marx, surplus populations, and the spatial dialectics of reproduction and 'race'. *Antipode* 43(5): 1465-1488.
- Tyner, J. (2015). Population geography II: Mortality, premature death, and the ordering of life. *Progress in Human Geography* 39 (3), 360-373.

Suggested:

- Braidotti, R. (2007). Bio-power and Necro-politics. Published as 'Biomacht und nekro-Politik. Überlegungen zu einer Ethik der Nachhaltigkeit', in: Springerin, Hefte für Gegenwartskunst, Band XIII Heft 2, Frühjahr 2007, pp 18-23.

Week 10: Are current biopolitical regimes built on racism?

Required reading:

- Werner, M. (2011). Coloniality and the Contours of Global Production in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. *Antipode* 43 (5), 1573-1597.

Venn, C. (2009). Neoliberal Political Economy, Biopolitics and Colonialism: A Transcolonial Genealogy of Inequality. *Theory, Culture & Society* 26(6), 206–233.

Morgensen, S. L. (2011) The Biopolitics of Settler Colonialism: Right Here, Right Now. *Settler Colonial Studies* 1 (1), 52-76.

Guthman, J. (2012). Doing Justice to Bodies? Reflections on Food Justice, Race, and Biology. *Antipode* 46 (5), 1153–1171.

Suggested:

Wilson, Bobby M. (1992). Structural Imperatives behind Racial change in Birmingham, Alabama. *Antipode* 24 (3), 171-202.

Amin, A. (2010). The Reminders of Race. *Theory, Culture & Society* 27(1): 1–23.

Duncan, J. (2008). *In the Shadows of the Tropics: Climate, Race and Biopower in Nineteenth Century Ceylon*. Farnham: Ashgate.

Roberts, D. J. and M. Mahtani. (2010). Neoliberalizing Race, Racing Neoliberalism: Placing “Race” in Neoliberal Discourses. *Antipode* 42 (2), 248–257.

Rasmussen, K. S. (2011). Foucault's Genealogy of Racism. *Theory, Culture & Society* 28(5), 34-51.

TBD weeks 11 and 13-15:

The readings for rest of the semester are yet to be determined. I have grouped a mass of relevant readings by theme. We will need to decide the rest of our readings; these sets grouped by theme are meant to be resources. We can choose from these, choose some of these and change them a bit, or look for other things to add or substitute. Let’s discuss... See “Thematic sets of readings” on p. 15 of this syllabus draft.

Week 11: TBD

***Sunday, November 20: DRAFT of paper due to the appropriate Dropbox folder.

Week 12: Peer reviewing of papers

Required reading: your peers’ draft papers, as assigned.

Week 13: TBD

Week 14: TBD

Week 15: TBD

Week 16: Final paper due.

Thematic sets of readings (and a couple of films/tv shows) to choose from:

Theme A: Against Foucault?

Zamora, D. (2014). Can we criticize Foucault? *Jacobin*, 10 December 2014. Available online at <https://www.jacobinmag.com/2014/12/foucault-interview/>.

Gordon, C. (2016). Foucault, neoliberalism etc. (response to Zamora). *Foucault News*. Online at <https://foucaultnews.files.wordpress.com/2015/01/colin-gordon-2015.pdf>.

Caillat, F. (2014). *Foucault Against Himself*. New York: Icarus Films. Information at <http://icarusfilms.com/new2014/fou.html>.

Theme B: Borders, migration, refugees

Required?

Topak, Ö. E. (2014). The biopolitical border in practice: surveillance and death at the Greece–Turkey borderzones. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 32, 15 – 833.

Estévez, A. (2013). The Biopolitics of Asylum Law in Texas: The Case of Mexicans Fleeing Drug Violence in Juárez. *Norteamérica: Revista Académica Del CISAN-UNAM*, 855-81.

Sanyal, R. (2014). Urbanizing Refuge: Interrogating Spaces of Displacement. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 38 (2), 558-572.

Fassin, D. and E. D'Halluin. (2005). The Truth from the Body: Medical Certificates as Ultimate Evidence for Asylum Seekers. *American Anthropologist* 107 (4), 597-608.

And for background on the 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees: <http://www.unhcr.org/1951-refugee-convention.html>, and for a good overview, <http://www.unhcr.org/about-us/background/4ec262df9/1951-convention-relating-status-refugees-its-1967-protocol.html>

Suggested?

