

Department of Anthropology and Sociology (ANSO)

Academic year 2019-2020

Border Forensics: Documenting and Contesting the Violence of Borders at the EU's Maritime Frontier

ANSO121- Autumn - 3 ECTS

[Schedule & Room](#)

Course Description

This course will introduce students to the “forensic turn” in human rights practice and social sciences – the use of novel techniques to make traces of violence emerge and present them in various forums. It will focus specifically on attempts to document and demand accountability for the deaths of migrants in the Mediterranean Sea. As a result of the conflict between the movements of migrants towards Europe on the one hand, and the exclusionary regulations and bordering practices of European states on the other, illegalised migrants have resorted to crossing the sea in precarious conditions, and more than 30.000 migrants’ deaths at sea have been recorded since the beginning of the 1990’. Drawing on the research conducted since 2011 within the Forensic Oceanography project, this course will introduce students to the shifting policies and mechanisms leading to migrants’ deaths at the maritime frontier, the novel methodologies developed to account for them – from satellite imagery analysis to 3D modelling, and the challenges of seeking accountability. Based on this, the course will address a wide range of questions: how can we understand and register violence in its many different guises? How can we navigate complex regimes of (in)visibility, in which deaths can be hidden but also spectacularised? What is the politics of different technologies and methods used to reconstruct cases of violence? In a time when right-wing populists have little regard either for facts or the law, how effective is “speaking truth to power”? What are the potentials, limits and ambivalences of strategic litigation and the language of the law?

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Syllabus

Course overview

The course will be structured into four intensive sessions – three half days consisting of two double sessions, plus a conclusive session. Each double session will involve a lecture and the screening of videos in relation to the investigation of specific cases. Each session includes extensive discussions with students that will be based on readings and reading notes prepared by the students.

The first two sessions will be dedicated to introduce students to the (counter-)forensic turn which has shaped human rights practice, journalism and social science, and specifically the innovative approach pioneered by the Forensic Architecture project. We will unpack some of its core methodological, theoretical and political orientations. We will reflect on three notions that lie at the heart of this approach: *violence, traces, and forums of accountability*. Finally we will reflect upon several of its methodological axioms: practice-based research, spatial and aesthetic perspectives, and the focus on cases to untangle a broader field of relations. In this we underline how (counter-)forensics can constitute not only a mode of action in the world, but a productive epistemic perspective that can generate new insights within the social sciences. These first two sessions lay the theoretical and methodological ground for the subsequent sessions focusing on the Mediterranean frontier.

The third and fourth sessions will introduce students to what we call “liquid violence”: specific modalities of violence operating at and through the sea. After charting the postcolonial genealogy and key mechanisms that have resulted in the Mediterranean becoming a deadly frontier, we will discuss the ambivalent role played by liquid environment as both an enabling and blocking movement as well as conditions of (in)visibility states seek to impose on migrants crossings and deaths. We will focus on two specific modalities of liquid violence that Forensic Oceanography has documented: practices of non-assistance – the 2011 “left-to-die boat” case in particular - and policies of non-assistance – the 2014 ending of the Italian Mare Nostrum operation. Students will be introduced to the politics of the different methods used to register these forms of violence, in particular satellite imagery and statistics, and reflect on potentials and limits of the language of the law to translate violence into violations.

The fifth and sixth sessions will be dedicated to the two-pronged policy deployed since 2016 by Italy and the EU to seal off the central Mediterranean: criminalising solidarity and outsourcing border control to the Libyan coast guard. It will introduce students to the novel methods developed in collaboration with Forensic Architecture to generate 3D models of rescue/interception scenes based on the combination of multiple audio-visual sources. While this has allowed to document events at sea with unprecedented precision, students will reflect on the limits of using factual reconstruction to counter the spread of “factual lies”, and the ambivalence of displaying images of racialised subjects in conditions of extreme precarity. Further more, while legal cases are often filed in the aim of ending violence, how to deal with outcomes of legal activism transforming power, shaping the emergence of new modalities of violence instead?

