



PS: 534 Human Rights
Fall 2014, Tuesdays, 18:00 - 20:45
0G109 Caldwell Hall

“To maintain and transmit a value system, human beings are punched, bullied, sent to jail, thrown into concentration camps, cajoled, bribed, made into heroes, encouraged to read newspapers, stood up against a wall and shot, and sometimes even taught sociology.” — Barrington Moore, Jr

Instructor:

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Office Hours:

Tuesdays 16:30 - 17:45 or by appointment.

Textbooks:

1. Jack Donnelly, *Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice*, 4th edition (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2013) - Required, PRICE TBD.
2. Thomas Buergenthal, Dinah Shelton, and David Stewart, *International Human Rights Law in a Nutshell*, 4th edition (St. Paul: West Academic, 2009) - Required, PRICE TBD.

Prerequisites:

Graduate level enrollment or instructor's permission are required to register for PS 534.

Course Description:

What are human rights? Why do states repress citizens? How do human rights norms diffuse? How do human rights defenders protect rights? This class will examine both the theoretical and empirical contributions to the study of human rights from the social sciences and law, as well as, human rights best (and worst) practices. The course will also provide students a chance to gain knowledge and skills from human rights organizations in the Raleigh, Durham, Chapel-Hill area through service-learning experiences.

Learning Objectives:

- Students will increase competence and confidence in both oral and written communication through practice.

- Students will gain an understanding of human rights and some of the key problems facing the human rights agenda.
- Students will be able to synthesize readings and apply concepts to multiple contexts, including day to day examples.
- Students will gain practical and theoretical experience with human rights through service-learning and the classroom.

Grade Policy:

Unexcused, late assignments will be assessed a penalty of 1/3 a letter grade per 24 hours late.

Grading:.

Service-Learning Requirement	20%
- Students are required to spend five hours working with a human rights related organization. 15% of the service-learning requirement is based on hours filled plus a written one-page briefing explaining how their service relates to PS 534. 5% of the service-learning requirement will be based on an oral presentation.	
Response Papers	30%
- Students are required to write four two to three singled spaced response papers based on the readings. Two response papers should focus on readings through 14 October. The final two response papers should include readings from 21 October through 2 December.	
Participation	20%
-Active participation is required. Class participation is a fundamental part of higher education. Engaging with the material, with your instructor, and with your peers is a vital part of the learning process. As such, students should strive to participate in class. However, I do understand that the comfort of students varies significantly and for many reasons. Therefore, there are other ways to participate, such as coming to my office and discussing the material or posting questions and answers on discussion forums. Ultimately, participation is about being engaged to the best of your abilities. Attendance is not counted as participation but it is impossible to participate fully if one misses class. Please see the attendance policy below.	
Final Research Paper	30%
- Students are required to write a final research paper of roughly 8,000 words. The paper should focus on the topic of human rights and be an original piece of research. Students should use this paper as professional writing sample or potential publication.	

Academic Honesty:

“The free exchange of ideas depends on the participants’ trust that others’ work is their own and that it was done and is being reported honestly. Intellectual progress in all the disciplines demands the truthfulness of all participants. Plagiarism and cheating are attacks on the very foundation of academic life, and cannot be tolerated within universities.”

For more information, please see: NC State’s Academic Integrity website

If you cheat, you will receive a zero on the assignment.

Extra Help and Office Hours:

Please feel free to come by my office hours if you need help understanding assignments or readings.

It is best to come see me as soon as possible if you need any additional help. I am always happy to help.

University Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend class. However, unforeseen issues do arise. Therefore, students are given two free absences. However, after these two absences, a third of a letter grade is assessed for each additional absence that is not excused.

For more information, please see the NC State’s Attendance Policy website.

Students with Disabilities:

“Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 919-515-7653. For more information on NC State’s policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (REG02.20.01)”

Personally Identifiable Information:

“Students may be required to disclose personally identifiable information to other students in the course, via electronic tools like email or web-postings, where relevant to the course. Examples include online discussions of class topics, and posting of student coursework. All students are expected to respect the privacy of each other by not sharing or using such information outside the course.”

