

Invitation to “Becoming The State”

HIST 4501, Tuesdays 530 – 830pm Fall 2017



“Becoming the State” is a fourth year seminar in Modern History, in three movements. In the first movement, participants explore interdisciplinary approaches social scientists use to study this beast we call the “state.” Topics include territory, nationalism, sovereignty, subaltern studies, and world history.

In the second movement are vignettes of geographical regions: Turtle-Island (North America), Europe, and South Asia,

In the third movement, we consider the imperial connections of modern state formation, and how the unresolved problems of empire and colonialism continue to manifest in complex political forms globally.

Students will develop transferrable skills related to blogging, presentation of works in progress, and organization of a friendly academic symposium. This seminar is ideal for students looking for a rewarding intellectual experience that would serve as a capstone to an undergraduate degree or those interested in continuing into graduate study in fields including: History, Political Science, Human Geography, International Development Studies, Sociology, and Anthropology.

Graduate Students across the Faculty of Arts and Social Science are welcome to take a slightly altered version of this course as a directed reading.

Space is limited to 15 students to ensure in depth conversations throughout. For syllabus or more information, please contact Dr. Ajay Parasram, at parasram@dal.ca