The seventh and concluding session will reflect on the trajectory of changing policies and nongovernmental practices presented in this course, to interrogate the assets and limitations of strategic litigations and rights-based approaches. Are they effective means of mitigating violence? How do they relate to other approaches to social and political transformation? How can one navigate the ambivalences of forensic and legal practice? Finally, beyond its (limited) effects in various political and legal settings, to what extent can the forensic approach operate as an epistemic perspective able to generate new knowledge concerning urgent issues and contemporary transformations?

Course outcomes

Through this course, students will gain a solid understanding of the forensic turn in human rights and the social sciences, and of the associated theoretical, methodological, and political challenges and debates. They will be familiar with debates surrounding violence and its different modalities, spatialities and temporalities; able to reflect on full range of 21st century traces and the methods to register them; understand the complexities and ambivalences of regimes of (in)visibility, and be able to reflect in a nuanced way about the politics of justice within and beyond the frame of the law. While the course will be anchored in the urgent reality of changing policies and practices of actors at the Mediterranean frontier, by analysing the challenges this context has entailed and the constant repositioning and methodological innovations it has spurred for the Forensic Oceanography project, students will be equipped to navigate complex terrains in many other contexts.

Course evaluation

Students will be assessed based on their participation to discussions in class, their reading notes and a final 3-4000 word essay. More precisely students will be requested to:

- Study on a weekly basis the assigned readings, consult the indicated projects, and participate actively in classroom discussions. All students are required to read all articles indicated as “core reading” and will have to read the articles in one of the “thematic strands” that will be chosen based on their interest.
- The chosen articles in the “thematic strand” are the basis for 500 words reading notes to be submitted the day before the corresponding session. Reading notes should briefly summarise the article, outline and discuss its core contribution and concepts, and how it connects to the course’s theme as well as possibly to the student’s own research. These reading notes (4 in total) may be the basis for brief in-class text presentations by students. They will be uploaded to the course website so as to develop a shared conceptual vocabulary that should inform final essays.
- Submit an essay outline of no more than 500 words (title, case, personal motivation, questions, relevance of the topic, short bibliography (not included in the word count), due by **1st December 2019**, to be discussed with the instructor (there is no grade for the outline).
- Write a final paper of no more than 3-4000 words (excluding bibliography and annexes), due by **22 December 2019**, building on the essay outline. Essays can take two distinct forms:
 - 1) Students may start from a case of violence which has already been documented in a context chosen by students in relation to its methodological, theoretical and political challenges and relevance, and seek to analyse it as well as its reconstruction through the prism of the concepts, methodologies and debates discussed during the course.
 - 2) Students may start from a case of violence which has not yet been fully documented, write a proposal for an investigation describing the case, the methods considered to reconstruct it, the forums to which it will be presented, and discuss its methodological, theoretical and political challenges and relevance.

Grades will be determined as follows:

25% for general participation in class; 25% for reading notes, 50% for the final essay.

Course Policies

- Papers should be written in English or French, double-spaced, using standard 12 point font, with 1 inch margins.
- Quotations and bibliography must follow the Chicago Manual of Style or the Harvard Referencing System.

- Students must hand in papers on time electronically as a Word file (no need to provide a hard copy). Papers that are sent late without a valid reason or importantly exceed the word limit will not receive a grade higher than 4.0.
- Students who missed more than one classe without being excused by the instructor will not receive a grade higher than 4.0.
- Plagiarism constitutes a breach of academic integrity and will not be tolerated. Students who present the work of others as their own will receive a 0.
- Assigned readings will be made available as electronic reserve on the class' website.

Sessions and readings

15 November 2019, 14:15-18:00

(Counter-)Forensics: Violence, Traces, Forums of Accountability

The first two sessions will be dedicated to introduce students to the (counter-)forensic turn which has shaped human rights practice, journalism and social science, and specifically the innovative approach pioneered by the Forensic Architecture project. We will unpack some of its core methodological, theoretical and political orientations. We will reflect on three notions that lie at the heart of this approach: *violence, traces, and forums of accountability*. Finally we will reflect upon several of its methodological axioms: practice-based research, spatial and aesthetic perspectives, and the focus on cases to untangle a broader field of relations. In this we underline how (counter-)forensics can constitute not only a mode of action in the world, but a productive epistemic perspective that can generate new insights within the social sciences. These first two sessions lay the theoretical and methodological ground for the subsequent sessions focusing on the Mediterranean frontier.

