

**New Formations in the Wake of the Plantation:  
Rethinking Crime, Law and Power in the Caribbean**

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**Course Description**

The relationship between violence, law, and power has long defined the distinctiveness of Caribbean life. Central to this history is the paradigm shift brought about by new constitutional arrangements for addressing violence and crime, alongside everyday demands for reparations and decolonial approaches to legal and social transformation. In the study of law, Caribbean legal systems and conceptions of justice are deeply rooted in British and French jurisprudence, legacies of colonial rule that continue to shape post-independence social life. At the center of our inquiry is the question of political legitimacy: the recognition, as McIntosh notes, that Caribbean constitutions were “not really our own” (S. McIntosh, 2002). The enduring imprint of plantation economies further structures legal discourse, influencing not only judicial outcomes but also the reproduction of socioeconomic inequalities. These conditions place limits on the development of a distinctly Caribbean jurisprudence that might otherwise be used to understand crime, violence, dispossession and the law while also reflecting the region’s lived realities and visions of justice.

Rather than viewing the absence of an explicit form of Caribbean jurisprudence as a void, the course reimagines it as a space for innovation and reclamation. It engages with the colonial legacies that have long marginalized Black justice strategies, while also proposing new ways of recognizing, documenting, and theorizing the Caribbean epistemologies now emerging through reparatory justice.

The course also rethinks the way we understand crime by examining the structural foundations of violence that undergird Caribbean life. It explores the shift to new forms of constitutional sovereignty alongside the emergence of new forms of public international and regional law as ways of rethinking the questions--what is the Caribbean and what can it be? By situating Black Atlantic life within the context of the plantation—where violence was foundational and where its echoes resurface in contemporary discourses of “crime”—the course interrogates the dilemmas of this new phase of Caribbean existence. Such a focus allows us to raise critical questions about how plantation-era economic systems persist in structuring present-day social life.

## **Course Format**

The course will combine interactive lectures, field visits to justice institutions and community-based spaces of innovation, and student-led discussions. Each session will include a brief lecture to introduce key concepts, followed by dialogue and analysis of case studies from the English-speaking Caribbean region. Students will engage directly with prescribed readings and are expected to actively contribute to discussions, workshops, and collaborative activities. Site visits and experiential learning components will enhance classroom learning by providing real-world contexts. The best outcomes will depend on students' consistent preparation and full participation throughout the course.

## **Course Objectives**

1. To analyze the historical and contemporary intersections of law, culture, and power in the Caribbean.
2. To evaluate colonial and postcolonial legal structures through decolonial theoretical frameworks.
3. To engage in experiential learning through site visits and field research in Antigua and Barbuda.
4. To develop a critical understanding of justice-making practices and their sociolegal implications.
5. To apply interdisciplinary approaches to legal pluralism, cultural identity, and historical narratives in the Black Atlantic.
6. To collaborate on an interactive group project in the form of an interview, talk show or debate, synthesizing course content and field observations.

## **Course Assessment**

1. Response Papers (20%): Weekly reading reflections - required readings
2. Field Observation Report (20%): Analysis of a specific site or practice visited during the course.
3. Final Paper and Presentation (40%): Selection of a current dilemma in Antigua and Barbuda that explores the intertwined relationship of Law, Crime, History and Power in the Caribbean
4. Participation (20%): Active engagement in discussions, activities, and groupwork.

**GRADING SCHEME**

Percentage	Letter	Definition
90-100	A+	<b>Exceptional Performance</b> - Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization; capacity to analyze and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter with sound critical evaluations; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
85-89.5	A	
80-84.5	A-	
77-79.5	B+	<b>Good Performance</b> - Evidence of a grasp of the subject matter; some evidence of capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.
73-76.5	B	
70-72.5	B-	
67-69.5	C+	<b>Intellectually adequate performance</b> - Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject matter and ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.
63-66.5	C	
60-62.5	C-	
57-59.5	D+	<b>Minimally acceptable performance</b> -Some evidence of familiarity with the subject matter and some evidence that critical and analytic skills have developed.
53-56.5	D	
50-52.5	D-	
0-49.5	F	<b>Inadequate performance</b> - little evidence of even superficial understanding of subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited or irrelevant use of literature and other academic resources.

**Course Schedule**

Unless otherwise indicated, all classes are to be held from Thursday July 2<sup>nd</sup> to Friday July 31<sup>st</sup> 2026, Monday to Friday from 9am to 12noon.

- Classes on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> will be held online via zoom with the professor.
- The classes scheduled on July 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> will be set aside for final group presentations via zoom.

## **Week 1 : History and Politics of the Caribbean: Making of Zones of Extraction**

### **Pre-arrival Classes – Via Zoom**

#### **Thursday, July 2 – Day 1**

##### **Orientation & Course introduction (Online, Via Zoom)**

- Introduction to the Course: contemporary events, status of crime and violence, land dispossession, climate disasters, legal innovations and key problems in the Caribbean region
- Syllabus overview

##### **Readings**

- In the Wake: On Blackness and Being – Introduction, chapter 1, 2.
- *Political Life in the Wake of the Plantation: Sovereignty, Witnessing, Repair.* Deborah Thomas. Introduction.