Darling, J. (2014). Asylum and the Post-Political: Domopolitics, Depoliticisation and Acts of Citizenship. *Antipode* 46 (1), 72-91.

Darling, J. (2011). Domopolitics, governmentality and the regulation of asylum accommodation. *Political Geography* 30, 263-271.

Parsons, M. and N. B. Salter. (2008). Israeli Biopolitics: Closure, Territorialisation and Governmentality in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. *Geopolitics* 13, 701-723.

Zannettino, L. (2012) From Auschwitz to mandatory detention: biopolitics, race, and human rights in the Australian refugee camp. *The International Journal of Human Rights*, 16:7, 1094-1119

Sparke, M. (2006). A neoliberal nexus: Economy, security and the biopolitics of citizenship on the border. *Political Geography* 25, 151-180.

Mignolo, W. D. (2011). Geopolitics of sensing and knowing: on (de)coloniality, border thinking and epistemic disobedience. *Postcolonial Studies*, 14(3), 273-283.

Parsons, N., & Salter, M. B. (2008). Israeli Biopolitics: Closure, Territorialisation and Governmentality in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. *Geopolitics*, 13(4), 701-723.

Carney, M. (2013). Border Meals: Detention Center Feeding Practices, Migrant Subjectivity, and Questions on Trauma. *Gastronomica: The Journal of Critical Food Studies*, 13 (4), 32-46.

Theme E: Epigenetics & eugenics

Required?

Roberts, D. (2011). Collateral Consequences, Genetic Surveillance, and the New Biopolitics of Race. *Howard Law Review* 54, 567-586.

Mansfield, B. (2012). Race and the new epigenetic biopolitics of environmental health. *BioSocieties* 7, 352-372.

Guthman, J. and B. Mansfield. (2013). The implications of environmental epigenetics: A new direction for geographic inquiry on health, space, and nature-society relations. *Progress in Human Geography* 37 (4), 486-504.

Morse, S. (2008). The geography of tyranny and despair: Development indicators and the hypothesis of genetic inevitability of national inequality. *The Geographical Journal* 174 (3), 195-206.

Theme F: Food and biopolitics

Required?

Kurtz, H. E. (2015) Scaling Food Sovereignty: Biopolitics and the Struggle for Local Control of Farm Food in Rural Maine, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 105:4, 859-873.

Mansfield, B. (2012). Environmental Health as Biosecurity: "Seafood Choices," Risk, and the Pregnant Woman as Threshold. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 102(5), 969-976.

Guthman, J. (2009). Teaching the Politics of Obesity: Insights into Neoliberal Embodiment and Contemporary Biopolitics. *Antipode* 41 (5), 1110-1133.

Heynen, N. (2010). Cooking up Non-violent Civil-disobedient Direct Action for the Hungry: 'Food Not Bombs' and the Resurgence of Radical Democracy in the US. *Urban Studies* 47(6) 1225-1240.

Suggested?

Hayes-Conroy, A. and J. Hayes-Conroy. (2008). Taking back taste: feminism, food, and visceral politics. *Gender, Place & Culture* 15 (5), 461-473.

Sorenson, J. (2013). Food fight: Sharing meals and confronting biopolitics in the disciplinary city. Dissertation completed at UW-Milwaukee; available through UWM Libraries.

Theme G: Governmentality

Gordon, C. (2015). Governmentality studies observed. Interview with Colin Gordon by Aldo Avellaneda and Guillermo Vega. Foucault News, September 2015. Online at <https://foucaultnews.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/colin-gordon-12-15.pdf>

Blau, A. (2015) When Foucault says foug-all: Part 1. Online at <https://adrianblau.wordpress.com/2013/06/07/when-foucault-says-eff-all-part-1/>

Blau, A. (2015). When Foucault says foug-all: Part 2. Online at <https://adrianblau.wordpress.com/2013/06/11/when-foucault-says-eff-all-part-2/>.

Theme H: Health & public health

Required?

Brown M, Knopp L, 2010, "Between anatomo- and bio-politics: Geographies of sexual health in wartime Seattle" *Political Geography* 29(7) 392-403.

Keil, R. and H. Ali. (2007). Governing the Sick City: Urban Governance in the Age of Emerging Infectious Disease. *Antipode* 39 (5), 846-873.