Readings:

The forensic turn (core readings, required for the whole class)

Weizman, Eyal, (2014), "Forensis: Introduction", In *Forensis: The Architecture of Public Truth*, ed. Forensic Architecture. Berlin: Sternberg Press, pp.9–32.

Keenan, Thomas (2014), "Getting the Dead to Tell Me What Happened: Justice, Prosopopeia, and Forensic Afterlives", In *Forensis: The Architecture of Public Truth*, ed. Forensic Architecture. Berlin: Sternberg Press, pp.35-55.

Dziuban, Zuzanna, (2017), "Introduction. Forensics in the Expanded Field", In Zuzanna Dziuban, eds. *Mapping the 'Forensic Turn': Engagements with Materialities of Mass Death in Holocaust Studies and Beyond*.

Violence (thematic strand)

Balibar, Etienne, (2002), "Politics and the Other Scene", London : Verso. See the following chapters: Three Concepts of Politics (1-39) and Violence. Ideality and Cruelty (129-146)

Winter, Yves, (June 2012), "Violence and Visibility", *New Political Science*, 34, no. 2: pp.195–202.

Traces – Evidence (thematic strand)

Derrida, Jacques and Steigler, Bernard, (2002), "The Archive Market: Truth, Testimony, Evidence," *Echographies of Television: Filmed Interviews*, London: Polity.

Ginzburg, Carlo, (1979), "Clues: Roots of a Scientific Paradigm." *Theory and Society*, 7, no. 3: pp.273–88.

Forums – Accountability (thematic strand)

Latour, Bruno, and Weibel, Peter, (2005), *Making Things Public*; <http://www.bruno-latour.fr/node/333>

McLoughlin, Daniel, (2016), "Post-Marxism and the Politics of Human Rights: Lefort, Badiou, Agamben, Rancière", *Law Critique*, 27: pp.303–321.

Whyte, Jessica, (2012), "Human Rights: Confronting Governments? Michel Foucault and the Right to Intervene", In *New Critical Legal Thinking Law and the Political*, eds. Stone, Wall and Douzinas, London: Routledge, pp.11–31.

Recommended

Rancière, Jacques, (November 2006), "The politics of aesthetics"; <http://roundtable.kein.org/node/463>

Fuller, Matthew and Mazurov, Nikita, "How to Construct a Counter- Forensic Audit Trail: Disassembling the Case of The H8ful (CM)8", In "Posthumanities" *Theory, Culture and Society*, ed. Matt Fuller, special issue, forthcoming.

Keenan, Thomas, (2014), *Counter-forensics and Photography*, Grey Room 55, pp. 58–77.

Lowe, Paul, (2018), "Traces of traces: time, space, objects, and the forensic turn in photography", *Humanities*, 7(3), 76.

Wagner, Sarah and Rosenblatt, Adam, (2017), "Known Unknowns: Forensic Science, the Nation-State, and the Iconic Dead", In *Studies in Forensic Biohistory*, ed. Christopher M. Stojanowski and William N. Duncan, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp.237–66.

Weizman, Eyal (2007), *Hollow Land: Israel's Architecture of Occupation*. London: Verso. (See Introduction: Frontier Architecture)

Weizman, Eyal (2010), "Forensic architecture: Only the criminal can solve the crime." In *Radical Philosophy*, no. 164; <https://www.radicalphilosophy.com/article/forensic-architecture>

Weizman, Eyal (2017), *Forensic architecture: Violence at the Threshold of Detectability*, Zone Books: New York.

Schuppli, Susan, (2013). "Walk-back technology. Dusting for fingerprints and tracking digital footprints." *Photographies* 6, no. 1, pp.159-167.

Speed, Shannon, (2006), "At the Crossroads of Human Rights and Anthropology: Toward a Critically Engaged Activist Research", *American Anthropologist* 108 (1), pp. 66–76.