#### **Friday, July 3 – Day 2**

##### **Violence, Law and Power in the Caribbean: The Roots of the Plantation Economy**

- Violence, Colonization and the Rise of Sugar Plantations in the Making of Empire
- The plantation complex as a legal, social and economic system

##### **Readings**

- Hilary Beckles, *Britain's Black Debt* (Ch. 1–2).
- Anthony Bogues, *Empire of Liberty: Power, Desire, and Freedom* (Introduction).
- Richard Sheridan, *Sugar and Slavery: An Economic History of the British West Indies* (for plantation context). Excerpts
- Sweetness and Power. Sidney Mintz. Introduction

##### **Optional**

- Hilary Beckles, *A History of Barbados: From Amerindian Settlement to Nation-State* (for comparative context).
- Sylvia Wynter, “Unsettling the Coloniality of Being/Power/Truth/Freedom” (*CR: New Centennial Review*, 2003).
- Benton, Lauren. ‘Legal Spaces of Empire: Piracy and the Origins of Ocean Governance.’ *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, Vol. 47, No. 4 (2005): 700–724.

#### **Sunday, July 5 - Departure from Toronto / Arrival in Antigua**

- Check-in Hotel – Hawksbill Hotel

### **Monday, July 6 – Day 3**

#### **Violence in the Caribbean: The Case of Antigua**

- Introduction & Welcome and Icebreakers
- Lecture: Antigua's role in the wider British Empire
- Particularities of plantations, land ownership and law formation in Antigua

#### **Readings**

- Brian Dyde, *A History of Antigua: The Unsuspected Isle* (Macmillan Caribbean, 2000). Exerpts
- Diana, Paton. 'Punishment, Crime, and the Bodies of Slaves in Eighteenth-Century Jamaica.' *Journal of Social History*, Vol. 34, No. 4 (2001): 923–954

#### **Optional Evening Film**

- Sugar Cane Alley (1983).

### **Tuesday, July 7 – Day 4**

#### **Plantation and Colonial Inscriptions in the Antiguan Landscape**

#### **Site Visits**

Museum of Antigua and Barbuda - exhibits on the geography, geology and past and present material culture.

Betty's Hope Plantation - a former sugar plantation in Antigua, dating back to the mid-1600s. It was one of the island's first large-scale sugar estates and became a symbol of Antigua's brutal plantation economy under British colonial rule.

Dow's Hill Interpretation Centre - a museum that was part of the estate of Archibald Dow - A 20 minute multimedia show that tells the history of Antigua from Indigenous inhabitants, to slavery, to British colonization and the post-colonial period.

#### **Readings**

- Natasha Lightfoot, *Troubling Freedom: Antigua and the Aftermath of British Emancipation* (Duke University Press, 2015). Selections

## **Week 2- Law and Order: The Development of Political and Legal Institutions**

**Wednesday, July 8 – Day 5**

**Legal Frameworks: Common Law and Colonial Governance**

**Guest Speaker: Honorable Harold Lovell**

British and French jurisprudence, colonial rule, independence constitutions

### **Readings**

- Brian Meeks and Kate Quinn (eds) *Beyond Westminster in the Caribbean*, Ian Randle Publishers Ltd (2018), at 1 – 17
- Tracy Robinson, Arif Bulkan and Adrian Saunders, *Fundamentals of Caribbean Constitutional Law*, Sweet & Maxwell (2021) at 1– 63

### **Optional Readings**

- Rose-Ma Antoine. Read Chapter 1, ‘Introduction to Law and Legal Systems’; Chapter 2: The Historical Function of Law in the West Indies-Creating a Future from a Troubled Past; Chapter 3: Legal Traditions-Types of Legal Systems in The Commonwealth Caribbean; Chapter 6 Introduction to Sources of Law.
- Hall, Douglas. ‘The Colonial Legacy in Caribbean Legal Systems.’ In *Law and Society in the Caribbean*, ed. Esmein A. Davis (Caribbean Law Publishing, 1996)

### **Optional Podcast:**

- Talking Law: Caribbean Conversations on Justice and Power (*UWI Radio* or *independent platforms*)

**Thursday July 9 – Day 6**

**Histories of Caribbean Governance in Practice: Law, Crime and Social Order**

### **Site Visits**

- His Majesty’s Prison, Saint John’s, Antigua
- Denis Bowers Rehabilitation Centre

### **Readings**

- Freemon, Katz & Seepersad (2024). “A primer on street gangs in the Eastern and Southern Caribbean.” In *Palgrave Handbook of Caribbean Criminology*, 189–207. [UWI St. Augustine](#)

- Marmolejo, Seepersad, Rudes & Taxman (2022). “Exploring Pretrial Detention and Pretrial Processes in Five Caribbean Countries.” In *Handbook on Pretrial Justice*, 384–403. [UWI St. Augustine](#)
- Seepersad (2018). “Crime, Violence, and Public Safety in the Caribbean.” In *Crime, Violence, and Security in the Caribbean*, 19–51. [UWI St. Augustine](#)
- Diana Paton, *No Bond but the Law: Punishment, Race, and Gender in Jamaican State Formation, 1780-1870* (Duke University Press, 2004) — A book-length study of Jamaica showing how penal institutions (prisons, workhouses, treadmills, whipping) developed around emancipation, race and gender. [Duke University Press+1](#)

### **Optional Readings**

- R.M.B Antonie, ‘Constructing a Legal Framework for Security Economic, Social and Culture Rights for Women Workers, with particular reference to structural adjustment and The Caribbean’ in *The Caribbean Law Review* No. 7-2, (December 1997) at 534-587
- Funck, D.A. Seven Major Functions of Law (1972) 23:2 Case Western Reserve Law Review 257