Decoteau, C. L. (2013). Ancestors and Antiretrovirals: The Biopolitics of HIV/AIDS in Post-Apartheid South Africa. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapter 1, pp.

Comaroff, J. (2007). Beyond Bare Life: AIDS, (Bio)Politics, and the Neoliberal Order, *Public Culture* 19(1): 197-219.

Suggested?

Brown, M. and L. Knopp. (2014). The Birth of the Gay Clinic. *Health & Place* 28, 99-108.

Evans, B. and R. Colls. 2009. Measuring Fatness, Governing Bodies: The Spatialities of the Body Mass Index (BMI) in Anti-Obesity Politics. *Antipode* 41 (5), 1051-1083.

Evered, Emine Ö. & Kyle T. Evered (2013) 'Protecting the national body': regulating the practice and the place of prostitution in early republican Turkey, *Gender, Place & Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography* 20 (7), 839-857.

Theme M: Methodologies for biopolitical approaches

Required?

Larner, W. and Le Heron, R. (2002a) The Spaces and Subjects of a Globalising Economy: A Situated Exploration of Method', *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 20(6): 753-74.

Buller, H. (2015). Animal geographies II: Methods. *Progress in Human Geography*, 39(3), 374-384.

Ettlinger, N. (2011). Governmentality as epistemology. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 101(3), 537-560.

Francombe-Webb, J., Rich, E. and De Pian, L., 2014. I move like you... But different: Biopolitics and embodied methodologies. *Cultural Studies Critical Methodologies*, 14 (5), 471-482.

Suggested?

Fairbanks, R. P. (2012). On Theory and Method: Critical Ethnographic Approaches to Urban Regulatory Restructuring, *Urban Geography*, 33:4, 545-565.

Hanna, P., K. Johnson, P. Stenner, and M. Adams. (2015). Foucault, sustainable tourism, and relationships with the environment (human and nonhuman). *GeoJournal* 80:301-314.

Shiner, L. (1982). Reading Foucault: Anti-Method and the Genealogy of Power-Knowledge. *History and Theory* 21 (3), 382-398.

Theme P: Population, neomalthusianism

Required?

Legg, S. (2005). Foucault's Population Geographies. *Population, Space and Place*, 11, 137-156.

Tyner, J. (2013). Population Geography I: Surplus populations. *Progress in Human Geography* 37 (5), 701-711.

Curtis, B. (2002). Foucault on governmentality and population: the impossible discovery. *The Canadian Journal of Sociology* 27(4), pp. 505-533.

Plus choose one from "suggested" articles below –

Suggested?

Tyner, J. (2015). Population geography II: Mortality, premature death, and the ordering of life. *Progress in Human Geography* 39(3) 360-373.

Tyner, J. (2016). Population geography III: Precarity, dead peasants, and truncated life. *Progress in Human Geography* 40 (2), 275-289.

Deutscher, P. (2012). Foucault's History of Sexuality, Volume I: Re-reading its Reproduction. *Theory, Culture & Society* 29(1), 119-137.

MacIntyre, M. (2011). Race, Surplus Population and the Marxist Theory of Imperialism. *Antipode* 43 (5), 1489-1515.

Philo, C. (2001). Accumulating Populations: Bodies, Institutions, and Space. *International Journal of Population Geography* 7, 473-490.

Philo, C. (2005). Sex, Life, Death, Geography: Fragmentary remarks inspired by 'Foucault's Population Geographies.' *Population, Space and Place* 11, 325-333.

Srinivasan, K. (2014). Caring for the collective: biopower and agential subjectification in wildlife conservation. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 32, 501 – 517.

Tellman, U. (2013). Catastrophic Populations and the Fear of the Future: Malthus and the Genealogy of Liberal Economy. *Theory, Culture & Society* 30(2), 135-155.

Theme Q: Sexualities

Required?

- Repo, J. (2013). The Life Function: The Biopolitics of Sexuality and Race Revisited. *Theory & Event* 16 (3).
- Deutscher, P. (2012). Foucault's History of Sexuality, Volume I: Re-reading its Reproduction. *Theory, Culture & Society* 29(1), 119-137.
- Morgensen, S. L. (2011). *The Biopolitics of Settler Sexuality and Queer Modernities*. Chapter 1 in *Spaces between Us : Queer Settler Colonialism and Indigenous Decolonization*. Minneapolis. University of Minnesota Press. Available through UWM Libraries as an online e-book.
- Puar, J. K. (2015). Bodies with New Organs: Becoming Trans, Becoming Disabled. *Social Text* 124, 33 (3), 45-73.

