

CONFLICT IN CITIES

GRADUATE WORKSHOP KEYNOTE LECTURE

Thursday 25 November, 6:00 - 7:00
University of Cambridge, CRASSH, 17 Mill Lane

Professor Stephen Graham

Professor of Cities and Society, School of Architecture, Newcastle University

Cities as Battlespace: The New Military Urbanism

This lecture draws on a newly-published book - *Cities Under Siege: The New Military Urbanism* to explore emerging crossovers between the 'targeting' of everyday life in so-called 'smart' border and 'homeland security' programmes and related efforts to delegate the sovereign power to deploy lethal force to increasingly robotized and automated war machines. Arguing that both cases represent examples of a new military urbanism, the rest of the lecture will develop a thesis outlining the scope and power of contemporary interpenetrations between urbanism and militarism. The new military urbanism is defined as encompassing a complex set of rapidly evolving ideas, doctrines, practices, norms, techniques and popular cultural arenas through which the everyday spaces, sites and infrastructures of cities—along with their civilian populations— are now rendered as the main targets and threats within a limitless 'battlespace'. The talk finishes by discussing the new political imaginations demanded by the new military urbanism.

Stephen Graham is Professor of Cities and Society, School of Architecture, at Newcastle University. As well as publishing a range of books, academic articles and book chapters, Professor Graham has acted as a consultant to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, acted on two international urban development juries, and won research awards from the ESRC, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the British Academy, and the United Nations. Between 2003 and 2005 he was a British Academy Reader undertaking a research project to find out how software code automatically sorts people's life chances in the UK. Broadly focussing on networked urbanism, Professor Graham's research explores the urban implications of new technologies, the importance of mobility and infrastructure in urban life, the links between cities and surveillance, and the relationships between cities, war and terrorism.

See www.conflictincities.org for more information about the Conflict in Cities Graduate Workshop on Friday 26 November 2010; 9:00am - 6:00 pm, Latimer Room, Clare College, University of Cambridge.

