

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

**Professor Kamari Maxine Clarke
University of Toronto**

July 2026
Summer Abroad
9:00am - 12:00noon

Classroom Location: UWI-Five Islands
Office Hours: Mondays - 12-1pm or by appointment
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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 national and regional developments for addressing violence and crime, alongside everyday demands for reparations for plantation slavery and decolonial approaches to legal and social transformation. In the study of law, as one of many site for contemporary justice, 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 this course is the question of political legitimacy: the recognition, as McIntosh notes, that Caribbean constitutions were “not really our own” (S. McIntosh, 2002). The issues that the course addresses have to do with how justice is understood in the aftermath of colonial histories and the enduring imprint of plantation economies.

In this light, the course 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 sovereignty alongside the emergence of new regional institutions and formations as ways of rethinking the questions--what is the Caribbean and what can it be in the wake of the plantation? 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 and what are the new possibilities for reparatory justice?

Course Format

The course will combine interactive lectures, field visits to justice institutions and community-based spaces of innovation, and faculty-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 Assessments

1. Response Papers (20%): Weekly reading reflections of required readings - due every Friday by 11:55pm (Friday July 10th, Friday July 17th, Friday July 24th).
2. Field Observation Report (20%): Analysis of a specific site visited during the course. Due: Wednesday July 15th, 11:55pm
3. Final Paper and Presentation (40%): Selection of a current dilemma in Antigua and Barbuda that explores the intertwined and vexed relationship between Law, Crime, History and Reparatory Justice in the Caribbean. Due 11:55pm, Friday August 7.
4. Participation (20%): Active engagement in discussions, activities, and group work.

GRADING SCHEME

Percentage	Letter	Definition
90-100	A+	Exceptional Performance - 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+	Good Performance - 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+	Intellectually adequate performance - 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+	Minimally acceptable performance -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	Inadequate performance - 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 Monday July 6th to Friday July 31^s 2026, Monday to Friday from 9am to 12noon.

The class scheduled on Friday July 31st will be set aside for online final group presentations.
Start time: 9:00am

Link for Zoom Meetings:

<https://zoom.us/j/6152307369?pwd=dWFQZXhoVmtpUWpXQWhBZ0JxR2o0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 615 230 7369

Passcode: 673310

History and Politics of the Caribbean: Making of Zones of Extraction

~~Monday July 6th~~ Tuesday July 7– Day 1

Orientation, Syllabus Review & Introduction to the Course - Violence, Law and Power in the Caribbean: The Roots of the Plantation Economy and Antigua's role in the wider British Empire

- Introduction to the course & Welcome; In person Icebreakers
- Violence, Colonization and the Rise of Sugar Plantations in the Making of Empire
- The plantation complex as a legal, social and economic system
- Particularities of plantations, land ownership and law formation in Antigua

Readings

- Brian Dyde, *A History of Antigua: The Unsuspected Isle* (Macmillan Caribbean, 2000). Chapters 1, 2, 3
- Hilary Beckles, *Britain's Black Debt* (Ch. 1–2).
- Anthony Bogues, *Empire of Liberty: Power, Desire, and Freedom* (Introduction).

Optional

- Diana, Paton. 'Punishment, Crime, and the Bodies of Slaves in Eighteenth-Century Jamaica.' *Journal of Social History*, Vol. 34, No. 4 (2001): 923–954
- Richard Sheridan, *Sugar and Slavery: An Economic History of the British West Indies* (for plantation context). Excerpts
 - 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.
 - 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.
- Sweetness and Power. Sidney Mintz. Introduction

Film - Sugar Cane Alley (1983).

Welcoming Reception - University of Toronto -Students, Faculty, Professor Robinson

Tuesday, July 7 – Afternoon - Day 2

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.

Readings

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

Law and Order: The Development of Political and Legal Institution

Wednesday, July 8 – Day 3

Legal Frameworks: Common Law and Colonial Governance

Guest Speaker: Harold Lovell

British jurisprudence, colonial rule to independence

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 4

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
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- 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

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
- 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).

Friday, July 10 – Day 5

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

Site Visits

- His Majesty's Prison, Saint John's, Antigua, Ms. Cheyanne Anthony
- Denis Bowers Rehabilitation Centre, Janet Alexis

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.

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

Monday, July 13 – Day 6

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," parliamentary sovereignty and new modes of constitutionalism

- 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 7

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

- Wendell Robinson, Former Commissioner of Police, Former Prosecutor

Site Visit

The Antigua and Barbuda Parliament Building, Saint John's, Antigua - Ramona Small, Clerk of the Parliament

The High Court of Justice in Antigua and Barbuda - Cecile Hill, Registrar

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 8

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**

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.

○

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 9

Field trip to Barbuda: Law, Land and the Debates over Collective Ownership

4:30am - Pick-up from Hotel

Boat Departure from Antigua: 6:30 am

Arrival 8:15 am

Morning: Welcome and contextual introduction; guided visit to Princess Diana Beach, Examination of contemporary large-scale development projects. Guide provides a historical explanation on Barbuda from slavery to now.