Projects

Schuppli, Susan, (2015), *Material Witness*; <https://vimeo.com/92814263> (password will be given before lecture)

22 November 2019, 14:15-18:00

Liquid Violence: From practices to policies of non-assistance

The third and fourth sessions will introduce students to what we call "liquid violence": specific modalities of violence operating at and through the sea. After charting the postcolonial genealogy and key mechanisms that have resulted in the Mediterranean becoming a deadly frontier, we will discuss the ambivalent role played by liquid environment as both an enabling and blocking movement as well as conditions of (in)visibility states seek to impose on migrants crossings and deaths. We will focus on two specific modalities of liquid violence that Forensic Oceanography has documented: practices of non-

assistance – the 2011 “left-to-die boat” case in particular - and policies of non-assistance – the 2014 ending of the Italian Mare Nostrum operation. Students will be introduced to the politics of the different methods used to register these forms of violence, in particular satellite imagery and statistics, and reflect on potentials and limits of the language of the law to translate violence into violations.

Readings:

Migration and borders (core readings, required for the whole class)

Heller, Charles and Pezzani, Lorenzo, (2014), “Liquid Traces: Investigating the Deaths of Migrants at the Maritime Frontier of the EU”, In Forensic Architecture (ed.), *Forensis : The Architecture of Public Truth*. Berlin: Sternberg Press.

Achiume, E. Tendayi, (2019), "The Postcolonial Case for Rethinking Borders." *Dissent* 66.3: pp.27-32. <https://www.dissentmagazine.org/article/the-postcolonial-case-for-rethinking-borders>

Mezzadra, Sandro, (2019), “Sealing Borders? Rethinking Border Studies”, In *Hard Times*, Working Paper Series B/ORDERS IN MOTION, no. 3, Frankfurt (Oder): Viadrina.

De Genova, Nicholas, (2013), “Spectacles of migrant ‘illegality’: the scene of exclusion, the obscene of inclusion.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 36.7: 1180-1198.

Davies, Thom, Arshad Isakjee, and Surindar, Dhési, (2017), “Violent Inaction: The Necropolitical Experience of Refugees in Europe”, *Antipode* 49 (5): 1263– 84.

Geopower and environmentality (thematic strand)

Grosz, Elizabeth, (2012), “Geopower”, *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, 30: 971-988.

Gabrys, Jennifer, (2014), “Programming environments: environmentality and citizen sensing in the smart city”, *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 2014, volume 32, pp. 30 – 48.

Satellite imagery and the view from above (thematic strand)

Parks, Lisa, (2009), “Digging into Google Earth: An analysis of “Crisis in Darfur”, *Geoforum* 40: 535-545.

Herscher, Andrew, (2014), “Surveillant Witnessing: Satellite Imagery and the Visual Politics of Human Rights,” *Public Culture* 26.3.

Humanitarian borders (thematic strand)

Fassin, Didier, (2012), *Humanitarian Reason: A Moral History of the Present*, Berkeley: University of California Press. (see the introduction)

Walters, William, (2011), “Foucault and frontiers: notes on the birth of the humanitarian border.” In Ulrich Bröckling, Susanne Krasmann and Thomas Lemke, eds. *Governmentality: Current Issues and Future Challenges*. New York: Routledge.

The boundaries of the law (thematic strand)

Mann, Itamar, (2018), “Maritime Legal Black Holes: Migration and Rightlessness in International Law”, *The European Journal of International Law* Vol. 29, no. 2

Kalpouzos, Ioannis and Mann, Itamar, (2017), "The Banality of Crimes against Migrants". <https://www.spiegel.de/international/world/editorial-on-crimes-against-migrants-a-1175239.html>

Marks, Susan. 2011. Human Rights and Root Causes. *The Modern Law Review*, 74(1) 57-78

Recommended

Casas-Cortes, Maribel; Cobarrubias, Sebastian; and Heller, Charles et al. (2017), "Clashing Cartographies, Migrating Maps", *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies*. 16(1).

