

Graham Denyer Willis  
Curriculum Vitae  
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## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University Senior Lecturer	2018-
University Lecturer Centres of Development Studies and Latin American Studies Department of Politics and International Studies University of Cambridge	2014-2018
Fellow and Director of Studies in Geography Queens' College University of Cambridge	2015-
Visiting Scholar Department of Anthropology Stanford University	2017
Post-Doctoral Fellow Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies University of Toronto	2013-2014

## EDUCATION

PhD, Dept. of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT	2013
M.A., Royal Roads University	2007
B.A., University of Toronto	2002
Okanagan University College	1998

## BOOKS

Denyer Willis, Graham. (2015). *The Killing Consensus: Police, Organized Crime and the Regulation of Life and Death in Urban Brazil*. Oakland: University of California Press.

(In process) *Politics Gone Missing*

Every year, 25,000 people 'go missing' in the state of São Paulo, Brazil. This ethnographic work examines the political production and use of 'missing people' as a political, but ostensibly apolitical, category. I trace the rise in disappeared people through the bureaucracies of the state, the struggles and trauma of families, in the disinterment and materiality of public and

clandestine cemeteries, and via the ongoing violence of racialised policing and agentic organised crime. I argue that the ‘unevident’ political condition of people gone missing is decisive in the contemporary practice of governance by abandonment, where truth and evidence are subsumed to the violence of ‘third things’ and the certainty of supposition. Making people ‘go missing’ from politics is a widespread political condition today in age, which takes capitalism and inequitably valued life as its ethical flagstaff.

## **PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES**

- Bueno, Samira and Graham Denyer Willis. (forthcoming). The Exceptional Prison. *Public Culture*, 31 (3).
- Lessing, Ben and Graham Denyer Willis. (2019). Legitimacy in Criminal Governance: Regulating a Drug Empire from Behind Bars. *American Political Science Review*, 113(2), 584-606.
- Denyer Willis, Graham. (2018). Violence, Bureaucracy and Intreccio in Brazil. *Global Crime*, 19 (3-4), 296-314.
- Denyer Willis, Graham. (2018). The Potter’s Field. *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 60 (3), 539-568.
- Denyer Willis, Graham. (2017). City of Clones: Facsimiles and Governance in São Paulo. *Current Sociology*, 65 (2), 235- 247.
- Denyer Willis, Graham. (2017). Before the Body Count: Homicide Statistics and Everyday Security in Latin America. *Journal of Latin American Studies*, 49, 29-54.
- Denyer Willis, Graham and Mariana Mota Prado. (2014). Process and Pattern in Institutional Reforms: A Case Study of the Police Pacification Units (UPPs) in Brazil. *World Development*, 64, 232-242.
- Denyer Willis, Graham. (2014). Antagonistic Authorities and the Civil Police in São Paulo, Brazil. *Latin American Research Review*, 49(1), 3-22.

## **ARTICLES IN PROCESS**

*Trust and Technology: The Social Production of Rule* (under review)

*Infrastructures of Policing in the Inquisitorial Present: Transformation beyond the Numbers*

## **BOOK CHAPTERS, ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES**

- Denyer Willis, Graham. (accepted). São Paulo: Codes of the Street, Invisibility and Violence. In: Shaw, Mark, and Julie Berg. *Criminal Bureaucracies: Symbiotic Security Governance in Emerging Cities*. Oxford University Press.
- Denyer Willis, Graham. (2016). Police, 'Police' and the Urban. In: Bradford, Ben, Beatrice Jauregui, Ian Loader and Jonny Steinberg. *Sage Handbook of Global Policing*. London: Sage, 479-496.
- Denyer Willis, Graham. (2016). Justice, Rights, and Discretionary Space in Brazilian Policing. In: Brunnegger, Sandra and Karen Faulk (Eds.) *A Sense of Justice: Legal Knowledge and Lived Experience in Latin America*. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 79-98.
- Davis, Diane E. and Graham Denyer Willis (2011). Anti-Crime Social Movements in Latin America. In: Snow, David A., Donatella Della Porta, Bert Klandermans, and Doug McAdam (Eds.) *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social and Political Movements*. Blackwell Publishing: Oxford.
- Denyer Willis, Graham. (2009). Deadly Symbiosis? The PCC, the State and the Institutionalization of Violence in São Paulo. In: Rodgers, Dennis and Gareth A. Jones. *Youth Violence in Latin America*. New York: Palgrave.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