### **Friday, July 10 – Day 7**

### **Law and Lawmaking: Legal Inheritances and the Making of Caribbean Commonwealth Constitutionalism**

#### **Lecture & Discussion - Harold Lovell**

#### **Interpretation: Two schools of constitutional interpretation:**

- a) Legal Positivism – The Interpretivist School
- b) Judicial Activism – The Non-Interpretivist School

- The doctrine of the separation of powers and the role of the judiciary
- The Interpretivists – A restricted view of interpretation
- The Non-Interpretivists – “The Living Tree” approach to constitutional interpretation

#### **Required reading:**

- Tracy Robinson, Arif Bulkan and Adrian Saunders, *Fundamentals of Caribbean Constitution Law*, Sweet & Maxwell (2021), at 123–174

#### **Case study:**

- *Jabari Sensimania Nervais v The Queen* [2018] CCJ 19 [https://ccj.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2018\\_CCJ\\_19\\_AJ.pdf](https://ccj.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2018_CCJ_19_AJ.pdf)

### **Optional Readings**

- Rose-Ma Antoine Chapter 15 The Court System of the Commonwealth Caribbean
- David Simmons, 'Judicial Legislation for the Commonwealth Caribbean: The death penalty, delay and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council' in *The Caribbean Law Bulletin* (1998) 3 (1/2), at 1 -10.
- Douglas Mendes, 'Comment on the Rt Hon Mr. David Simmons' Death Penalty' in *The Caribbean Law Bulletin* (1998) 3 (1/2), at 11 -28.
- Marcus Goffe **"Protecting the Traditions of the Maroons and Rastafari: An Analysis of the Adequacy of the Intellectual Property Laws of Jamaica and Proposals for Reform."** *SCRIPTed* 6(3) (2009). Open-access law article examining how Jamaica's IP regime addresses traditional knowledge and cultural expressions; proposes reforms. [script-ed.org+2journals.ed.ac.uk+2](http://script-ed.org+2journals.ed.ac.uk+2)
- Marcus Goffe **"The Rights of the Maroons in the Emerging Ganja Industry in Jamaica."** *Social and Economic Studies* 67(1) (year per issue listing), a legal analysis of Maroons' rights in cannabis regulation under national, regional, and international law. (Journal page/abstract.)
- Francis Alexis, *Changing Caribbean Constitutions*. Carib Research and Publications Inc. (2015), at 138 – 143
- Eudine Barriteau, *The Political Economy of Gender in the Twentieth-Century Caribbean* (selected chapters).
- Simeon McIntosh, *Caribbean Constitutional Reform* (Ch. 1–3).
- Derek O'Brien, *Constitutional Law Systems of the Commonwealth Caribbean* (selected chapters).
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## Monday, July 13 – Day 8

### Reflection on Post-Colonial Transformations: Crisis of Sovereignty and Political Legitimacy: Law, Courts and the Making of Caribbean Life

#### Lecture & Discussion: Harold Lovell

*Constitutions "not our own," erosion of parliamentary sovereignty, questions of legitimacy.*

- Analysis of the obstacles hindering democratic participation in the Commonwealth Caribbean
- Exploration of strategies to promote inclusivity and societal engagement

#### Readings

- Brian Meeks and Kate Quinn (eds) *Beyond Westminster in the Caribbean*, Ian Randle Publishers Ltd (2018). Selections.
- McIntosh, *Caribbean Constitutional Reform* (Ch. 5).
- Richard Albert, Derek O'Brien & Se-shauna Wheatle (eds.), *Constitutional Reform in the English-Speaking Caribbean* (selected chapters).



- Francis Alexis, *Changing Caribbean Constitutions*, Carib Research and Publications Inc. (2015) at 165 – 175

## **Tuesday, July 14 - Day 9**

### **From Colonial order to “crime crisis:” Crime, Policing, Security and Judicial Reforms in the Caribbean**

#### **Site Visit**

The Antigua and Barbuda Parliament Building, Saint John’s, Antigua

The High Court of Justice in Antigua and Barbuda.

#### **Readings**

- Ramesh Deosaran, *Criminology and Criminal Justice in the Caribbean* (selected chapters).
- Amanda Sives, *Elections, Violence and the Democratic Process in Jamaica* (Ch. 1–2).
- The Biopolitics of Colonial Carcerality: Historiography of Guyana by Dylan Kerrigan et al. — A recent chapter on Guyana exploring how colonial carceral practices persist in the post-colonial Caribbean.

#### **Optional Reading**

- The Death Penalty in Barbados: Reforming a Colonial Legacy by Lynsey Black, Lizzie Seal, Florence Seemungal, Bharat Malkani & Roger Ball (2023) — Examines how the death penalty in Barbados reflects colonial origins and its reform in the post-colonial era. [Crime and Justice Journal+1](#)
- Mutsaers, Paul. "Decolonising youth justice, rethinking childhood: Caribbean counterstories in detention." *Youth Justice* 24.1 (2024): 13-30.
- Seepersad, Mohammed et al. (2024). “Changes in Crime Victimization During COVID-19 in Guyana and St. Lucia...” In *Prospects and Challenges for Caribbean Societies in and Beyond COVID-19*, 215–233. [UWI St. Augustine](#)

