

Political Science 288  
Research Seminar in International Politics:  
International Human Rights  
Spring Semester, 2005-06

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Office Hours:

W 10:00-12:00; 2:00-3:00  
TH 10:00-12:00; 2:00-3:00  
(or by appointment)

Requirements:

Since this is a research seminar on international politics, all students enrolled in the seminar are required to write a high-quality term paper on a topic approved by the instructor. The paper should be in the range of 25-30 pages in length. It will be presented orally to the class at one of the sessions in the latter part of the semester. The final version of the paper is due not later than noon on Friday, May 5, 2006.

In addition, all students are required to write reviews of two books on human rights. These books are subject to the approval of the instructor and cannot be one of the assigned core readings of the seminar. The reviews, which should be five to seven pages in length, are due on the dates indicated on the seminar schedule below.

Core Readings:

1. Jack Donnelly, Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice. 2003
2. Samantha Power, A Problem From Hell. 2002
3. Romeo Dallaire, Shake Hands With the Devil. 2003
4. Debra Liang-Fenton, Implementing US Human Rights Policies. 2004

The core readings are divided into the four main parts of the outline of the seminar as indicated below: Historical and Philosophical Issues and Problems (January 26); Human Rights and International Action (February 2); Human Rights and Foreign Policy I and II (February 9 and 16); and Genocide and Humanitarian Intervention I and II (February 23 and March 2).

Attendance Policy:

All students are expected to attend every session of the seminar, which begins precisely at 4:00 p.m. on TH. It may occasionally be necessary for a session to extend a few minutes beyond 6:00 p.m.

Grading Scale: Grades for the seminar will be based on the quality of the term paper, the reviews, and class participation. The following scale will apply:

93-100	A	73-77	C
88-92	A/B	68-72	C/D
83-87	B	58-67	D
78-82	B/C	-57	F

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

(Note: Three sessions of the seminar (March 9, 23, and 30) will be devoted to the presentation of research paper draft outlines, with six to eight presentations each session. The last four sessions of the seminar (April 6, 20, 27, and May 4) will be devoted to the presentation of research papers, with four to five presentations each session.)

January 19: Organizational Meeting.

January 26: Historical and Philosophical Issues and Problems in Human Rights

Readings: Donnelly, Chapters 1-7; 11-13

February 2: Human Rights and International Action

Readings: Donnelly, Chapters 8-10

February 9: Human Rights and Foreign Policy I

Readings: Review Donnelly, Chapter 9  
Liang-Fenton, Introduction and Parts I and II

February 16: Human Rights and Foreign Policy II

Readings: Liang-Fenton, Parts III, IV, V, and VI

February 23: Genocide and Humanitarian Intervention I

Readings: Power, entire

March 2: Genocide and Humanitarian Intervention II

Readings: Dallaire, entire

March 9: **First Review Due at Class Time**

Presentation of Paper Outlines:

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_____	_____
_____	_____

March 16: **Spring Break**

March 23: Presentation of Paper Outlines:

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March 30: Presentation of Paper Outlines:

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April 6: Presentation of Papers:

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April 13: **Easter Break**

April 20: Presentation of Papers:

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April 27: Presentation of Papers:

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May 4: Final Meeting of the Seminar  
Presentation of Papers:

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**May 5. Friday: Papers Due at Noon.**