- (2019). Jaime Amparo Alves: The Anti-Black City: Police Terror and Black Urban Life in Brazil. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*.
- (2017). Eduardo Moncada: Cities, Business and the Politics of Urban Violence in Latin America. *Journal of Latin American Studies*.
- (2016). Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor: From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation. *Anthropoliteia*, <https://anthropoliteia.net/2016/12/15/the-anthropoliteia-blacklivesmatter-syllabus-project-week-14-graham-denyer-willis-on-taylors-blacklivesmatter-to-black-liberation/>
- (2015). David Skarbek: The Social Order of the Underworld: How Prison Gangs Govern the American Penal System. *Public Choice*, 162 (1), 215-217.

## **SCHOLARLY ARTICLES/ INVITED BLOG POSTS**

- (2016). Policing, Ethnography and Abandonment in Latin America. *Border Criminologies*.
- (2014). The Gun Library. *Boston Review*.
- (2013). In the Shadows: Brazil's Urban Security Challenge. *World Politics Review*.
- (2013). The Right to Kill? *Précis*. Center for International Studies, MIT.

(2013). São Paulo: Insecure Citizens, All of Them. *Open Democracy*.

## **AWARDS**

2014- Best Dissertation, Brazil Section, Latin American Studies Association

2014- Honorable Mention, Gill Chin-Lim Award for Best Dissertation, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning

2014- Honorable Mention, Best Dissertation, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT

## **GRANTS**

2013-2015 (Interrupted for permanent employment) Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada

2012- Summer Study Research Grant, MIT Center for International Studies

2011- Drugs, Security and Democracy Fellowship, Social Science Research Council/ Open Society Foundations

2011- Emerson Award, Dept. of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT

2010- Dissertation Research Award, MISTI- Brazil, MIT

2009- Harold Horowitz Research Award, School of Architecture and Planning, MIT

2009- Carroll L. Wilson Fellowship, Entrepreneurship Center, MIT

2009- Alumni Class Funds, Office of Faculty Support, (with Diane Davis) MIT

2008- The Glynn Berry Fund- Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (for the CCSRC)

2007- Graduate Research Award, Human Security-Cities/ Foreign Affairs Canada

2006- Master of Arts Scholarship, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada

## **INVITED TALKS**

March 2019. Wolfson College, University of Cambridge

February 2019. Latin America Centre, Oxford University

October 2018. Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge

June 2018. Centre for Future Intelligence, University of Cambridge

May 2018. Department of Geography, University of Cambridge

August 2018. Department of Social Epidemiology, Universidade de Campinas

March 2018. Fundação Getúlio Vargas, São Paulo

February 2018. Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago

April 2017. Department of Anthropology, Stanford University

June 2016. Insper, São Paulo

April 2016. (With Maria F.T. Peres) Violence Research Centre, University of Cambridge

March 2016. Institute of the Americas, University College London

December 2015. Latin American Centre, Oxford University

November 2015. Department of Geography, London School of Economics

October 2015. Department of Architecture, University of Cambridge

September 2015. Radical Americas. University College London

July 2015. Department of Political Economy, King's College London

May 2015. Keynote. Oxbridge Conference on Brazilian Studies, University of Cambridge

April 2014. Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics

April 2014. School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Glasgow

April 2014. Brazil Institute, King's College London

October 2013. Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, D.C.

October 2013. School of International Service, American University, Washington, D.C.

April 2013, w/ Mariana Mota Prado. Law School, Fundação Getúlio Vargas, Rio de Janeiro

March 2013. Metropolis 15, Ottawa (Invited by the Ministry of Public Safety Canada)

March 2013, w/ Mariana Mota Prado. Harvard-MIT Workshop on the Political Economy of Brazil

October 2012. Centre for Criminology and Socio-Legal Studies, University of Toronto

September 2012. Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies, University of Toronto

July 2012. Annual Meeting of the Fórum Brasileiro de Segurança Pública, Porto Alegre, Brazil

May 2012. Graduate School of Design, Harvard University

January 2010. Institute for Development Studies (IDS), United Kingdom

October 2009. Anthropology Department, McGill University

## **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS**

### **Organized**

March 2017. Policing the City: Violence, Visibility and the Law. Urban Beyond Measure- Dept. of Anthropology, Stanford University.