## **Wednesday, July 15 – Day 10**

### **Property, Dispossession and the Challenges of Caribbean Life**

#### **Lecture Panel:**

- **Rachel Goffe, Assistant Professor, University of Toronto**
- **Marcus Goffe, Professor UWI-Mona, Faculty of Law**
- **Dr. Devon Taylor, President, Jamaica Beach Birthright Environmental Movement (JaBBEM).**

## **Readings**

- [What does capital consume? Racial capitalism and the social reproduction of surplus people.](#) *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space* (with Nikki Luke)
- [Capture land as abolition geography: The mutuality of placemaking and flight.](#) *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*
- [What Lies Here, beyond Boundary?](#) *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism*. 73(3): 76–82.
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## **Optional Reading**

- R. Goffe. “Reproducing the Plot: Making Life in the Shadow of Premature Death.” *Antipode* (2023). Ethnography of Jamaican informal settlements, showing how incomplete dispossession and anti-squatting policy shape everyday life. (Open-access PDF). [Wiley Online Library+1](#)
- R. Goffe. “Capture land as abolition geography: The mutuality of placemaking and flight.” *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 42(1) (2024). Develops “capture land” to theorize placemaking, flight, and the liberal property regime. (Open-access PDF via U of T). [University of Toronto+1](#)
- R. Goffe “What Lies Here, Beyond Boundary?” *Small Axe* 28(1) (2024). A short intervention on boundaries and Caribbean space—useful for thinking property lines and their social life. [Google Scholar](#)

## **Media**

- **“An anti-colonial vision of the Jamaican coastline.”** *Jamaica Gleaner* (Commentary), Aug 10, 2025. [Jamaica Gleaner](#)
- **“Jamaicans fight colonial-era beach law in court.”** *The Voice* (UK), Nov 27, 2024. [voice-online.co.uk](#)
- **“Fight to protect Jamaicans’ access to Bob Marley Beach goes to court.”** *The Voice* (UK), May 11, 2023. [voice-online.co.uk](#)
- **““Second-class citizens’: Why locals...can’t use its stunning beaches.”** *SBS Dateline* (Australia), 2024 feature. [SBS Australia](#)
- **“Banned from the beach: Jamaican locals want their ocean access back.”** SBS podcast episode, 2024. [SBS Australia](#)
- **“Blue Lagoon public-access rights case heads back to court June 17.”** *Jamaica Gleaner*, Mar 26, 2024. [Jamaica Gleaner](#)
- **“Sandals...decry plans for new resorts at Providence.”** *Jamaica Gleaner*, May 26, 2025. [Jamaica Gleaner](#)
- **“Plaintiffs in Flankers/Providence Beach lawsuit head back to court Nov.”** *Jamaica Gleaner*, Oct 7, 2025. [Jamaica Gleaner](#)
- **“UDC and JaBBEM head back to court July 17 regarding Little Dunn’s River.”** *Irie FM*, Jul 11, 2025. [IRIE FM](#)

- “Advocates pushing for action to secure public access to beaches.” *RJR News*, Jul 1, 2025.

#### **Thursday July 16 – Day 11**

#### **Law and Political Economy: Extractivism and Environmental Justice in the Caribbean Region**

**Professor Usha Natarajan, UWI-Mona Faculty of Law**

#### **Readings:**

- Usha Natarajan, '[Racializing Nature and Naturalizing Race: Intertwined Harms in International Law](#)', *Journal of Law and Political Economy* (forthcoming 2026).
- Usha Natarajan & Julia Dehm, '[Where is the Environment? Locating Nature in International Law](#)' (2019) 3 *TWAILR: Reflections*.
- Usha Natarajan, '[International Law and Sustainable Development](#)' in Ruth Buchanan et al (eds), *Oxford Handbook of International Law and Development* (2023).

#### **Optional Readings & Viewings:**

- Sarah Riley Case and Usha Natarajan, '[Race, Ecology, and Nature in International Law: A Dialogue with Sarah Riley Case](#)' (2025) 19 *TWAILR: Dialogues*.
- Amanda Byer, '[Climate Law from the Interstices: Caribbean SIDS and the Spatial Dimensions of TWAIL](#)' (2023) 54 *TWAILR: Reflections*.
- Julia Dehm, Carmen Gonzalez & Usha Natarajan, '[Meltdown! International Law Praxis during Socio-Ecological Crises](#)' (2021) 9 *TWAILR: Dialogues*.
- Watch Rob Nixon on [Slow Violence & Climate Justice](#) (2022) up to 16:00 minutes.
- Watch Usha Natarajan on [Power, Politics and the Planet](#) (2023).

### **Week 3 – Regionalism and New Justice Dilemmas: The Role of Regional and International Courts in the Caribbean.**

**Friday, July 17 – Day 12**

**The Caribbean Union? Regionalism, Courts and Aspirational Dreams of Caribbean Self Governance**

**Professor Lee Cabatingan, University of California, Irvine.**

#### **Readings**

- **Lee Cabatingan. A Region among States: Law and Non-sovereignty in the Caribbean** (book). University of Chicago Press, 2023. Selections:
  - Chapter 1. Introduction. 8-33.
  - Chapter 2. A Myth. 34-58.
  - Chapter 5. A Language. 102-118.

