

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST & BUDGET FORM

### Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant

Deadline Wednesday, February 15, 2016

Please complete this checklist and attach it as the cover page of your grant application.

#### Faculty Information

Name: Joaquín Villanueva

Department: Geography

Email: jvillanu@gustavus.edu

Rank: Assistant Professor

#### Checklist

**Description of previous projects (and outcomes) funded by RSC grants**

X **Complete project description, including separate statements of:**

1. **Purpose.** What are the intellectual, conceptual, or artistic issues? How does your work fit into other endeavors being done in this field?
2. **Feasibility.** What qualifications do you bring to this project? What have you done/will you do to prepare for this project? What is the time period, i.e. summer, summer and academic year, academic year only? Is the work's scope commensurate with the time period of the project?
3. **Project Design.** This should include a specific description of the project design and activities, including location, staff, schedules or itineraries, and desired outcomes.

X **RSC Budget Proposal Form**

X If successful, my proposal can be used as an example to assist future faculty applications. This decision will not in any way influence the evaluation of my application. Check box to give permission.

X **Area of Focus Grant**

One RSC grant will be designated an **Area of Focus** from the Academic Strategic Plan or the Mission of the College. For the 2016-2017 grant period the Area of Focus is **Interdisciplinarity**.

**Would you like your proposal to be considered for the Interdisciplinarity Area of Focus RSC?** *Note:* If your proposal is not selected for the Area of Focus RSC, it will be placed in the general pool of RSC applications.

X Yes

No

X **If you selected "Yes" above, please provide a short description of how your project impacts Interdisciplinarity**

The proposed research project is shaped by, and greatly impacts interdisciplinarity. First of all, Geography as a field of study is highly interdisciplinary. Human Geographers, for instance, are primarily

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interested in understanding the interrelationships between humans and their environments (urban, physical, economic, political, cultural, social, etc.). Thus, we draw from all social and physical science disciplines to comprehend and critically assess those socio-spatial relationships. In particular, the proposed study draws on legal studies, political science, sociology, anthropology, urban studies, and criminology to analyze local judicial structures and their relationship with surrounding environments. I analyze French laws, conduct anthropological methodologies (participant observation), collect sociological and demographic data, draw on critical criminological and urban studies approaches, and study political scientific work that explores recent political behaviors in France in order to help me establish the extent to which local judicial structures discursively and materially extend the carceral logic of the 'Republican penal state' in the urban landscape. Our unique spatial approach to understand social phenomena requires we employ creative methods and acknowledge the contributions of other disciplines. Interdisciplinarity is at the core of our field of study and, in particular, is essential for completion of the proposed research project.

Submit electronically as a PDF to [cblaukat@gustavus.edu](mailto:cblaukat@gustavus.edu) at the John S. Kendall Center for Engaged Learning.

### **Project Description:**

- 1. Purpose.** What are the intellectual, conceptual, or artistic issues? How does your work fit into other endeavors being done in this field?

The Research, Scholarship and Creativity (RSC) Grant will be used to help defray the costs for my summer fieldwork in Paris, France. During July and August, 2016 I expect to be in Paris and surrounding suburbs to conduct interviews and archival research that will help answer the following question: To what extent the *Houses of Justice and law* – local judicial structures intended to accelerate the response rate for small misdemeanors and improve access to rights and judicial services – extend and reproduce the carceral logic of the 'Republican penal state'?

In Human Geography there is an emerging field of study known as carceral geography which seeks to critically comprehend the practices and spaces of surveillance, detention and incarceration. Carceral geographers have studied not only prisons and detention centers, but also halfway houses, homeless shelters, border checkpoints, and many other locations that control the mobility of individuals as a strategy of punishment. Scholarship in this area, moreover, has persuasively argued that probation, parole, and even so-called alternatives to incarceration (such as Drug Courts and community service programs, for instance) help extend the carceral logic by shaping the behavior of individuals on these programs through the threat of punishment. Carceral spaces, thus, encompass a variety and diverse set of institutions and actors that stretch well beyond the prison walls. The proposed study is situated within this body of work and expects to contribute to scholarship in carceral geography by (1) suggesting we pay particular attention to community court programs; and (2) to further analyze the specific role of judicial personnel in extending the geographies of 'carcerality'. In particular, the role of community-based judges and their courts are a little study area which merits greater attention.