March 2016. Prisons, Gangs and Drugs: A Workshop on the Dynamic of Violence in Brazilian Cities. University of Cambridge.

November 2013 (Co-organized with Robert Samet). *The Killable Subject: Violent Moral Worlds in Mexico and Central America in Comparative Perspective*. Harvard University, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (Co-funded by the Social Science Research Council).

May 2013. Panel: *Death, Citizenship and Sovereignty: Victims, Perpetrators and Legitimate Subjects in Contemporary Latin America*. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Washington, D.C.

October 2010. Panel: *Violence, Law and State Institutions in Mexico and Brazil*. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Toronto.

### **Workshop Paper Presentations and Discussant Roles**

May 2019. Death Insurance. Latin American and Caribbean Centre, LSE.

November 2018. The Fallacy of Police Reform. Utrecht University.

October 2018. The Social and Political Lives of the Dead. Nijmegen University.

October 2018. The Exceptional Prison, Public Culture, Columbia University.

October 2016. Bureaucracy and Violence in Latin America. Freie Universitat Berlin.

- July 2016. Bureaucratic Rationality and Violence: Everyday Logics of Public Administration and Security in São Paulo, CEDLA, University of Amsterdam.
- July 2016. Primeiro Comando da Cocaína? A Closer Look at Drugs and Organized Crime in São Paulo, Brazil. University College London.
- February 2016. Discussant. *Dialogues on Public Security: Experiences in Brazil and the UK*. Queen Mary University, London.
- July 2015. *Legitimate Criminals: How to Rule the Drug Trade from Behind Bars*. National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge, Ma. (w/ Ben Lessing).
- October 2014. *The Killing Consensus*. Award Presentation at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference. Philadelphia.
- May 2014. *The Gun Library*. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Chicago.
- May 2014. Discussant. *The Visibility of Violence: Causes and Consequences*. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Chicago.
- August 2013. *Policing Plural Coercion: The State, Police and Appropriate Death in São Paulo, Brazil*. Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. New York, NY.
- May 2013. *Appropriate Death: Terrains of (il)Legitimate Police Killings in São Paulo, Brazil*. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Washington, D.C.
- May 2012. *The Insecurity of Insecurity: Violence and State Learning in Brazil*. Latin American Studies Association Congress, San Francisco, CA.
- May 2012. *The Bandido*. Harvard-MIT-LSE 'Writing Cities' Conference, Cambridge, MA.
- October 2010. *Com as Mãos Amarradas: Civil Police and Democratic Change in São Paulo, Brazil*. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Toronto, ON.
- January 2010. *Justice Contrived: Civil Police, Constraint and Democracy in São Paulo, Brazil*. Conference on Legal Subjectivity, Popular/Community Justice and Human Rights in Latin America. Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), University of Cambridge.
- June 2009. *The Pedagogy of Violence and Fear in São Paulo*. Latin American Studies Association Congress, State University of Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro.
- March 2008. *Violence, Fear and the Impact of the PCC in São Paulo*. Brazilian Studies Association Conference, Tulane University, New Orleans.

## **Workshops**

May 2019. Disorder and Democracy. Graduate Institute, Geneva.

March 2016. Crimescapes. University of Florida.

April 2015. Global Policing. Oxford University.

November 2014. Global Political Ethnography. Danish Institute of International Studies. Copenhagen.

August 2012. Drugs, Security and Democracy Fellowship Workshop. Open Society Foundations/ Social Science Research Council. Villa de Leyva, Colombia.

July 2011. Drugs, Security and Democracy Fellowship Workshop. Open Society Foundations/ Social Science Research Council. Bogotá.

June 2011. PhD ‘Jamboree’. School of Community and Regional Planning, University of British Columbia.

## **TEACHING**

*Capitalism and Society in Latin America*. (2018-) University of Cambridge, Centre of Latin American Studies (Graduate).

*Sociology and Politics of Development* (2018-). University of Cambridge, Centre of Development Studies (Graduate).

*Global Urbanism* (2015-). University of Cambridge, Dept. of Geography (Undergraduate).

*Everyday Life in Contemporary Latin America* (2016-2018). University of Cambridge, Centre of Latin American Studies (Graduate).