#### **Optional Readings**

- Clarke, Kamari Maxine. "Assemblages of Experts: The Caribbean Court of Justice and the Modernity of Caribbean Postcoloniality." *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism* 17.2 (2013): 88-107.
- **Lee Cabatingan. A Region among States: Law and Non-sovereignty in the Caribbean** (book). University of Chicago Press, 2023. Selections:
  - Chapter 1. Orientation: The Caribbean Court of Justice. 1-7.
  - Appendix: Methods and Positionality. 155-160.
- **"Law, Language, and a Nonsovereign Caribbean."** *American Anthropologist* 122(4), 2020.
- **"Fashioning the Legal Subject: Popular Justice and Courtroom Attire in the Caribbean."** *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review* 41(S1), 2018.
- **"Time and Transcendence: Narrating Higher Authority at the Caribbean Court of Justice."** *Law & Society Review* 50(3), 2016. [bpb-us-e2.wpmucdn.com+1](https://bpb-us-e2.wpmucdn.com+1)
- **"Yes, [We Bow,] But not a Deep Bow: Qualia and the Thinkability of Caribbean Jurisprudence."** *Law, Culture and the Humanities* 18(2), 2022. [bpb-us-e2.wpmucdn.com](https://bpb-us-e2.wpmucdn.com)

**Monday, July 20 – Day 13**

**Justice and Legal Institutions: The Caribbean Court of Justice: Justice in Our Image**

**Guest speaker**

Professor Tracy Robinson, UWI-Mona Faculty of Law

**Reading:**

- Matthews, Janeille and Robinson, Tracy, Modern Vagrancy in the Anglophone Caribbean (July 9, 2019). *Caribbean Journal of Criminology*, Vol. 1, No. 4, April 2019, 123–154
- Robinson, Tracy. “New-old law in the postcolony: Regulating sex in the anglophone Caribbean.” *Citizenship on the Edge: Sex/Gender/Race* (2022): 68-96.
- Matthews, Janeille Zorina. "The" Real" Crime Scene: An Empirical Overview of Crime in Antigua and Barbuda 1970-2020." *Caribbean Journal of Criminology* 4.1 (2022).  
Gray, Anika. "The Role of Sexual Offence Courts in Furthering the Feminist Project of Eliminating Sexual Violence and Women's Subordination." *Critical Caribbean Perspectives on Preventing Gender-Based Violence*. Routledge, 2022. 87-106.
- Elliott-Williams, Gabrielle. “Mapping Gender Justice: The CCJ as a Site for Regional Norm Generation”. *The UWI St. Augustine Law Journal*. Vol.3, No.2, October 2025, pp.204-215

**Optional Reading**

- Tracy Robinson, Arif Bulkan and Adrian Saunders, *Fundamentals of Caribbean Constitution Law*, Sweet & Maxwell (2015) at 1– 63
- “A Caribbean common law.” *Race & Class* 49(2) (2007). Robinson
- *Transitions in Caribbean Law: Law-Making, Constitutionalism and the Convergence of National and International Law* (ed. with David S. Berry). Ian Randle, 2013. Robinson
- Norman Manley Distinguished Lecture (2025): “Justice in Our Image—The CCJ at 20.” Robinson
- Ezekiel Rediker & Michigan J. “Courts of Appeal and Colonialism in the British Caribbean: A Case for the Caribbean Court of Justice.” *International Law Journal*. (2013)
- Derek O’Brien & Sonia Morano-Foadi. ‘The Caribbean Court of Justice and Legal Integration within CARICOM: Some Lessons from the European Community.’ (2009)
- Pollard, Duke. *The Caribbean Court of Justice* (The Caribbean Law Publishing Company, Kingston, 2004)
- Rose-Ma Antoine Chapter 18 Specialized Courts, Tribunals and Functions

- Timothy Affonso. Regional Integration through International Law: The Original Jurisdiction of the Caribbean Court of Justice”. (2024)
- Michelle Scobie. “The Caribbean Court of Justice and Regionalism in the Commonwealth Caribbean.’ (2016)

## **Tuesday, July 21 – Day 14**

### **Gender and Justice in the Shadow of Inequality**

#### **Guest speaker**

Gabrielle J Hosein, UWI St. Augustine. Senior Lecturer & Former Head, Institute for Gender and Development, Indo Caribbean Feminisms, politics, women’s leadership, masculinities

#### *Group Discussion*

#### **Readings**

- Gabrielle Hosein. “**Post-Indentureship Caribbean Feminist Thought, Transoceanic Feminisms, and the Convergence of Asymmetries.**” *Scholar & Feminist Online* 16(1), 2020. [UWI St. Augustine](#)
- Gabrielle Hosein. “**Doula Poetics and Politics in Indo-Caribbean Feminist Thought,**” in *Indo-Caribbean Feminist Thought* (2016). [UWI St. Augustine](#)

#### **Optional Reading:**

- Hosein. “**A Will to Power: The Anglophone Caribbean Struggle to Advance Women’s Political Leadership,**” in *Negotiating Gender, Policy and Politics in the Caribbean* (2016). [UWI St. Augustine](#)
- Hosein. ***Politics, Power and Gender Justice in the Anglophone Caribbean*** (PI: Hosein; with J. Parpart). IDRC research report & monograph (2014). Open-access. [idl-bnc-idrc.dspacedirect.org+2UWI St. Augustine+2](#)
- Rose-Ma Antoine Chapter 21 Alternative Dispute Mechanisms-Arbitration, Negotiation and Commissions of Inquiry.
- The Colour of Jus Cogens (with Frédéric Mégret) in Mohsen al Attar, Ata Hindi and Claire Smith, eds, *Emancipating International Law: Confronting the Violence of Racialized Boundaries* (OUP, forthcoming 2025)