Casas-Cortes, Maribel; Cobarrubias, Sebastian; De Genova, Nicholas; Garelli, Glenda; Grappi, Giorgio; Heller, Charles Sabine Hess; Kasperek, Bernd; Mezzadra, Sandro; Neilson, Brett; Peano, Irene; Pezzani, Lorenzo; Pickles, John; Rahola, Federico; Riedner, Lisa; Scheel, Stephan and Tazzioli, Martina, (2015), "New Keywords: Migration and Borders", *Cultural Studies*, 29:1, 55-87.

Chouliaraki, Lilie and Musarò, Pierluigi; (2017), "The mediatized border. Technologies and affects of migrant reception in the Greek and Italian borders." *Feminist Media Studies*, no. 17: 26 – 52.

Day, Sophie, and Lury, Celia, (2017), "New Technologies of the Observer: #Bringback, Visualization and Disappearance", *Theory, Culture & Society* 34 (7-8):51-74.

Depledge, Duncan, (2015), "Geopolitical Material: Assemblages of Geopower and the Constitution of the Geopolitical Stage", *Political Geography* 45, no. 2: 1.

Grosz, Elizabeth; Yusoff, Kathryn and Nigel Clark, "An Interview with Elizabeth Grosz: Geopower, Inhumanism, and the Biopolitical," *Theory, Culture, & Society* 34, no. 2–3 (May 2017): 129–146. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0263276417689899>

Heller, Charles and Pécoud, Antoine, (2018) Counting migrants' deaths at the border: From civil society counter-statistics to (inter)governmental recuperation, *International Migration Institute (IMI) Working Paper* no 143, January 2018.

Hochberg, Gil Z, (2015), *Visual Occupations: Violence and Visibility in a Conflict Zone*. Durham: Duke University Press. (See Introduction: Visual Politics in a Conflict Zone).

Kobelinsky, Carolina et Le Courant, Stefan (éds), (2017), *La mort aux frontières de l'Europe: retrouver, identifier, commémorer* (Neuvy-en-Champagne, Le passager clandestin).

Kovras, Iosif and Robins, Simon, (2017), Missing Migrants: Deaths at Sea and Unidentified Bodies on Lesbos, in [*Migrating borders and moving times: Temporality and the crossing of borders in Europe*](#), edited by Hastings Donnan, Madeleine Hurd, Carolin Leutloff-Grandits, Manchester University Press.

Kurgan, Laura, 2013, *Close Up at a Distance: Mapping, Technology, and Politics*, New York: Zone Books.

Mezzadra, Sandro, (2011), "The gaze of autonomy. Capitalism, migration, and social struggles." In Vicki Squire, ed. *The contested politics of mobility: borderzones and irregularity*, London: Routledge.

Nevins, Joseph, (2005), "A Beating Worse than Death: Imagining and Contesting Violence in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands", *AmeriQuests* 2, no. 1: 1–25.

Tazzioli, Martina, (2015), "The Desultory Politics Of Mobility And The Humanitarian-Military Border In The Mediterranean. Mare Nostrum Beyond The Sea", *REMHU: Revista Interdisciplinar Da Mobilidade Humana*, 23 (44): 61–82.

Valentina, Zagaria, (2019), "The clandestine cemetery - Burying the victims of Europe's border in a Tunisian coastal town". In *Human Remains and Violence: An Interdisciplinary Journal*.

Projects

Forensic Oceanography

Heller, Charles, Pezzani, Lorenzo, and Situ Research, (2012), *Report on the Left-to-Die Boat*. London: Forensic Architecture.

<https://forensic-architecture.org/investigation/the-left-to-die-boat>

Heller, Charles, and Lorenzo Pezzani, (2016), *Death by Rescue. The Lethal Effects of the EU's Policies of Non-Assistance*.