*Cities and Development* (2014-2018). University of Cambridge, Centre of Development Studies. (Graduate).

*Policing* (2014). University of Toronto, Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies (Graduate).

*Transnationalism and Development- Cape Verdeans and Deportation from New England* (2009). MIT, Dept. of Urban Studies and Planning (Undergraduate).

## **OP-EDs**

December 2 and 3, 2012. What’s Killing Brazil’s Police? *New York Times Sunday Review* and *International Herald Tribune*.

October 27, 2010. Bill C-300: Regulation Plus Responsibility, Please. *Toronto Star*.



## **POLICY AND MEDIA**

August 2015. [Entrevista da Segunda Feira: Graham Denyer Willis](#). *Folha de São Paulo*.

December 2012. [Na visão da periferia, PCC reduziu crimes, diz canadense que estuda violência em São Paulo](#). *UOL Notícias*. (with [response](#) from Secretary of Public Security).

December 2012. [Uncovering São Paulo's Blood Feud](#). *The Stream*, Al Jazeera.

Policy brief, 2007. Private Security in São Paulo: Sure-fire Safety or Catalyst for Urban Conflict? In: *Human Security in an Urban Century: Local Challenges, Global Perspectives*. Foreign Affairs Canada.

Also quoted and/or cited by the *New York Times*, the *Globe and Mail*, the *Washington Times*, *Época*, *Folha de São Paulo*, *O Estado de São Paulo*, *InsightCrime* and *Superinteressante*, *BBC Brasil*, among other sources.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Editor:

*Journal of Latin American Studies* (2018-)

Editorial Boards:

*Journal of Latin American Studies* (2016-17), *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*

Reviewer:

Book Manuscripts, Proposals:

*Cambridge University Press*, *Duke University Press*, *University of California Press*, *University of Chicago Press*, *Oxford University Press*, *Palgrave*, *Polity*, *Routledge*, *Springer*

Journals:

*American Ethnologist*, *American Anthropologist*, *Annals of American Association of Geographers*, *Anthropology Today*, *Anthropological Quarterly*, *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, *Building Research and Information*, *Canadian Journal of Law and Society*, *Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*, *Crime, Law and Social Change*, *Cultural Anthropology*, *International Development Planning Review*, *Development and Change*, *Global Crime*, *Global South*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Studies*, *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *Journal of Urban History*, *Latin*

*American Politics and Society, Latin American Research Review, Policing and Society, EPD: Society and Space, Qualitative Sociology, Theoretical Criminology.*

Funding Councils:

Economic and Social Research Council of the UK, European Research Council, Research Councils UK

PhD External Examining:

King's College London  
(2018) Department of Political Economy – Danilo Freire  
(2016) Brazil Centre – Roxana Cavalcanti Pessoa

Fundação Getúlio Vargas  
(2018) Public Administration – Samira Bueno

**COMMITTEE SERVICE**

Degree Committee, Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge, 2018-  
Management Committee, Centre of Development Studies, University of Cambridge, 2014-  
Management Committee, Centre of Latin American Studies, University of Cambridge, 2014-  
Research Committee, Dept. of Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge, 2014-

MIT Committee on Graduate Admissions, 2011.  
MIT Presidential Committee on the Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects (IRB), 2009-11.  
PhD Admissions Committee, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT, 2010.  
PhD Program Committee, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT, 2008-09.

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Co-Founder and Executive Director Canadian Centre for the Study of Resource Conflict	2005-2014
Visiting Researcher Fórum Brasileiro de Segurança Pública, São Paulo, Brazil.	2011-2013
Open Society Fellow Social Science Research Council/ Open Society Foundations	2011-2012
Researcher Project on Urban Resilience in Situations of Chronic Violence, MIT-Graduate Institute, Geneva, Switzerland.	2011
Program Assistant	2009-2011

Special Program in Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS), MIT.

Research Intern 2006–2007  
Centre for the Study of Violence  
University of São Paulo, Brazil.

Project Coordinator 2003 -2004  
Right to Play, Rhino Refugee Camp  
Northwestern Uganda

Junior Professional 2002 –2003  
Cape Verde Ministry of Justice/ National Human Rights Commission  
Cape Verde, West Africa

## **LANGUAGES**

Portuguese  
Spanish  
Cape Verdean Kriolu (Spoken)  
French (Reading, Basic Spoken)