

THE CULTURAL HISTORY OF THE NEW YORK POLICE

Anthropology 21:070:346:01
Th 2:30-5:20, 103 Hill

Spring 2018
Prof. R. Brian Ferguson

This course will explore the role of policing in modern society by examining the origins and development of modern city police. The case is New York City, from Dutch times, through the founding of the unified police force in 1845, through massive riots, gang wars, corruption scandals, Prohibition, all the way up to the Bloomberg administration. The course takes an anthropological approach examining the various cultural forces that shaped this institution, and how the police in turn shaped the changing character of urban life. Along with the police, we will examine changing patterns of crime, especially involving prostitution, gambling, and above all, organized crime. The course is oriented toward readings matched to lectures and class discussion. Grades will be based on a series of "quizlets" given every week on the assigned readings, as described on the final page of this outline. Reading assignments will average 70-90 pages per week, but is somewhat *more* than that in the last weeks. There is no term paper. Active class participation can *raise* you grade by as much as a full letter grade.

Note that the only avenue for extra credit comes late in the course, where you can score additional quizlet points by doing extra reading in the course books. You are better off keeping up with readings, class participation, and quizlets all the way through.

Required Readings

R. Brian Ferguson, ed. The Cultural History of the New York Police, Books 1 and 2

Available from Affordable Copies, 55 Halsey St., (973) 802-1007.

Copies of both readers will be on 2-hour library reserve, but since knowledge of the readings is the basis for your course grade, I strongly advise you to get copies for yourself.

General Course Outline

Part I. Origins of the New York Police (colonial period to the Civil War)

Part II. Rise and Dominance (1863-1894)

Part III. Disgrace and Reform (1895-1920)

Part IV. From Prohibition to Bloomberg (1920-2010)

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Course Outline and Assignments

Book One

Part I: Origins-The Colonial period to the Civil War

Period Covered	First Published	Author	Topics (approx.. number of page in original text)	Page
Chapter 1, January 25			Introduction.....	3
1. 1643-1645	1994	Ferguson	Violence in New Amsterdam (2).....	5
2. 1647-1827	1885	Costello	Police in New Amsterdam and NY (10).....	6
3. 1700-1770	1976	Greenberg	English colonial law enforcement (6).....	13
4. 1741	2003	Ferguson	The Witch Hunt You Never Heard Of (3).....	18
5. 1741	1774	Horsmanden	A robbery and investigation (9).....	19
6. 1801-1832	1987	Gilje	Anti-slavery Riots (8).....	25
7. 1764-1775	1956	Still	Public disorder before the Revolution (3).....	30
8. 1833-1835	1873	Headley	Anti-abolition riots (16).....	32
9. 1750-1860	1992	Gilfoyle	Changes in prostitution (7).....	45
Chapter 2, February 1			Introduction.....	52
10. 1840-1843	1917	Myers	Rise and Progress of the AGangs@ (18).....	52b
11. 1844	2001	Anbinder	Isaiah Rynders (3).....	52f
12. 1825-1860	1928	Asbury	Five Points, the Bowery, and gangs (18).....	53
13. 1660-1850	1938	Asbury	Gambling in New York (10).....	64
14. 1845	1848	AExperienced Carver@	Law, volunteer firemen (6).....	71
14a. 1850s	1887	Costello	Volunteer Firemen (4).....	76
15. 1841	1995	Gilman-Srebnick	Reactions to a murder, view of crime (10).....	79
16. 1830-1854	1977	Miller	Comparing police, London/New York (10).....	85
17. 1844-1853	1885	Costello	Creation of a unified force (10).....	90
Chapter 3, February 8			Introduction.....	97
18. 1849	1873	Headley	The Astor Place Riot (13).....	98
19. 1850	1984	Wilentz	The Tailor=s Strike (4).....	105
20. 1825-1885	1979	Johnson	Policing city streets (25).....	108
21. 1848-1862	1999	Bosak	Police killed on duty (2).....	121
22. 1851	-----	Bell	A policeman=s diary (6).....	123
23. 1860	1860	Halliday	The young burglars (3).....	126
24. 1852-1860	1874	Sutton	A life in crime, river pirates (14).....	127a