Critical commentators have noted France's punitive trends toward its immigrant populations since the 1980s. The use of the prison, the police, and the courts to regulate

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the mobility, practices, and behaviors of populations of immigrant extraction is so widespread that some have coined the term the 'Republican penal state' to denote the coming to force of the criminal justice system. The *Houses of Justice and law*, born during the 1990s, must therefore be understood within the context of the penalization of immigrant populations and their neighborhoods. Presented as benevolent local judicial structures intended primarily to help disenfranchised populations claim their rights, the *Houses of Justice and law* are seldom understood as a geographical extension of the 'Republican penal state' in immigrant neighborhoods. Recent terrorist attacks in Paris, moreover, has heightened tensions toward France's immigrant communities who have been subject to more intense policing and surveillance from the criminal justice system. This study, therefore, hypothesizes that the *Houses of Justice and law* have expanded their socio-geographical reach in response to the terrorist threat that looms large over French authorities. The study argues that *Houses of Justice and law* have become an extended arm of the 'Republican penal state', which thus further criminalizes immigrant communities in the country through particular discourses and practices of control and surveillance.

During the time of research, I will conduct between twelve and sixteen semi-structured, open ended interviews with judicial personnel working at the *Houses of Justice and law* in the department of Seine-Saint-Denis (northeast of Paris), local security officials, and administrators working closely with issues of crime and security. Qualitative data collected through these interviews will help fill some gaps already identified in secondary data sources and past research (see below). In particular, these interviews will provide first-hand accounts of how judicial personnel embody the carceral logic of the punitive state, how they mobilize social and spatial resources to further the confinement of particular groups within the population, and how their discourses of benevolence and access to right might in fact couch the larger motivation of their work – to shape the mobility, practices and behaviors of individuals through the threat of punishment. Archival research in municipal libraries will help gather crime data, policy documents and local newspaper articles over the past 10 years. These data will complement the interviews by contextualizing interviewees' social, urban and institutional landscapes.

- 2. Feasibility.** What qualifications do you bring to this project? What have you done/will you do to prepare for this project? What is the time period, i.e. summer, summer and academic year, academic year only? Is the work's scope commensurate with the time period of the project?

This project is a continuation of my Ph.D. dissertation work. I last conducted research in Paris and surrounding suburbs in 2007-2008. At that time I similarly explored judicial responses to the rise of crime, collective violence, and insecurity in predominantly immigrant neighborhoods. I studied the *Houses of Justice and law* in Seine-Saint-Denis (northeast of Paris) and other judicial initiatives that had further their geographical presence in immigrant neighborhoods as a strategy of policing and containment. The context at the time was quite different from the present. In 2007-08, the criminal justice system in France was experimenting with new forms of punishment and surveillance in response to the 2005 revolts that swept the country. At the time, the criminal justice system was attempting to answer the following question: how to fight crime and insecurity without provoking the collective anger of youths from immigrant extraction which was at the heart of the revolts? In my dissertation work I argued that the courts played a crucial role in approximating the criminal justice system to immigrant neighborhoods without it being presented as a coercive or repressive force.

Now, however, the context is quite different; especially since the two terrorist attacks in Paris last year. This project, therefore, seeks to extend the analysis of the geographies of

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the judiciary by looking at it from two distinct, yet interrelated time-periods. I wonder, moreover, whether the work, scope and aims of the *Houses of Justice and law* have changed in light of recent events, whether they have extended their geographical reach, or whether new judicial structures and strategies have emerged to fight terrorism. Fieldwork will allow me to explore these questions and to address them in a timely manner.

Given my past experience with the project and having already spent significant amount of time in the area (ten months), while establishing a large network of contacts and informants, I expect to encounter minimal obstacles toward completion of fieldwork. I speak the language which should help me conduct the interviews and collect archival material.

I am proposing a duration of five weeks for the completion of all interviews and collection of archival documents. More precisely, I expect to arrive in Paris on Monday 11 July, 2016 and depart Friday, 12 August, 2016. This will give me ample time to schedule interviews and visit archives.

