

Course**INTL 5700 – Humanitarian Issues in International Politics**

Syllabus prepared/updated on:

December 21, 2011

Term

Spring I 2012

Instructor

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This course will cover the following humanitarian issues in international politics: child soldiering, human trafficking, refugee protection, and active humanitarian intervention. Students will critically analyze conceptual frameworks and thinking about human rights and humanitarian intervention including the UN Development Program's 1994 concept of Human Security and the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty's Responsibility to Protect (R2P) doctrine from the year 2001. In addition, fundamental differences between traditional and human security will be juxtaposed to show the difficulties encountered by those who take humanitarian action and the risks faced as a result.

In each of the four sections, covering approximately two weeks, students will examine these topics from both political and human rights' perspectives. The challenges of state and non-state actors as well as human rights NGOs and the failure of the international community to intervene effectively in preventing mass crimes and ending human rights' violations will be assessed and strategies for intervention, prosecution, and activism at the grass roots, state, and international levels critically examined.

Prerequisites

INTL 5000.

Learning Outcomes

Students will

- Understand U.N. definitions for child soldiering, human trafficking, and refugee protection and be able to explain the critical aspects of humanitarian crises and interventions, complex emergencies, and peace operations in cases where action has been taken.

- Recognize and evaluate the causes, courses, and consequences of selected humanitarian crises and the interventions that follow them.

- Understand the impact that child soldiering, trafficking in human beings,

refugee crises, and humanitarian interventions have as humanitarian issues in international affairs in terms of actors, the use of resources, and the development and execution of appropriate policies.

- Develop research competencies through use of scholarly journals, primary and secondary sources, online databases, the internet, and other resources to complete a research paper on a topic related to a selected humanitarian issue.

These goals will be achieved through classroom lectures, group work, student research, and the writing of a long research paper. Students enrolling in the course should be prepared not only to participate in activities beyond regular class meetings but also for the presentation in class of graphic images associated with human rights violations.

Textbooks and other Materials

Cardenas, Sonia. *Conflict and Compliance: State Responses to International Human Rights Pressure*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007.

Chandler, David. *From Kosovo to Kabul and Beyond: Human Rights and International Intervention* (London: Pluto Press, 2006)

Goodhart, Michael, ed. *Human Rights: Politics and Practice*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Helton, Arthur C. *The Price of Indifference: Refugees and Humanitarian Action in the New Century*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Singer, Peter W. *Children at War*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006.

Shelley, Louise. *Human Trafficking: A Global Perspective*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Weiss, Thomas G. *Humanitarian Intervention: Ideas in Action*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2007.

Suggested Reading

Grading

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Weekly Questions	5
Study Guide	10
Mid-Term Exam	25
Final Exam	30
Research Paper & Presentation	30

Grading Scale:

94 – 100 %	A
90 – 93	A-
86 – 89	B+
83 – 85	B
79 - 82	B-
70 – 78	C
0 – 69	F

Activities

University Policies

Cheating

Any student found cheating on any part of the course work (homework assignment, term paper, quiz, exam, etc.) will automatically be given an “F” for the course. Any student found to be helping another student to cheat will likewise be given an “F” for the course. In each case, the student will also be put on disciplinary probation for the remainder of her or his stay at Webster. If the student is found to have engaged in cheating a second time, s/he will be automatically expelled from the University.

Attendance

Class attendance is obligatory. Instructors will take attendance at each class session and reduce a student’s course grade by half a letter grade for each full week of class missed. Any student who misses three or more full weeks of class will automatically be given an “F” for the course.

Course Policies

All readings will be announced in class.

The research paper should be a **minimum** of 16 typed, double-spaced pages (approx. 4000 words with bibliography and footnotes.) **Please NO parenthetical documentation. Use Chicago Style for citations.** See www.dianahacker.com/resdoc for guidelines and a sample paper. If you have questions about citation, please see me in my office hours or before class.

Cell phones should be switched off during class and exams. Anyone using a cell phone during an exam or found cheating or plagiarizing will receive an “F” for the course—no excuses, no discussion.

Please no eating in class except during breaks.

Assignments must be submitted on time. Late submission will result in the deduction of one letter grade for each day the assignment is late. Please speak to me if there are any unforeseen circumstances (death in the family, hospitalization, etc.) requiring an extension and please be able to provide documentation.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Human Rights and International Relations
Read Goodhart, Ch. 1-4; 7: 12; 14; 19

Week 2

Human Trafficking: Definitions
Read: Shelley and US Trafficking in Persons Report Definitions

Week 3	Human Trafficking, Part 2: Modern Slavery Continue Reading Shelley; Begin with Singer Research Paper outlines due. Read
Week 4	Child Soldiers: Victims or Perpetrators? Read: Singer Begin reading Helton and Cardenas
TBD	Midterm Exam
Week 5	Refugees/Forced Migration Read Helton Read Cardenas
Week 6	R2P and Active Humanitarian Intervention Read Chandler
Week 7	Humanitarian Intervention, Part 2 Student Research Presentations Research Papers due.
Week 8	Student Research Presentations (Current Trends and Research Paper Theses)/Conclusions/Integrating Human Rights into International Relations Study Guides Due
TBD	Final Exam

Additional Information You will be required to use Turnitin.com for all assignments. Failure to submit assignments to Turnitin will result in an "F" grade for that assignment. Failure to submit any of the assignments required for the course may result in a failing grade for the course.