Suggested?

- Brown, M. and L. Knopp. (2014). The Birth of the Gay Clinic. *Health & Place* 28, 99-108.
- Brown M, Knopp L, 2010, "Between anatamo- and bio-politics: Geographies of sexual health in wartime Seattle" *Political Geography* 29(7) 392-403.
- Petersen, M. N. and L. Myong. (2015). (Un)liveabilities: Homonationalism and transnational adoption. *Sexualities* 18(3), 329-345.
- Philo, C. (2005). Sex, Life, Death, Geography: Fragmentary remarks inspired by 'Foucault's Population Geographies.' *Population, Space and Place* 11, 325-333.
- Puar, J. K. (2008). 'The Turban is not a Hat': Queer Diaspora and other Practices of Profiling. *Sikh Formations* 4 (1), 47-91.
- Puar, J. K. (2007). *Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Puar, J.K. and A. S. Rai. (2004). The Remaking of a Model Minority: Perverse projectiles under the specter of (counter)terrorism. *Social Text* 80, 22 (3), 75-104.
- Oswin, N. (2010). Sexual tensions in modernizing Singapore: the postcolonial and the intimate. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 28, 128-141.

Theme S: Security and surveillance

Required?

- Martin, Lauren L. (2010). Bombs, bodies, and biopolitics: securitizing the subject at the airport security checkpoint. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 11 (1), 17-34.
- Crampton, J. W. (2007). The Biopolitical Justification for Geosurveillance. *Geographical Review*, 97 (3), 389-403.

Dillon, M. and L. Lobo-Guerrero. (2008). Biopolitics of security in the 21st century: an Introduction. *Review of International Studies* 34, 265-292.

Hinchliffe, S. J. Allen, S. Lavau, N. Bingham, and S. Carter. (2013). Biosecurity and the topologies of infected life: from borderlines to borderlands. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 38, 531-543.

Suggested?

Dillon, M. (2007). Governing through contingency: The security of biopolitical governance. *Political Geography* 26, 41-47.

Philo, C. (2014). Guest editorial: State security and the 'hostile acres'. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 32, 753 - 761.

Hannah, M. (2014). Spaces of benevolent abandonment: the German Air Security decision of 2006. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 32, 779 - 794.

Currah, Paisley Currah and Tara Mulqueen. (2011). Securitizing Gender: Identity, Biometrics, and Transgender Bodies at the Airport. *Social Research* 78 (2).

Owens, P. (2012). Human security and the rise of the social. *Review of International Studies* 38, 547-567.

Ingraham, A. (2008). Domopolitics and disease: HIV/AIDS, immigration, and asylum in the UK. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 26, 875-894

Fluri, J. L. (2014). States of (in)security: corporeal geographies and the elsewhere war. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 32, 795 - 814.

Pain, R. (2009). Globalized fear? Towards an emotional geopolitics. *Progress in Human Geography* 33, 466-486.

Dillon, M. (2011). Specters of Biopolitics: Finitude, *Eschaton*, and *Katechon*. *South Atlantic Quarterly* 110 (3), 780-792.

Theme T: Totalitarian or fascist biopower

Required??

Dickinson, E.R. (2004). Biopolitics, fascism, democracy: some reflections on our discourse about "modernity". *Central European History* 37(1), pp. 1-48.

Sylvester, C. (2006). Bare life as a development/postcolonial Problematic. *The Geographical Journal* 172 (1), 66-77.

Patel, R. and P. McMichael. (2004). Third Worldism and the lineages of global fascism: the regrouping of the global South in the neoliberal era. *Third World Quarterly* 25 (1), 231-254.

Suggested?

Ziarek, E. P. (2011). Bare Life on Strike: Notes on the Biopolitics of Race and Gender. *South Atlantic Quarterly* 107 (1), 89-105.

Cayuela Sanchez, S. (2011). Biopolítica, Nazismo, Franquismo: Una Aproximación Comparativa/Biopolitics, Nazism, Francoism: A Comparative Approach. *ÉNDOXA: Series Filosóficas*, 28 257-286.