- 3. Project Design.** This should include a specific description of the project design and activities, including location, staff, schedules or itineraries, and desired outcomes.

I plan on arriving in Paris Monday, 11 July, 2016 and depart Friday, August 12 – Five weeks in total.

### Week 1:

During the first week I expect to re-connect with old informants and re-establish connections with old networks. During the first week I will conduct interviews with the director of the *House of Justice and law* of Saint Denis (municipality in the department of Seine-Saint-Denis) and the local elected official in charge of security in that city. These are informants that were interviewed in 2008 for my Ph.D. research. I will employ snowball sampling to identify further informants. I expect to conduct between 3-4 total interviews in week 1. Moreover, I will also visit the municipal archives, Archives municipales, Mairie, B.P. 269, 93205 Saint-Denis Cedex Hôtel de ville, Place du Caquet, opened from 9 am- 5 pm. I expect to find policy documents, crime data, and newspaper articles regarding the *Houses of Justice and law* since 2008. This information should provide much needed context to understand the behavior and discourses of interviewees.

The rest of the time will be spent writing fieldnotes, organizing and analyzing collected data, and identifying and contacting potential informants.

### Week 2:

I will shift location to Aubervilliers (municipality southeast of Saint Denis). There I will visit the municipal archives at Service archives-documentation 31-33 rue de la Commune de Paris, 93300 Aubervilliers, 9 am- 5 pm. I expect to find policy documents, crime data, and newspaper articles regarding the *Houses of Justice and law* since 2008. This information should provide much needed context to understand the behavior and discourses of interviewees.

At Aubervilliers, I will conduct interviews with the local elected official in charge of security and the director of the *House of Justice and law* of Aubervilliers. Snowball sampling should allow me to conduct 3-4 interviews in this city.

The rest of the time will be spent writing fieldnotes, organizing and analyzing collected data, and identifying and contacting potential informants.

### Week 3:

For the third week I will begin my research in the municipality of La Courneuve, located to the east of Saint Denis. Similarly, I will interview the local elected official in charge of security and the director of the *House of Justice*. Snowball sampling will allow me to conduct 3-4 interviews at La Courneuve by the end of the week. I will also visit the

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municipal archives, Archives municipales, Mairie, avenue de la République, 93126 La Courneuve Cedex 59, rue du Général Schramm, opened from 8 :30-5pm. I expect to find policy documents, crime data, and newspaper articles regarding the *Houses of Justice and law* since 2008. This information should provide much needed context to understand the behavior and discourses of interviewees.

The rest of the time will be spent writing fieldnotes, organizing and analyzing collected data, and identifying and contacting potential informants.

#### Week 4:

During week 4 I will be in Clichy-sous-Bois, a municipality located east in the department of Seine-Saint-Denis. This is where the 2005 revolts first started. There I will conduct interviews with the local elected official in charge of security and the director of the *House of Justice and law*. Snowball sampling will allow me to conduct 3-4 total interviews. I will visit the municipal archives Archives municipales, Place du 11 Novembre 1918, 93390 Clichy-sous-Bois, opened from 8 :30 am – 5 pm. I expect to find policy documents, crime data, and newspaper articles regarding the *Houses of Justice and law* since 2008. This information should provide much needed context to understand the behavior and discourses of interviewees.

The rest of the time will be spent writing fieldnotes, organizing and analyzing collected data, and identifying and contacting potential informants.

#### Week 5

Based on past experience, the gathering and analysis of qualitative data, such as interviews, is a slow-moving, at times unpredictable, and certainly flexible process that requires time and space to reflect and adapt to what informants are saying. Thus, the last week will be spent scheduling interviews with informants unavailable the previous four weeks, visiting previously mentioned archives, if necessary, and contacting new informants as the analysis of collected data dictates.