## Week 4 – Beyond the Legal: Alternative Epistemologies in the Caribbean Region: New Formations

Wednesday, July 22 – Day 15

Financial Mutual Aid, Collective Labor and the Maintenance of Communities

### Reading

- All Our Kin – Carol Stack - Introduction
- Caroline Hossein – The Banker Ladies: Vanguard of Solidarity Economics and Community-Based Banks

### Optional Reading

- **“A Black Epistemology for the Social and Solidarity Economy: The Black Social Economy.”** *Review of Black Political Economy* (2019/2020 online first). [SAGE Journals+1](#)
- **“A Black Perspective on Canada’s Third Sector: Case Studies on Women Leaders in the Social Economy.”** *Journal of Canadian Studies* 51(3): 749–781 (2017). [Canadian CED Network -+1](#)
- **“Money Pools in the Americas: The African Diaspora’s Legacy in the Social Economy.”** *Forum for Social Economics* 45(4): 309–328 (2016). [Diverse Solidarity Economies \(DISE\)](#)
- **“Caribbean Women’s Use of Susu, Partner, Sol, and Boxhand as Quiet Resistance.”** In *Community Economies in the Global South* (OUP, 2022). [OUP Academic](#)
- **“ROSCAs: Mutual Aid Financing.”** In *The Handbook of Diverse Economies* (Edward Elgar, 2020). [Diverse Solidarity Economies \(DISE\)](#)
- **“Black diaspora women lead cooperative banks.”** In a cooperative-finance collection (2020).
- **Isa Rodríguez Soto, “Mutual Aid and Survival as Resistance in Puerto Rico” (NACLA, 2020).** On CAMs (Centros de Apoyo Mutuo) as grassroots disaster governance after María. [Mutual Aid Disaster Relief](#)
- **Sarah Molinari, *Reimagining Recovery: Debt, Mutual Aid, and Disaster Governance in Puerto Rico* (CUNY diss.; report version).** Women-led mutual aid in Caguas; links debt politics to recovery. [CUNY Academic Works+1](#)
- **“Centros de apoyo mutuo: Reconfigurando la asistencia en tiempos de desastre” (fieldwork-based article).** Ethnography of Puerto Rican CAMs and autonomy from state assistance. [NSF Public Access\\_IPV+1](#)
- **Small Axe review note on *Aftershocks of Disaster*.** Highlights mutual aid pathways (“projects increase collective confidence”). [Small Axe Project](#)

- **Transnational Institute (2025), “Resisting Disaster Capitalism through Mutual Aid in Puerto Rico.”** Contemporary synthesis tying CAMs to anti-austerity organizing. [TNI](#)
- **“Building social capital through Konbit for post-disaster recovery” (2024).** Mixed-methods study of rural Haiti post-earthquake; konbit strengthens resilience. [ScienceDirect](#)
- **Gid Konbit (2025).** Practitioner guide co-created in Haiti; culturally rooted templates for mutual aid action. [Roots of Development](#)
- **Handa & Kirton, “The Economics of ROSCAs: Evidence from the Jamaican ‘Partner’” (J. Dev. Econ., 1999).** Classic econometric study of Jamaica’s partner system. [ScienceDirect+1](#)
- **“Rotating Savings and Credit Associations in Jamaica” (JSTOR article).** Survey of 1,500 households; who joins and why. [JSTOR](#)
- **Caroline Shenaz Hossein, “Caribbean Women’s Use of Susu, Partner, Sol, and Boxhand as Quiet Resistance” (OUP chapter, 2022).** Mutual aid finance as feminist/Black social-economy practice. [OUP Academic](#)
- **Tyesha Maddox, *A Home Away from Home* (review in *Journal of Social History*, 2025).** Benevolent and mutual aid societies among Caribbean immigrants in New York. [OUP Academic](#)
- **T. Maddox, “Anti-Colonial Benevolence...” (UWI CRGS, 2018).** Women’s leadership in interwar Caribbean American mutual aid groups.

## Thursday July 23 – Day 16

### Reparations, Community-based Justice Strategies and CARICOM initiatives

Local Justice Initiatives - Caribbean Reparations Movement

A Dialogue with Ambassador Dorbrene O’Marde, Chairperson of the Antigua and Barbuda Reparations Commission

### Readings

- Caricom Reparatory Justice  
[https://estatements.unmeetings.org/estatements/30.0436/2025041410000000/JsgSgszQxDWV/GxBLRPrkJ\\_nyc\\_en.pdf](https://estatements.unmeetings.org/estatements/30.0436/2025041410000000/JsgSgszQxDWV/GxBLRPrkJ_nyc_en.pdf)
- Verene Shepherd, *Reparations: Justice for All* (selected chapters)
- Race, Ecology, Nature and International Law: A Dialogue with Sarah Riley Case (with Usha Natarajan) (forthcoming, 2025) TWAILR: Dialogues



### **Optional Readings**

- Beyond Settler Carcerality: Abolition and Reparatory Justice (forthcoming, 2025) commissioned paper for the Canadian Network for Equity and Racial Justice (CNERJ)
- Looking to the Horizon: The Meanings of Reparations for Unbearable Crises (2023) 117 AJIL Unbound 49
- Chenelle Taylor, Preeti Chauhan & Mark Fondacaro. 'Restorative Justice in Jamaica: Current Attitudes and the Way Forward.' Applied Psychology in Criminal Justice. 2012