Esposito, R. and T. Campbell. (2008). Totalitarianism or Biopolitics? Concerning a Philosophical Interpretation of the Twentieth Century. *Critical Inquiry* 34 (4), 633-644.

Theme V: Violence and terror

Required?

Watts, M. (2001). Violent Geographies. speaking the unspeakable and the politics of space. *City & Society* 13 (1), 85-117.

Gregory, D. (2008). The biopolitics of Baghdad: Counterinsurgency and the counter-city. *Human Geography* 1 (1), np.

Penny, J. (2010). Insecure spaces, precarious geographies: Biopolitics, security, and the production of space in Jerusalem and beyond. Working Paper #141, Development Planning Unit, University College London. Available online at https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/publications/dpu/latest/publications/dpu-working-papers/WP141_Joe_Penny_Internet_copy.pdf

<http://www.hannaharendt.net/index.php/han/article/view/69/102>

Suggested:

Hannah, M. (2006). Torture and the Ticking Bomb: The War on Terrorism as a Geographical Imagination of Power/Knowledge. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 96(3), 622-640.

Theme W: Politics of reproduction & reproductive health

Required?

Roberts, D. (2009). Race, Gender, and Genetic Technologies: A New Reproductive Dystopia? *Signs* 34 (4), 783-804.

Schur, C. (2016). From biopolitics to bioeconomies: The ART of (re-)producing white futures in Mexico's surrogacy market. *Environment and Planning D: Society & Space*, forthcoming.

Smith, A. M. (2009). Reproductive Technology, Family Law, and the Postwelfare State: The California Same-Sex Parents' Rights "Victories" of 2005. *Signs* 34 (4), 827-850.

Sziarto, K. M. (2016). Race-biopolitics and resistance in the infant mortality reduction campaign in Milwaukee, WI. *Environment and Planning D: Society & Space*, forthcoming.

Suggested?

Fannin, M. (2013) The burden of choosing wisely: biopolitics at the beginning of life. *Gender, Place & Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography* 20 (3), 273-289.

- Hayter, M. (2006). Productive power and the 'practices of the self' in contraceptive counselling. *Nursing Inquiry* 13 (1), 33-43.
- Ruddick, S. (2007). At the Horizons of the Subject: Neo-liberalism, neo-conservatism and the rights of the child Part One: From 'knowing' fetus to 'confused' child. *Gender, Place and Culture* 14 (5), 513-526.
- Ruddick S, 2007, "At the Horizons of the Subject: Neo-liberalism, neo-conservatism, and the rights of the child. Part Two: Parent, Caregiver, State" *Gender, Place and Culture* 14(6) 627-640.
- Ziarek, E. P. (2011). Bare Life on Strike: Notes on the Biopolitics of Race and Gender. *South Atlantic Quarterly* 107 (1), 89-105.
- Moore, F. (2013). Governmentality and the maternal body: infant mortality in early twentieth-century Lancashire. *Journal of Historical Geography* 39, 54-68.
- Fraser, N. (2003). From Discipline to Flexibilization? Rereading Foucault in the Shadow of Globalization. *Constellations: An International Journal Of Critical & Democratic Theory*, 10(2), 160-171.
- Phang, J. and J. Kim. (2015). *Advantageous*. Good Neighbors Media, D.K. Entertainment, and I Ain't Playin' Films.

Theme X: Foucault and feminism

- Ramazanoglu, C. (1993). *Up Against Foucault: Explorations of some tensions between Foucault and feminism*. London: Routledge.
- Fraser, N., *Unruly Practices: power, discourse and gender in contemporary social theory*, Cambridge: Polity Press, 1989.
- Allen, Amy, 1996. "Foucault on Power: A Theory for Feminists," in *Feminist Interpretations of Michel Foucault*, Susan Hekman (ed.), University Park, PA: Penn State Press.
- Butler, J. (1990). *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*, New York: Routledge.
- Butler, J. (1993). *Bodies that Matter: On the Discursive Limits of 'Sex'*, New York: Routledge.
- Michel Foucault: Feminism. (n.d.) Entry in Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy. Online at <http://www.iep.utm.edu/foucfem/>
- Poststructuralist Feminist Approaches. (n.d.) Entry in the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. Online at <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminist-power/#PosFemApp>

Theme Z: Politics or biopolitics?