Important Dates:

Add Deadline	26 August 2014
Drop Deadline	3 September 2014
Service-Learning Presentations	2 December 2014
Course Final	16 December 2014

Course Outline:

All readings are hyperlinks. You must be at NCSU or using a VPN to access the readings.

26 August : Syllabus and Course Overview

2 September : Theoretical and philosophical foundations of human rights

1. Donnelly, chapters 1-7.

9 September : Why states repress

1. Michael Bratton and Eldred Masunungure, “Popular Reactions to State Repression: Operation Murambatsvine in Zimbabwe, *African Affairs*, 106(422)(2007), pp. 21-45.
2. Courtenay Ryals Conrad and Will H Moore, “What Stops Torture?,” *American Journal of Political Science*, 54 (2)(2010), pp. 459-476.
3. Christian Davenport, “State Repression and Political Order, *Annual Review of Political Science*, 10 (2007), pp. 1-23.

4. Nathan Danneman and Emily Ritter, "Contagious Rebellion and Preemptive Repression," *The Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 58 (4)(2013), pp. 254-279.
5. Jacqueline DeMeritt and Joseph K Young, "A Political Economy of Human Rights: Oil, Natural Gas, and State Incentives to Repress," *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 30 (2)(2013), pp. 99-120.

16 September : The United Nations and human rights

1. Buergenthal, et al. Chapter 2.
2. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
3. United Nations' human rights website - browse
4. 7th Report of the Commission of Inquiry on Syria (A/HRC/25/65). 12 February 2014.
5. Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/RES/25/23. *The continuing grave deterioration of the human rights and humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic*. 9 April 2014.

23 September : Regional arrangements and human rights

1. Buergenthal, et al. Chapter 3-5.
2. Liz Fekete, "The Deportation Machine: Europe, Asylum, and Human Rights," *Race & Class*, 47(1)(2005), pp. 64-78.
3. Case TBD.

30 September : Measuring human rights

1. Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Terra Lawson-Remer, and Susan Randolph, "An Index of Economic and Social Rights Fulfillment: Concept and Methodology," *Journal of Human Rights*, 8(3)(2009), pp. 195-221.
2. Todd Landman, "Measuring Human Rights: Principle, Practice, and Policy," *Human Rights Quarterly*, 26 (4)(2004), pp. 906-931.
3. Oona Hathaway, "Do Human Rights Treaties Make a Difference?," *Yale Law Journal*, 111(8)(2002), pp. 1962-2026 and 2027-2034.
4. Daniel W Hill, "Estimating the Effects of Human Rights Treaties on State Behavior," *Journal of Politics*, 72(4)(2010), pp. 1161-1174.

7 October : Human rights and foreign policy

1. Donnelly, Chapter 12, skim.
2. Colin Barry, K. Chad Clay, and Michael Flynn, "Avoiding the Spotlight: Human Rights Shaming and Foreign Direct Investment," *International Studies Quarterly*, 57(3), pp. 532-544.
3. Emilie Hafner-Burton, "Trading Human Rights: How Preferential Trade Agreements Influence Government Repression," *International Organization*, 59(3)(2005), pp. 593-629.

4. Amanda Murdie and David Davis, "Shaming and Blaming: Using Events Data to Assess the Impact of Human Rights IGOs," *International Studies Quarterly*, 56(1)(2011), pp. 1-16.
5. Amanda Murdie and David Davis, "Problematic Potential: The Human Rights Consequences of Peacekeeping Interventions in Civil Wars," *Human Rights Quarterly*, 32(1)(2010), pp. 49-72.
6. Gareth Evans, "The Responsibility to Protect: Ending Mass Atrocity Crimes Once and for All," *Irish Studies in International Affairs* 20(20)(2009), pp. 7-13.
7. Moises Naim, "Why Libya, But Not Syria?," *Carnegie Endowment for International Justice*, 18 May 2011.