### **Friday July 24 – Day 17**

#### **Religion and the Making of Social Life: Inheritances & Decolonial Justice Epistemologies.**

#### **Site Visit**

Grace Hill Moravian Church, Liberta Village

Ras Freeman - Antigua and Barbuda

Pan Yard – Hell's Gate; Khan Cordice, Local Director of Culture

Closing Lunch, Reflections and Group Discussions about Legal Inheritances, Innovations and the Contemporary Problems

### **Readings**

- **Natasha Lightfoot — *Troubling Freedom: Antigua and the Aftermath of British Emancipation* (Duke, 2015).** Landmark social history of post-1834 Antigua showing how institutions—including churches—shaped labor, gender, and freedom after slavery. Great framing for church influence in everyday life. [PagePlace+3Duke University Press+3MIT Press Direct+3](#)
- **Barry Chevannes — *Rastafari: Roots and Ideology* (Syracuse, 1994).** Seminal ethnographic/historical account grounded in Kingston communities. [Internet Archive+1](#)

### **Optional Readings**

- Kim Johnson, *The Illustrated Story of Pan* (review/coverage)
- Mark Golding, 'New Ganja Laws: Institutionalizing Unethical Behaviour or Promoting the National Growth Agenda?' in *Jamaica Journal* Vol 36, No, 1 (December 2015), at 70 -94

- Vaughan Carter and Derek O'Brien, 'Education and the Three R's: Rastafarianism, Religion and Review' in *The Caribbean Law Review*, Vol 9 No 2, (December 1999), at 184 – 204
- Wheatle, S. shauna, & Campbell, Y. (2020). Constitutional faith and identity in the Caribbean: tradition, politics and the creolisation of Caribbean constitutional law. *Commonwealth & Comparative Politics*, 58(3), 344–365. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14662043.2020.1773637>
- Murrell, Nathaniel Samuel. *Afro-Caribbean religions: An introduction to their historical, cultural, and sacred traditions*. Temple University Press, 2010. *Read introduction only*
- Clinton Hutton, 'Revivalism and Rastafari: How the Two Forms of African Cultural Expression Influence Each Other' in *Jamaica Journal* Vol 36, No, 1-2 (December 2015), at 56 - 68.
- Barry Chevannes, *Rastafari, Roots and Ideology*, Syracuse University Press (1995) at 1-44
- **Ennis B. Edmonds — *Rastafari: A Very Short Introduction* (OUP, 2012).** Compact, reliable primer on history, beliefs, practice, and global spread. [OUP Academic+1](#)
- **Ennis B. Edmonds — *Rastafari: From Outcasts to Culture Bearers* (OUP, 2003).** Tracks the shift from stigmatized sect to national/diasporic culture bearer. [OUP Academic](#)
- **Leonard E. Barrett — *The Rastafarians: Sounds of Cultural Dissonance* (rev. ed.).** Foundational study of belief, ritual, and post-Selassie developments.
- **“Methodists in the Caribbean: Educational Initiatives in the Slave Era” (JSTOR article).** Analyzes Methodist schooling (Antigua figures prominently), useful for linking missions to literacy and social mobility. [JSTOR](#)
- **Howard A. Fergus — “Foundations of Elementary Education in Antigua-Barbuda, 1838–1914.”** Details how churches and missions underpinned early mass education after emancipation. [global.uwi.edu](#)
- **Moravian mission history & records (primary sources).** Finding aid and history for the **Moravian Church in the Eastern West Indies** (incl. Antigua) — dates, scope, and missions to enslaved Africans. [moravianchurcharchives.org](#)
- **Cultural-heritage protection bill names St. Barnabas as a national cultural heritage site.** Parliamentary report noting St. Barnabas among protected sites—a win for conservation and public history. *Daily Observer (Antigua)*, **March 2025**
- **Anne Hart Gilbert & Elizabeth Hart Thwaites — *The Hart Sisters: Early African Caribbean Writers, Evangelicals, and Radicals* (ed. Moira Ferguson, 1993).**

### **Optional Film**

Bad Friday: Rastafari After Coral Gardens (2011)

**Sunday, July 26**

**Check out of the Hotel and Departure from Antigua to Toronto**

**Thursday, July 30 – Day 18**

**Online Class – Group Presentations (Online – Via Zoom)**

**Friday, July 31 – Day 19**

**Final Class - Group Presentations and Closing (Online – Via Zoom)**

## Biography of Instructor

Professor **Kamari Maxine Clarke** is a Distinguished Professor with extensive expertise in sociolegal studies in Africa and the Black Atlantic world, international law, postcolonial justice, and decolonial methodologies. She has conducted fieldwork in the United States, West and East Africa, and the Caribbean, examining issues of transitional justice, legal pluralism, law, colonial legacies, and community-based justice practices.

As a scholar, she has developed innovative, experiential learning programs that integrate academic seminars with field-based activities. For example, she led a course in The Hague (2018), directed a Summer School in Kigali, Rwanda (2022), developed a MemoLab in Toronto (2024), hosted a REP SummerLab in Cali, Colombia (2025). Her work bridges academic, policy and community engagement, fostering collaborations with local scholars and legal practitioners, equipping students with critical tools to examine law, history, and power in the Black Atlantic world.