#### *Expected Outcomes:*

I expect to collect ample evidence to enable me answer the research question: to what extent the *Houses of Justice and law* extend and reproduce the carceral logic of the 'Republican penal state'? Interviews will provide first-hand accounts of how security personnel at the local level is managing the threat of terrorism, larger discourses about immigrants, and the reality of crime and insecurity into a coherent set of penal discourses and practices. Along with archival documents collected (which will provide much needed social, economic, and political context), I expect to be able to construct a narrative as to the extent judicial personnel and their spaces of operation extend and reproduce the logics of control, surveillance, and containment. I expect to provide a complex narrative that describes and critically analyzes some of the carceral spaces of the 'Republican penal state'. Collected data, finally, will allow me to contribute to the field of carceral geography by pointing to the importance of community justice programs and the role of judicial personnel for extending the carceral logic in underexplored interstices of the urban fabric.

Results from this project will be presented in next year's *American Association of Geographers* annual conference in Boston. Moreover, I expect to reproduce at least two manuscripts intended for the journals *Political Geography* and *Modern and Contemporary France*. My expectation is that information gathered will allow me to contribute to contemporary debates about immigration, terrorism, and political responses and their geographies among French scholars and human geographers. Finally, I expect to share and present this research with my colleagues at Gustavus through a Shop Talk presentation.

#### *Budget allocation:*

I am requesting \$2,200 for project costs  
Airfare: \$1000 (MSP-Paris roundtrip)

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Lodging: \$1000 – this is a conservative estimate, considering Paris is one of the most expensive cities in Western Europe. I will seek to reduce the cost of lodging by renting a place via Airbnb.

Transcription: \$500 – I will hire a transcription service company to help transcribe at least 5 interviews (\$100\* 5 fifty minutes' interviews)

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1. Enter your **Name**
2. Enter the **Stipend Costs**
3. Enter the Project Costs (both individual costs and **Total Project Cost**)
4. Enter **Total Amount Requested** (Total Project Cost + Stipend)

Name     Joaquín Villanueva    

**Stipend** (Please check one box to indicate your distribution preference)

*Note: The RSC grant will fund up to 1,500 towards **Project Costs**. If your project costs will exceed this amount, you may opt to apply a portion (or all) of your stipend to cover these additional costs. If this option is your preference, please select "Partial Amount".*

**Full Amount** (\$700- assistant professor; \$600-associate professor; \$500-full professor)

X **Partial Amount** (apply a portion of the full amount to project costs)

Partial Amount:

Please indicate the amount that you would like to apply towards project costs (\$     700    ) and the remaining stipend after this deduction (\$     0    )

**Project Costs: List each item individually with its cost. Attach additional sheets if necessary.**

*I. Equipment (e.g. transcription machine, camera, digital recorder, but not computer hardware)*

- |    |        |                             |
|----|--------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Amount | <u>                    </u> |
| 2. | Amount | <u>                    </u> |
| 3. | Amount | <u>                    </u> |

*II. Materials (e.g. books, printing, software, lab supplies)*

- |    |        |                             |
|----|--------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Amount | <u>                    </u> |
| 2. | Amount | <u>                    </u> |
| 3. | Amount | <u>                    </u> |

*III. Personnel (e.g. typist, transcriptionist, student assistant)*

- |                           |        |                             |
|---------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Transcription Services | Amount | <u>    \$500    </u>        |
| 2.                        | Amount | <u>                    </u> |
| 3.                        | Amount | <u>                    </u> |

*IV. Travel (cannot include conference travel, allowable expenses listed at:*

<http://gustavus.edu/finance/travel.php>)

- |   |        |                             |
|---|--------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Airfare: Minneapolis – Paris roundtrip             | Amount | <u>    \$1000    </u>       |
| 2. Mileage: Number of miles <u>    </u> @ \$0.56/mile | Amount | <u>                    </u> |
| 3. Lodging:   | Amount | <u>    \$1000    </u>       |
| 4. Meals:   | Amount | <u>                    </u> |

Total Project Cost:   \$2500  

**Total Amount Requested (Total Project Costs + Stipend)   \$2200**

*Note: The RSC grant will fund up to an amount equal to your Project Stipend + \$1500 for Project Costs.*

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**OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING**

Have you applied for, or received funding from, another source to help support this project?

Yes

No

**If no, skip a, b, and c below.**

- a. Funding Source:
  
  
- b. Amount:
  
  
- c. Please explain how the Research, Scholarship, and Creativity grant will be used in addition to the other funding, and (if relevant), how the RSC grant project would be impacted if external funding is not approved.