14 October : International criminal responsibility (and post conflict reconciliation)

1. Payam Akhavan, "Beyond Impunity: Can International Criminal Justice Prevent Future Atrocities?," *American Journal of International Law*, 95(1)(2001), pp. 7-31.
2. Elizabeth Evenson, Truth and Justice in Sierra Leone: Coordination between Commission and Court *Columbia Law Review* 104(3)(2004), pp. 730-767.
3. Hunjoon Kim and Kathryn Sikkink, Explaining the Deterrence Effect of Human Rights Prosecution for Transitional Countries," *International Studies Quarterly*, 54(4)(2010), pp. 939-963.
4. Beth Simmons and Allison Danner, "Credible Commitments and the International Criminal Court," *International Organization*, 64(2)(2010), pp. 225-256.

21 October : The environment and human rights

1. Tracy Humby and Maryse Grandbois, "The Human Right to Water in South Africa and the *Mazibuko* Decisions," *Les Cahiers de droit*, 51(3-4)(2010), pp. 521-540, skim.
2. Lyla Mehta, Jeremy Allouche, Alan Nicol, and Anna Walnycki, "Global Environmental Justice and the Right to Water: The Case of Peri-Urban Cochabamba and Delhi," *Geoforum*, 54(2014), pp. 158-166.
3. Oriol Miroso and Leila Harris, "Human Right to Water: Contemporary Challenges and Contours of a Global Debate," *Antipode*, 44(3)(2012), pp. 932-949.
4. Cass Sunstein and Eric Posner, "Climate Change Justice," *The Georgetown Law Journal*, 96(2008), pp. 1565-1612.
5. Alison Shinsato, "Increasing the Accountability of Transactional Corporations for Environmental Harms: The Petroleum Industry in Nigeria," *Northwestern Journal of International Human Rights Law*, 4(1)(2005), pp. 186-209.
6. John Knox, Report of the Independent Expert on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, *Human Rights Council*, A/HRC/25/53, 30 December 2013.

28 October : Development and human rights

1. Jeffrey Brown, "Benevolent Assistance or Bureaucratic Burden?: Promoting Effective Haitian Reconstruction, Self-Governance, and Human Rights Under the Right to Development," *Intercultural Human Rights Law Review*, 6(2011), pp. 209-239.

2. William Easterly, "How the Millennium Development Goals are Unfair to Africa," *World Development*, 37(1)(2009), pp. 26-35.
3. Bonny Ibhawoh, "The Right to Development: The Politics and Polemics of Power and Resistance," *Human Rights Quarterly*, 33(1)(2011), pp. 76-103. Shyama Kuruvilla, et al., "The Millennium Development Goals and Human Rights: Realizing Shared Commitments," *Human Rights Quarterly*, 34(1)(2012), pp. 141-177.
4. Michael Marmot, "Social Determinants of Health Inequalities," *The Lancet*, 365(9464)(2005), pp. 19-25.
5. Nana Poku and Jim Whitman, "The Millennium Development Goals: Challenges, Prospects, and Opportunities," *Third World Quarterly*, 32(1)(2011), pp. 3-8.

4 November : Criminal enterprises and human rights

1. Damon Barrett, "Security, Development, and Human Rights: Normative, Legal, and Policy Challenges for the International Drug Control System," *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 21(2)(2010), pp. 140-144.
2. Damon Barrett, et al. "Recalibrating the Regime: The Need for a Human Rights-Based Approach to International Drug Policy," *The Beckley Foundation: Drug Policy Programme*, (2008), executive summary.
3. Seo-Young Cho, Integrating Equality: Globalization, Women's Rights, and Human Trafficking," *International Studies Quarterly*, 57(4)(2013), pp. 683-697.
4. Doris Provine, "Race and Inequality in the War on Drugs," *Annual Review of Law and Social Science*, 7(2011), pp. 41-60.
5. Louise Shelley, *Human Trafficking: A Global Perspective*, (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010), chapters 3 and 4.