Mid Morning: Boat tour to further development sites to include Lighthouse bay (environmental disaster fallen into sea) and Barbuda belle via the bird sanctuary.

Midday: Brief village tour via buses to the community centre for lunch

Midday to 2pm Event “Conversations Across the Divide: Communal Land Ownership in Focus” at the community centre. Panel Discussion by John Mussington, Trevor Walker, and Cleo Isaac.

Departure from Barbuda: 3:00 pm.

Readings

Dreamland Barbuda: A study of the History and Development of Communal Land Ownership on the Island. Asha Frank. selections

The Court, the Crown and the Caribbean: Shaping Non-Sovereignities through the Law. Lee Cabatingan

On the Productive Inefficacy of the Fence that Once Was, and other demarcations that cannot be said to exist, Lee Cabatingan

Optional Readings

Indigenous Land Rights and Caribbean Reparations Discourse. Amy Strecker.

Brenna Bhandar, *Colonial Lives of Property*, Introduction

Nicholas Blomley, “Law, Property, and the Geography of Violence”

Rose, Carol. *Property and Persuasion*, Introduction (1-7)

Park, K-Sue. 2020. "Conquest and Slavery as Foundational to the Property Law Course."
Pp. 1-18

Harris, Cheryl. 1993. "Whiteness as Property." Parts I and II (1710 –1744).

Short Documentary:

<https://www.nytimes.com/video/world/americas/100000005425833/barbuda-after-hurricane-irma.html>

Regionalism and New Justice Dilemmas: The Role of Regional and International Courts in the Caribbean.

Friday, July 17 – Day 10

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

9:15 - 10:15am - Professor Lee Cabatingan, University of California, Irvine.

10:15 - 10:30 - Break

10:30am - Panel - Honorable Justice Jamadar, CCJ

and the Honorable Justice Adrian Saunders, CCJ with Prof Lee Cabatingan and Harold Lovell

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
- **“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

Monday, July 20 – Day 11

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 12

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

Usha Natarajan, UWI-Mona, Faculty of Law

Sarah Riley Case, Mc Gill University, Faculty of Law

Readings:

- Sarah Riley Case and Usha Natarajan, '[Race, Ecology, and Nature in International Law: A Dialogue with Sarah Riley Case](#)' (2025) 19 *TWAILR: Dialogues*.
- 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:

- 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).

Beyond the Legal: Alternative Epistemologies in the Caribbean Region: New Formations

Wednesday, July 22 – Day 13

Social Enterprises and Collective Labour

Professor Edward Dixon

Reading

- K'nife, K'adamawe, Edward Dixon and Michael Marshall. Social Economy in a Jamaican Perspective in *The Black Social Economy in the Americas: Exploring Diverse Community-based Markets*. Editor Caroline Shenaz-Hossein, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.

Optional Reading

- Caroline Hossein – The Banker Ladies: Vanguards of Solidarity Economics and Community-Based Banks
<https://utoronto.scholaris.ca/items/a69164df-8924-453e-99da-192da521d88c>
- “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 14

Reparatory Justice: Local, Regional and Global 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/30.0436/20250414100000000/JsgSg szQxDWV/GxBLRPrkJ_nyc_en.pdf
- Verene Shepherd, *Reparations: Justice for All* (selected chapters)

Optional Readings

- An African Union-Caribbean Community Alliance in the Global Reparations Movement: Promises, Perils and Pitfalls. Chevy Eugene, Tavis D. Jules & Tinesh Indrarajah

- 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 15

The Making of Social Life: Inheritances & Decolonial Justice Epistemologies.

Change of Class time: 4:00pm - 9:30pm

Pick-up from Hotel: 3:00pm

Site Visit

4pm - Ras Freeman - Antigua and Barbuda*

5:30 - 7:30pm - Closing Dinner - Reflections and Group Discussion

8pm - 9:30pm Pan Yard – Hell's Gate; Khan Cordice, Local Director of Culture

* Ras Freeman honors and respects the sacred grounds of Rastafari worship and sacrament. As a part of the cultural experience, they request that all visitors adhere to the mandatory modest dress code in order to maintain the integrity of their community. Women: Skirt or dress below the knee + a head wrap/covering (hats are acceptable) Men: Pants/shorts worn above the waist + shirt (T-shirts are fine)

Readings

- The Steelband Movement: The Forging of a National Art in Trinidad and Tobago. 1995. by Stephen Stuenkel. Introduction, chapter 1 and selections.
- **Barry Chevannes — *Rastafari: Roots and Ideology* (Syracuse, 1994).** Seminal ethnographic/historical account grounded in Kingston communities.

[Internet Archive+1](#)

Optional 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](#)

- 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).**

Check out of the Hotel and Departure

Friday, July 31 – Day 16

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

9:00am - 12:00noon

Teams for Group Work

Group 1

Nicole Tsang

Sophiat Lawal

Kyra Niyogi

Gayana Senadeera

Group 2

Xueping Wu

Rohan Scott-Smith

Yenfeng Jiang

Simmy Delva