Aren't all politics about life and death? And where do we go from here?

Required?

- Cruikshank, B. (2004). Neopolitics: Policy Decentralization and Governmentality. Paper prepared for the conference "Professionals between Policy and People," Amsterdam/Utrecht, 7-8 October 8, 2004.

Cheah, P. (2007). Biopower and the New International Division of Reproductive Labor. *boundary2* 34:1, 90-113.

Hannah, M.G. (2014). Biopower, Life and Left Politics. *Antipode* 43(4), 1034-1055.

Heller, A. 1996. Has biopolitics changed the concept of the political? Some further thoughts about biopolitics. In Heller, A. and S. Puntser Riekmann (eds), *Biopolitics: The politics of the body, race and nature*, 3-15. Avebury: Aldershot.

Suggested?

Marasco, R. (2012). Machiavelli contra governmentality. *Contemporary Political Theory* 11 (4), 339-361.

Spivak, G. C. (2012). The 2012 Antipode AAG Lecture: Scattered Speculations on Geography. *Antipode* 46 (1), 1-12.

COURSE CALENDAR, including related events

Week	Date	Topic	Leaders/facilitators	Due dates
1	6-Sep	Introductions to each other, to the seminar, etc. Introduction to biopolitics	n/a	PROPOSAL for paper /project DUE to Dropbox by midnight, Sept. 9th
2	13-Sep	What is biopolitics – in depth Also discuss plan for the rest of the semester		
3	20-Sep	(bio)politics and space – focus on geographic perspectives		
4	27-Sep	What did Foucault say about biopolitics? Excerpts from the lectures at the College de France <i>Society Must Be Defended</i>		
5	4-Oct	In his own words, continued <i>Security, Territory, Population</i>		
6	11-Oct	In his own words, continued <i>The Birth of Biopolitics</i>		
7	18-Oct	Neoliberalism?		
8	25-Oct	The urban in the biopolitical		
9	1-Nov	Necropolitics		
	4 Nov	Harold and Florence Mayer Lecture: Becky Mansfield, Ohio State University, Department of Geography, ' <i>Epigenetic life: reconfiguring biological and social reproduction.</i> '		AGS Library 2:30 – 4:00 pm
10	8-Nov	Race, racism, colonialism, and biopolitics		
11	15-Nov	<i>tbd</i>		DRAFT of paper/project DUE to peer reviewer and Kristin by Sunday, 20 November, midnight (e-mail AND Dropbox)
12	22-Nov	Peer reviewing of papers in class		
13	29-Nov	<i>tbd</i>		
14	6-Dec	<i>tbd</i>		
15	13-Dec	<i>tbd</i>		
(16)		Final paper due to Dropbox by midnight Sunday, Dec. 18th	n/a	←FINAL draft of paper due
(17)	27-Dec	Grades due	n/a	

Geopolitics is the study of the effects of Earth's geography (human and physical) on politics and international relations. While geopolitics usually refers to countries and relations between them, it may also focus on two other kinds of states: de facto independent states with limited international recognition and relations between sub-national geopolitical entities, such as the federated states that make up a federation, confederation or a quasi-federal system. Geopolitics, analysis of the geographic influences on power relationships in international relations. The word geopolitics was originally coined by the Swedish political scientist Rudolf Kjellén about the turn of the 20th century, and its use spread throughout Europe in the period between World War I and World War II. Facts Matter. Support the truth and unlock all of Britannica's content. Special 30% off Holiday Sale! The popularity of geopolitical theory declined after World War II, both because of its association with Nazi German and imperial Japanese aggression and because the emergence of nuclear explosives and ballistic missiles reduced the significance of geographical factors in the global strategic balance of power. state's power to control space/territory and influence international political relations. boundaries. enable territoriality to be defined and enforced - can be inclusionary or exclusionary, implied or formal - control movement of people, goods, ideas. border. boundary + space adjacent to boundary. forward capital. process by which people create political institutions that give them more control over their lives, destinies - theoretically involves transparency, elections, opening up of economy, decreased military spending. causes of democratization. - economic crisis - devolution - globalization - citizens seeking change. territorial organization. IScore5 Political Geography Study Questions. 50 terms. madison_elise9.