11 November : Minority rights

1. Susan Bartels, et al., "Militarized Sexual Violence in South Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo," *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 28(2)(2013), pp. 340-358.
2. Neilan Chaturvedi and Orlando Montoya, "Democracy, Oil, or Religion? Expanding Women's Rights in the Muslim World," *Politics and Religion*, 6(3)(2013), pp. 596-617.
3. Matthias Doepke, Michele Tertilt, and Alessandra Voena, "The Economics and Politics of Women's Rights," *Annual Review of Economics*, 4(2012), pp. 339-372.
4. Juan Fernandez, "Supranational Cultural Norms, Domestic Value Orientations, and the Diffusion of Same-Sex Union Rights in Europe, 1988-2009," *International Sociology*, 28(1)(2013), pp. 102-120.
5. Joke Swiebel, "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Human Rights: The Search for an International Strategy," *Contemporary Politics*, 15(1)(2009), pp. 19-35.

18 November : Business and human rights

1. Upendra Baxi, "Market Fundamentalisms: Business Ethics at the Altar of Human Rights," *Human Rights Law Review*, 5(1)(2005), pp. 1-26.
2. Human Rights Watch, "Building a Better World Cup," June 12, 2012, pp. 3-14.

3. Peng Jiang, "Fighting the AIDS Epidemic: China's Options under the WTO TRIPS Agreement," *Albany Journal of Science and Technology*, 13(1)(2002), pp. 223-248.
4. Sarah Labowitz and Dorothee Baumann-Pauly, "Business as usual is not an Option: Supply Chains and Sourcing After Rana Plaza," *NYU Stern*, (2014), skim.
5. Thomas Pogge, "Human Rights and Global Health: A Research Program," *Metaphilosophy*, 36(1-2)(2005), pp. 182-209.
6. John Ruggie, "Protect, Respect, and Remedy: A Framework for Business and Human Rights," *Innovations*, (2008), pp. 189-212.

25 November : NGOs, Transnational Networks, and Domestic Remedies.

1. Sam Bell, K. Chad Clay, and Amanda Murdie, "Neighborhood Watch: Spatial Effects on Human Rights INGOs," *The Journal of Politics*, 74(2)(2012), pp. 354-368.
2. Nitsan Choreva, "Changing Global Norms Through Reactive Diffusion: The Case of Intellectual Property Protection of AIDS Drugs" *American Sociological Review*, 77(5)(2012), pp. 831-853.
3. Dara Cohen and Amelia Green, "Dueling Incentives: Sexual Violence in Liberia and the Politics of Human Rights Advocacy," *Journal of Peace Research*, 49(3)(2012), pp. 445-458.
4. Martha Finnemore and Kathryn Sikkink, "International Norm Dynamics and Political Change," *International Organization*, 52(4)(1998), pp. 887-917.
5. Terrence Guay, Jonathan Doh, and Graham Sinclair, "Non-Governmental Organizations, Shareholder Activism, and Socially Responsible Investments: Ethical, Strategic, and Governance Implications," *Journal of Business Ethics*, 52(1)(2004), pp. 125-139.
6. Daniel Hill, Will H. Moore, and Bumba Mukherjee, "Information Politics Versus Organizational Incentives: When are Amnesty International's 'Naming and Shaming' Reports Biased?," *International Studies Quarterly*, 57(2)(2013), pp. 219-232.
7. Laura Landolt, "Externalizing Human Rights: From Commission to Council, the Universal Periodic Review, and Egypt," *Human Rights Review*, 14(2)(2013), pp. 107-129.

2 December : Concluding Thoughts, Technology, and the Future of Human Rights

1. James Nickel, "What Future for Human Rights?" *Ethics & International Affairs*, 28(2)(2014), pp. 213-223.
2. Christian Reus-Smit, "The Battle Rages on: The Struggle for Human Rights Enters a New Era," *Foreign Affairs*, 9 June 2014.
3. Iain Levine, "Will Technology Transform the Human Rights Movement?," *Human Rights Watch*, 26 March 2014.
4. Peter Margulies, "The NSA in Global Perspective: Surveillance, Human Rights, and International Counterterrorism," *Fordham Law Review*, 82(5)(2014), pp. 2137-2166.
5. Randy Newcomb, "Disruption at the Intersection of Technology and Human Rights," *Forbes*, 12 November 2012.
6. RightsCon, "RightsCon 2014 Outcomes," 2014.
7. Presentations on Service-Learning