24a.	1850s	1859	Matsell	Rogues' Lexicon (4).....	127j
25.	1856-1858	1858	Sanger	Prostitution and social conditions (15).....	128

Period Covered	First Published	Author	Topics (approx. number of pages in original text)	Page
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Chapter 4, February 15 Introduction.....138

26.	1855	1994	Ernst	Immigrants, politics, and the police (3).....	139
27.	1855	1987	Gorn	Killing a ATrue American@, tensions (6).....	143
28.	1853-1857	1981	Spann	Politics and policing (14).....	148
29.	1857	1887	Walling	Municipals vs. Metropolitans (5).....	156
30.	1857	1976	Brown	Gang wars, newspaper accounts (22).....	160
30a.	1857	-----	Dana	Eyewitness to the Great Riot (3).....	198a
31.	1857-1861	1970	Richardson	Early years of the Metropolitan Police (6)..	199
32.	1860-1863	1974	Cook	Metropolitans and the community (4).....	204

Part II: Rise and Dominance (1863-1894)

Chapter 5, February 22 Introduction.....208

33.	1863	1974	Cook	The Draft Riots (29).....	209
34.	1863	1863	Strong	A diary of the riots (9).....	230
35.	1863	1863	NY Times	Coverage of the riots (-).....	234a
36.	1863-1872	1990	Bernstein	Class and ethnic politics after the Riots (5)..	235
37.	1868	1868	McCabe	Metropolitans after the War (6).....	238
38.	1865-1895	1970	Richardson	Overviews, 1865-1895 (24).....	243

Chapter 6, March 1

				Introduction.....	260
39.	1868	1869	Smith	Images of immigrants, police trials (21).....	261
40.	1870	1941	Lynch	Corruption triumphant (5).....	274
40a.	1870s	2010	Bosak	Boss Tweed and the NYPD (4).....	284a
41.	1870-1871	1993	Gordon	Contending politics, the Orange Riot (7)....	279
42.	1874	1965	Gutman	Police vs. workers in Tompkins Square (8)..	285
43.	1870-1872	1873	Brace	Dangerous classes, causes of crime (23)....	290
44.	1875-1885	1887	Walling	Defining criminality, law and politics(16)....	306

Chapter 7, March 8

				Introduction.....	316
45.	1875-1877	1885	Costello	Crime wave, police organization, strikes(9).	318
46.	1875-1890	1903	O=Neill	New technologies (5).....	326
48.	1870-1887	1978	Repetto*	Captain AClubber@ Williams (3).....	330
49.	1886-1893	1990	Donner	Det. Byrnes and barons of Wall Street (2)....	332
50.	1885	1903	Hapgood	Learning to be a thief (11).....	336
51.	1889	1889	Riis	Raiding stale beer dive, tramps, gangs (20)..	343

- 51a 1886 1886 New York Times Hell's Kitchen (5)..... 367a
 47. 1886 1886 Byrnes* Burglars, shoplifters, Arogues, @ opium (16)...376
 * Read the Byrnes selection (with pictures) after Reppetto, and before Donner.

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Book Two

Part III: Disgrace and Reform (1895-1920)

Period Covered	First Published	Author	Topics (approx.. number of pages in original text)	Page
Chapter 8, 1890-1901, March 22			Introduction.....	3
52. 1890s	1893	Crane	A girl of the streets (17).....	5
53. 1890-1894	1895	Lexow	Police corruption and brutality (20).....	15
54. 1894-1897	1901	Riis	Future President, former Superintendent (14)....	28
55. 1890-1914	1994	Young	Origins of the PBA (7).....	37
56. 1897-1909	1978	Repetto	See-saw reform, internal divisions, legality (14).	40
57. 1901	1904	Riordan	Plunkitt on honest graft (5).....	49
58. 1901	1901	Flynt	New York's wide open (10).....	52
59. 1899	1997	McIllwain	Tong Wars as organized crime (7).....	58
Chapter 9, 1897-1914, March 29			Introduction.....	62
60. 1897-1905	1931	Harlow	Criminals' paradise, politicians and gangs (12)..	64
61. 1901-1903	2013	Ferguson	From political gangs to gangsters (7).....	69a
62. 1909-1912	1928	Asbury	Gangsters, a cop gets the electric chair (10).....	70
63. 1912-1914	1970	Logan	Gangsters and reformers, police scandals (11)...	77
64. 1900, 1909	1977	Pitkin/Cordasco	Mafia, Black Hand, a heroic detective (8).....	89
65. 1900-1914	1933	Willemse	Police culture, racketeering (16).....	93
66. 1900	1931	Willemse	Learning and using force (6).....	102
67. 1906	1964	Thorwald	Fingerprints, the Bureau of Investigation (9).....	105
68. 1906-1909	1906-1909	Dilworth	Bullet proof vests, automobiles (7).....	125
69. 1905-1912	1976	Horne	First policewomen (4).....	130
Chapter 10, 1914-1921, April 5			Introduction.....	132
70. 1914-1917	1978	Repetto	Progressive administration, shooflies (13).....	134
71. 1914-1920	1920	Fosdick*	The modern police emerge (32).....	142
72. 1900	1963	Osofsky	Race riot (5).....	164
73. 1911-1913	(1959)	Battle	First African-American policeman (6).....	169