<https://deathbyrescue.org/>

American Association for the Advancement of Science – early use of satellite imagery for human rights

<https://www.aaas.org/page/analysis-community-demolitions-zimbabwe-case-study-report>

<https://www.aaas.org/programs/geospatial-technologies>

<https://www.aaas.org/news/new-scientific-technologies-help-build-capacity-defend-human-rights>

Human Rights Data Analysis Group – Syria project

<https://hrdag.org/syria/>

Rosenberg, Tina, (2012), "The Body Counter." *Foreignpolicy* 3

http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2012/02/27/the_body_counter?page=full

Forensic Architecture - Destruction and Return in al-Araqib.

<https://forensic-architecture.org/investigation/destruction-and-return-in-al-araqib>

Weizman, Eyal, (2017), *Forensic architecture: Violence at the Threshold of Detectability*. Zone Books: New York. (see part three: Ground Truths)

29 November 2019, 14:15-18:00

Mare Clausum: criminalising solidarity, outsourcing border control

The fifth and sixth sessions will be dedicated to the two-pronged policy deployed since 2016 by Italy and the EU to seal off the central Mediterranean: criminalising solidarity and outsourcing border control to the Libyan coast guard. It will introduce students to the novel methods developed in collaboration with Forensic Architecture to generate 3D models of rescue/interception scenes based on the combination of multiple audio-visual sources. While this has allowed to document events at sea with unprecedented precision, students will reflect on the limits of using factual reconstruction to counter the spread of "factual lies", and the ambivalence of displaying images of racialised subjects in conditions of extreme precarity. Further more, while legal cases are often filed in the aim of ending violence, how to deal with outcomes of legal activism transforming power, shaping the emergence of new modalities of violence instead?

Readings:

Contested White saviours in the Black Mediterranean (core readings, required for the whole class)

Cuttitta, Paolo, (2018), "Repoliticization Through Search and Rescue? Humanitarian NGOs and Migration Management in the Central Mediterranean", *Geopolitics*, Volume 23, issue 3: 632-660.

Danewid, Ida, (2017), "White innocence in the Black Mediterranean: hospitality and the erasure of history." *Third World Quarterly*, 38:7, 1674-1689.

Fassin, Didier, (2018), *Sauver des vies est devenu illégitime et condamnable*, Libération. <https://www.liberation.fr/debats/2018/02/02/didier-fassin-sauver-d>

Factual lies and verification (thematic strand)

Arendt, Hannah, (1972) "Lying in Politics" in *Crises of the Republic*. Harcourt and Brace. (See in particular the first section, p. 3-13).

Harding, Sandra. (1995). "Strong Objectivity?: A Response to the New Objectivity Question." *Synthese* 104, no. 3, 331–49.

Kofman, Ava, (2018), "Bruno Latour, the Post-Truth Philosopher, Mounts a Defense of Science". *New York Times*. Oct. 25, 2018.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/25/magazine/bruno-latour-post-truth-philosopher-science.html>

Aradau, Claudia and Huysmans, Jef, (2019), "Assembling Credibility," *Security Dialogue* 50 (1).

Weizman, Eyal, (2019), *Open Verification*. E-flux.

<https://www.e-flux.com/architecture/becoming-digital/248062/open-verification/>

Images of suffering (thematic strand)

Chouliaraki, Lilie and Stolic, Tijana, (2017), "Rethinking media responsibility in the refugee 'crisis': a visual typology of European news." *Media, Culture & Society* 2017, Vol. 39(8) 1162–1177.

Didi-Huberman, Georges, (2018), "From a high vantage point." In *Eurozine*.

https://www.eurozine.com/high-vantage-point/?fbclid=IwAR0cPD6rMzw_esy83pg1uf1EFXxmAJsbTi12Sge5_w_w2ot81Q6BeNqF4

Kilby, Jane, (2013). "The Visual Fix: The Seductive Beauty of Images of Violence," *European Journal of Social Theory* 16 (3), 326-341.

Activism and the law: antagonistic partners? (thematic strand)

Buckel, Sonja, (2015), "The Rights of the Irregularized Constitutional Struggles at the Southern Border of the European Union", In Yolande Jansen/Robin Celikates/Joost de Bloois / (Ed.), *The Irregularization of Migration in Contemporary Europe. Detention, Deportation, Drowning*. Rowman & Littlefield: London/New York, pp.137-152.