## Guest Lecturers

**Harold Lovell** is a lawyer, public servant and adjunct professor with the Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies at UofT. He has extensive experience in leadership and government in Antigua and Barbuda and is working on a book about the impact of the law on the culture of modern democratic politics in the region. His research advances ideas toward new sociolegal questions in response to the crises of crime and constitutionalism as postcolonial challenges in the Caribbean. With a Master of Jurisprudence (U of Birmingham) and a Bachelor of Laws (Thames Valley U), he has practiced Constitutional, Civil, and Criminal Law. Additional experience as a Member of Parliament and Minister of Government for 10 years showcases his ability to navigate complex policy issues and implement effective strategies. In fall 2024, he co-taught "Human Rights Law and the Post-Colonial Condition: The Caribbean Region" with Prof. Kamari Clarke.

**Rachel Goffe** is a geographer and a licensed architect, working at the intersections of place-making, livelihood and the state regulation of space. Broadly, her research aims to understand transformations of the postcolonial state by examining the shifting boundaries between formal and informal relationships to land and livelihood. Her fieldwork focuses on the encounter between recent policy to curtail squatting and traditions of Black life that emerged through durable yet insecure possession of small parcels of land in Jamaica, where she is from originally. Dr. Goffe earned a Bachelor of Architecture from Temple University and a Ph.D. from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She is Assistant Professor at University of Toronto in the Departments of Human Geography (UTSC), Geography and Planning, and affiliate of the

Women and Gender Studies Institute, and the Center for Caribbean Studies, both at University of Toronto.

**Marcus Goffe** is a Law Lecturer at the UWI Mona Faculty of Law. An Attorney-at-Law with over twenty (20) years of experience, Dr. Goffe is a former Head of the Law Department at the University of the Commonwealth Caribbean, former Deputy Director at the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (JIPO), former Law Lecturer at the University of Technology Jamaica, and former Lecturer at the Norman Manley Law School. He also served as a Consultant on development projects led by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Jamaica Business Development Corporation (JBDC), as well as the Project Coordinator on an Inter-American Development Bank project.

Rachel Goffe is a professor of Geography at the University of Toronto. Her work transcends legal, academic, government, and industry boundaries. Professor Goffe holds a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) degree from the University of the West Indies and the Legal Education Certificate (LEC) from the Norman Manley Law School in Jamaica. He also holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree in Intellectual Property Law, and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree in Law from Queen Mary, University of London. Dr. Goffe's PhD thesis focused on the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions in the Caribbean.

**Devon Taylor**, PhD, is a biomedical research scientist and president of Jamaica Beach Birthright Environmental Movement.

**Tracy Robinson** is a senior lecturer and Deputy Dean (Graduate Studies and Research) at the Faculty of Law, the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona Campus, Jamaica. Robinson is a co-founder and co-coordinator of the Faculty of Law UWI Rights Advocacy Project (U-RAP). She has authored many regional expert reports on the law related to gender, sexuality, and human rights in the Caribbean and has been involved in legal and policy reform aimed at furthering gender equality and children's rights in the Caribbean. She served as a commissioner on the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) as well as the body's president (2014-2015). Robinson also served as the IACHR Rapporteur on the Rights of Women and the first Rapporteur on the Rights of LGBTI persons. In 2016, she was appointed a Commissioner on the WHO/PAHO-led Independent Review of Equity and Health Inequalities in the Americas. Robinson is the 2019 recipient of the Prominent Women in International Law Award by ASIL and, in 2020, was appointed a member on the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya by the UN Human Rights Council.

**Usha Natarajan** (PhD, MA, LLB, BA) is Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Law and SALISES Honorary Fellow at the University of the West Indies, Mona; Senior Fellow at Melbourne Law School; and Visiting Professor at the Geneva Graduate Institute. Natarajan was tenured at the American University in Cairo as Associate Professor of International Law and Associate Director of the Center for Migration and Refugee

Studies from 2010 to 2020. Prior to academia, she worked with the United Nations and its agencies in Asia and the Pacific including with UNDP, UNESCO and the World Bank. She has held Fellowships at the Universities of British Columbia, Columbia, Dalhousie, McGill, Yale, and York. Natarajan is based in Kingston, Jamaica. Her research is interdisciplinary, utilizing postcolonial and Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL) to provide an interrelated understanding of development, environment, migration and conflict. Natarajan's research is recognized by global awards and grants for international environmental law, migration and refugee law, and postcolonialism. With over 50 publications, she is a founding editor of the TWAIL Review and a member of the editorial board at the Journal of Human Rights and the Environment and the Journal of Environmental Law and Practice.

**Lee Cabatingan** is an Associate Professor of Criminology, Law and Society and Anthropology at the University of California, Irvine. She specializes in sociocultural and linguistic anthropology, sociolegal studies, Caribbean studies, law, and critical legal geography.

**Ambassador Dorbrene O'Marde** is a Caribbean diplomat and activist, known for being the chair of the Antigua and Barbuda Reparations Commission and Antigua's ambassador-at-large. He received the Pelican Award from the University of the West Indies in January 2025, which was presented at the University's Five Islands campus.

**Gabrielle J Hosein** has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Toronto, an M.Phil in Gender and Development Studies from The University of the West Indies, and a Ph.D in Anthropology from University College London. Her current research areas are politics and women's leadership, Indo-Caribbean feminisms, masculinities and gender-based violence. She is a Lecturer and head of the Institute for Gender and Development Studies and has been involved in Caribbean feminist movement-building for twenty-five years. Her blog, Diary of a Mothering Worker, is published weekly by the Newsday (previously Trinidad Guardian).