74.	1917	1984	Frieburger	Food riot (6).....	181
75.	1915-1920	1989	Levine	Why Prohibition? (5).....	184
76.	1901-1921	1981	Morgan	Regulating drugs, federalizing deviancy (19)...	188
77.	1900-1921	1994	Chauncey	Policing homosexuality (9).....	199

* Read the Fosdick article last in this Unit, after Chauncey.

Part IV: From Prohibition to de Blasio (1920-2015)

	Period Covered	First Published	Author	Topics (approx.. number of pages in original text)	Page
Chapter 11, 1920-1950, April 12				Introduction.....	200
78.	1920s	1930	Levine	Police culture, use of force (20).....	203
79.	1914-1934	2003	Johnson	Reds and workers, “Police brutality!”(6).....	218
80.	1920s	1932	Landesco	Prohibition and other kinds of crime (6).....	224a
81.	1925-1935	1980	Fried	Gangsters in labor rackets (9).....	225
82.	1940s	1951	US Senate	Frank Costello and the Mafia (4).....	247
83.	1935	1935	LaGuardia Commis.	1935 Harlem riot (6).....	252
84.	1945	1977	Capecci	Harlem riot of 1943 (14).....	260
85.	1941-1946	1999	Schneider	Juvenile gangs (7).....	267
86.	1929-1949	1978	Reppetto	LaGuardia era, before and after (6).....	272
Chapter 12, 1950-1984, April 19				Introduction.....	275a
87.	1950s	1965	Sayre/Kaufman	NYPD organization (7).....	275d
88.	1958-1963	1977	Levi	PBA becomes a union (2).....	279a
89.	1964	1964	NY Times	1964 Harlem riot (8).....	275d
90.	1965-1968	1973	Viteritti	Lindsay vs. the PBA (10).....	284
91.	1968-1972	1968-1972	NY Times	Turbulent sixties (10).....	290
92.	1971-1972	2002	Wagner	Black Liberation Army (11).....	301
93.	1970-1972	1972	Knapp Commis.	Police corruption (5).....	309
94.	1970-1972	1977	Murphy	View from the top: corruption, detectives (5)..	313
95.	1974-1975	1978	Sichel et al.	Women on patrol (3).....	318
96.	1957-1981	2001	Hispanic Society	Hispanic police (1).....	325
97.	1976	2001	Eliot	42 nd Street (8).....	326
98.	mid-1970s	1976	Alex	“A beleaguered minority” (8).....	335
99.	1976-1980	1983	Reuss-Ianni	Street cops and management cops (8).....	340
100.	1959-1984	(1999)	Dunkle	TPF (3).....	345

Chapter 13, 1985-2015, April 26

Don't panic at the number of articles. Many recent ones are large type with lots of white space. But this chapter does amount to substantially more reading than usual. As will be explained in class (along with the ++ marks between some selections), this will be used to provide an

opportunity for optional extra credit questions.