Moreno-Lax Violeta and Giuffre Mariagiulia, (2017), *The Rise of Consensual Containment: From 'Contactless Control' to 'Contactless Responsibility' for Forced Migration Flows*. in: S. Juss (ed), *Research Handbook on International Refugee Law* (Edward Elgar).

Weizman, Eyal, (2012), *The Least of All Possible Evils: Humanitarian Violence from Arendt to Gaza*. London: Verso. (see chapter 3: The Best of All Possible Walls)

Recommended

Davies, William, (2016), 'The Age of Post-Truth Politics', New York Times, 24 August 2016, <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/24/opinion/campaign-stops/the-age-of-post-truth-politics.html>.

Fenton Natalie, and Freedman, Des, (2017), 'Fake Democracy, Bad News', *Socialist Register 2018*, 54: pp.130–49.

Latour, Bruno, (2018), *Down To Earth. Politics in the New Climate Regime*, Polity Press. (See chapter 6).

Projects

Forensic Oceanography

Heller, Charles, and Pezzani, Lorenzo, (2017), *Blaming the Rescuers: Criminalising Solidarity, (Re)enforcing Deterrence*. Available from : <https://blamingtherescuers.org/>

Heller, Charles, and Pezzani, Lorenzo, (2018), *Mare Clausum: Italy and the EU's undeclared operation to stem migration across the Mediterranean*.

<http://www.forensic-architecture.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-05-07-FO-Mare-Clausum-full-EN.pdf>

Bellingcat

Toler, Aric. (2017), "Advanced Guide on Verifying Video Content," *Bellingcat*. Available at: <https://wp.me/p6D4OD-3RX>

Bellingcat. (2015), "Geolocating the Location Where the Syrian "Caesar" Photographs Were Taken," *Bellingcat*, Available at: <https://wp.me/s6D4OD-3062>

Higgins, Elliot. (2014), "The Process Of Video Verification – Rabaa, Egypt, August 14th 2013," *Bellingcat*, Available at: <https://wp.me/p6D4OD-c0>

Trevor Paglen – CIA rendition flights

Trevor Paglen and A. C. Thompson, *Torture Taxi: On the Trail of the CIA's Rendition Flights*, First Edition edition (Hoboken, N.J: Melville House, 2006).

<http://countermappingcollection.org/collection/terminal-air/>

<https://geographicalimagination.com/2015/10/14/more-tortured-geographies/>

<https://www.justiceinitiative.org/publications/investigations-cia-renditions>

6 December 2019, 14:15-16:00

The seventh and concluding session will reflect on the trajectory of changing policies and nongovernmental practices presented in this course, to interrogate the assets and limitations of strategic litigations. Is strategic litigation and more broadly rights-based approaches an effective means of mitigating violence? How do they relate to other approaches to social and political transformation? How can one navigate the ambivalences of forensic practice? Finally, beyond its (limited) effects in various political and legal settings, to what extent can the forensic approach operate as an epistemic perspective able to generate new knowledge concerning urgent issues and transformations?

Readings

(core readings, required for the whole class):

Moyn, Samuel, (2018), *Not Enough: Human Rights in an Unequal World* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press). (See Introduction)

O'Connell, Paul, (2018) 'Human Rights Contesting The Displacement Thesis'. *Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly*, (69) 1, pp 19-35.

Knox, Robert ,(2012), 'Strategy and Tactics', *The Finnish Yearbook of International Law* 21: 193–229.

Golder, Ben, (2015), *Foucault and the Politics of Rights*. Stanford University Press: Stanford. (See chapter 4: Rights Between Tactics and Strategy, and Conclusion)

Allen, Lori, (2013), *The Rise and Fall of Human Rights: Cynicism and Politics in Occupied Palestine*. Stanford University Press. (See the Introduction)

Recommended

Heller, Charles, Pezzani, Lorenzo, and Stierl, Maurice, (2018), *Toward a Politics of Freedom of Movement*. In Jones, Reece (ed.), *Open Borders: In Defense of Free Movement*, University of Georgia Press.