			Introduction.....	348
++ <i>Overview</i>				
101.	1970-2009	2014	White	Overview of crises, reforms, consequences (13) 352
	Period Covered	First Published	Author	Topics (approx.. number of pages in original text) Page
++ <i>The High Crime Years</i>				
102.	1985-1992	2000	Lardner/Repetto	Crack, C-POP, riot and race (18)..... 354
++ <i>NYC Crime Drop</i>				
103.	1992-1995	1999	Silverman	Compstat (8)..... 378
104.	1992-1995	2000	Eck/Maguire	Zero tolerance policing (4)..... 383
105.	1990s	2011	Zimring	NYC crime drop..... 385
106.	1999	1999	Herbert/Bruni/Flynn	Perceptions and denials of racism (4)..... 387
++ <i>The “Dangerous Classes” Revisited</i>				
107.	mid-1990s	1999	Curtis	Inner city, drugs, gangs, and youth agency (20). 391
++ <i>Later Organized Crime</i>				
108.	1980-1995	1996	Chin	Chinatown gangs (10)..... 413
109.	1990-1995	1999	Jacobs Cosa	Nostra in waste hauling (6)..... 419
++ <i>Being a Cop</i>				
110.	1995-1997	2001	Schulman	“The job” of policing, female and gay cops..... 423
++ <i>NYPD Responds to 9/11</i>				
111.	2001-2003	2005	Bornstein	Emotional toll, new suspected populations (11) 433
112.	2001-2011	2011	Apruzzo/Goldman	Seeking out/spying on potential terrorists (2). 440
113.	2011	2011	Patel/Sullivan	An intelligence agency with no oversight (4).... 445
113a.	2015	2015	Goodman	NYPD Counter-Terrorism (2)..... 450a
++ <i>Stop, Frisk, Choke</i>				
114.	2006-2011	2011	Peart	‘Why is NYPD after me?’ (1)..... 451
115.	1990s-2000s	2013	Cottrell	Stop and Frisk. Effective? Racist? (6) 455
116.	2014	015	Baker/Goodman/Mueller	The Eric Garner Case (6)..... 468
117.	2014	2014	Reyna	Why <i>not</i> a riot? (5)..... 482
118.	2014	2015	Wasserman	Public clamor and techno fixes: body cams (2).. 489
119.	2015	015	Coates	“Myth of Police Reform” (2)..... 493

Details on quizzes and grading

Starting in the second week of the semester, you will be tested every week. These are five-question "quizlets", of multiple choice and true-false questions. All tests will be based on the assigned readings for that week, but also contain a question about the previous week's lectures. The first quizlet will be for practice, and not count toward your final grade. Over the course of the semester, there will be twelve quizlets that count. I will drop the lowest *two* of the twelve. **Your course grade will be the total of your ten highest scores times two, plus consideration of class participation.** Class participation is very important. Speaking up regularly can raise your grade significantly, especially if your test scores leave you just below a cut-off point. **KEEP TRACK OF YOUR QUIZ SCORES HERE.**

Quizlet 1	_____	(practice)	Quizlet 8	_____
Quizlet 2	_____		Quizlet 9	_____
Quizlet 3	_____		Quizlet 10	_____
Quizlet 4	_____		Quizlet 11	_____
Quizlet 5	_____		Quizlet 12	_____
Quizlet 6	_____	*	Quizlet 13	_____
Quizlet 7	_____			

* 18 points total for quizlets 2-6 would just reach a C grade.

You may take a maximum of three quizlet make-ups. More than that requires a serious note. Beyond those three, missed quizlets will count as zero. Plan to take any make-up during the next week's class. After the first couple of times, you will be given about five minutes to complete a five-question quizlet. If you arrive at class too late to take the quizlet with the others, you can take it at the break of that same class. You can take a maximum of three such late quizlets. Over that, any more *Alates@* will count as make-ups.

Sample questions. The following two questions, based on Chapter 1 in the reader, exemplify the kind of question you will get through this semester.

1. ____ In Horsmanden's account of a robbery and an investigation, which of the following was not among the cast of characters?
 - a) An indentured servant (Mary Burton)
 - b) A banker (Joshua Prine)
 - c) A slave (Cesar)
 - d) An innkeeper (John Hughson)
2. ____ (T/F) In Still's description of the time before the American Revolution, New York was

strangely quiet in contrast to other colonial cities.

If you do not like challenging reading assignments, or cannot do well on short answer tests, you should seriously reconsider taking this course.