

INTL 101: Culture & Society in International Perspective
Mon/Wed 12:30-1:50 Robinson Auditorium
Spring 2017

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Until modern times, laws were the creatures of creators and kings, used to establish a clear line from their power to the obligations of subjects. And when borders appeared, law was used to reinforce the distances among states and, as a consequence, to further establish the rights of their individualized rule over citizens. In the wake of the cataclysms of the great wars of the Twentieth Century, however, this long history took a turn. Loud debates grew about whether individual human beings, regardless of citizenship or kinship, have rights and expectations that are prior to and supersede any lines on a map. International law, once used exclusively to protect states and the sovereignty of their rule, became a mechanism with the potential to bring them to heel. For us, from the vantage point of a globalized world, this raises important questions about the nature of rights and state power.

Has the recognition of human rights and a responsibility to protect established a prior claim for individuals and peoples, pushing to secondary status many demands based on national interest and identity? Is the world now flat, like a game board with bridgeable squares, or still round, with boundaries and flags and differences that continue to carry weight?

This is a course, then, about borders, national interest, culture, the movement of people and goods, all in the context of questions about where rights come from and what obligations there are- nationally and internationally- to protect them. We will begin with establishing each of these as conceptual constructs: sovereignty, national identity, rights and human rights, and the onset of debates about the limits of each. From there, each week we will look at a “problem” posed by the requirement of rights protection. At the end, you will be asked to argue cases and issues.

We will assume, by the way, that there is no single or right answer to many of these questions. Rather, your work will be judged on the basis of the quality of your argument and the strength with which you marshal evidence.

Required Texts: You will find these at the UCSD bookstore.

Citizenship: A Very Short Introduction Richard Belamy

Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers Kwame Anthony Appiah

The Human Rights Revolution Akira Iriye, et al, eds.

Human Rights: The Hard Questions Holder and Reedy, eds.

All other required readings are available on the class Ted site.

Course Requirements: Lectures will build on, not explain the assignments, reading by reading. You will be responsible, therefore, for material in lectures **and** found on this syllabus. Each TA section meeting, starting in Week Two, will begin with a graded, one question quiz drawn from either lecture or the reading, intended to make certain that everyone has a firm grasp of concepts and arguments. This makes lectures important and sections required if you want to pass the class.

Electronics- computers and phones- **are not allowed in lecture.** It has been my experience that they are just as distracting to those around the user as to the person using them for more than notetaking.

Academic Integrity: It is my expectation that all written assignments are done without assistance- human **or** electronic- of any kind. Your work must be entirely your own. If you have any questions about the default rule, ask. All suspected cases of exam misconduct and plagiarism will be forwarded to the Office of Academic Integrity. It is my hope that the readings will cause you to argue with civility with one another, but once you are required to write, collectivity ends. If you need help with the rules of citation and paraphrase, please ask as I am happy to help. Your final paper must be submitted to Turnitin **and** in hard copy, and will not be graded until your Teaching Assistant can see both versions.

Grading: The course has one in class midterm, a final paper, and weekly section quizzes. **All** are required. If you are unable to complete any assignment or attend section, your teaching assistant **and** I must be notified in advance. Make up exams and quizzes, and extensions on your written work are at the discretion of the instructor with consideration for the nature and documentation of the excuse.

- Week Five Midterm: 35%
- Final Paper: 45%
- Section performance and quizzes: 20%

To earn a passing grade in the class, even if you are taking it P/NP, requires that you complete **all** of the work.

Grade Challenges: Should you feel that you are not being fairly graded, here is the process that must be followed without exception:

1. Prepare a written statement detailing the reasons you believe your work received the wrong grade.
2. Submit the statement to your teaching assistant and schedule an appointment to discuss your exam.
3. If you are still unsatisfied after meeting with your teaching assistant, bring your exam to me. I will read your exam and give it a new grade--which might be higher or lower than your original grade; a regrade is a **regrade**. This is the grade you will receive on the exam.

Class Schedule:

Week One

Monday, April 3rd: Introduction—The “Veil of Ignorance”

- Reading Assignment: The course syllabus

Wednesday April 5th: Censorship: A Framing Case and a Problem for Rights to Solve

- Reading assignment:
 - *Art Under Threat* Freemuse Annual Statistics on Censorship and Attacks on Artistic Freedom 2016, on Triton Ed
 - http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/01/16/art-censorship_n_6465010.html
 - <http://ncac.org/resource/a-selective-timeline-of-the-internet-and-censorship>
 - Robin Wright “Hip Hop Islam” from *Rock the Casbah: Rage and Rebellion Across the Islamic World*, on Triton Ed.

The music video is here: <http://www.wnyc.org/story/164643-rock-casbah/>

Week Two: Borders and Sovereignty

Monday, April 10th: Borders, Sovereignty, and Citizenship

- Reading Assignment:
 - Richard Bellamy *Citizenship: A Very Short History*; Chapters 1-3

Wednesday, April 12th: Obligations Beyond Borders—Cosmopolitanism

- Reading Assignments:
 - Kwame Anthony Appiah *Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers*; ALL

Week Three: Rights and Human Rights: Where do they come from and why should we take them seriously?

Monday, April 17th:

- Reading Assignment:
 - Chris Brown “Human rights and human nature” in *Human Rights: The Hard Questions*
 - Neil Walker “Universalism and particularism in human rights” in *Human Rights: The Hard Questions*
 - Rex Martin “Are human rights universal” in *Human Rights: The Hard Questions*

Wednesday, April 19th:

- Reading Assignment:
 - Alison Dundes Renteln “The significance of cultural differences for human rights” in *Human Rights: The Hard Questions*
 - Peter Jones “Groups and human rights” in *Human Rights: The Hard Questions*
 - Ayelet Shachar “Entangled: family, religion, and human rights” in *Human Rights: The Hard Questions*
 - Claudio Corradetti “What does cultural difference require of human rights” in *Human Rights: The Hard Questions*

Week Four: Human Rights in Practice

Monday, April 24th: The Origin Story: “Crimes Against Humanity,” “Genocide,” and the UN Declaration

- Watching Assignment: Philippe Sands, author of *East-West Street: On the Origins of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity*
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-7fDRXu8R0> OR
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=up0ci9i3leU&t=94s>
- Reading Assignment:
 - C. Daniel Cohen “The Holocaust and the ‘Human Rights Revolution’” in *The Human Rights Revolution*
 - William Hitchcock “Human Rights and the Laws of War: The Geneva Conventions of 1949” in *The Human Rights Revolution*

Wednesday, April 26th: Human Rights as Politics and Practice

- Reading Assignment:
 - Julie Mertus “Is it ever reasonable for one state to invade another for humanitarian reasons?” from *Human Rights: The Hard Questions*
 - Brad Simpson “‘The First Right’: The Carter Administration, Indonesia, and the Transnational Human Rights Politics of the 1970s” in *The Human Rights Revolution*
 - Barbara Keys “Anti-Torture Politics: Amnesty International, the Greek Junta, and the Origins of the Human Rights ‘Boom’ in the United States” in *The Human Rights Revolution*

Week Five: The Justice Cascade or The Endtimes of Human Rights or What?

Monday, May 1st:

- Reading Assignments:
 - Kathryn Sikkink and Hun Joon Kim “The Justice Cascade: The Origins and Effectiveness of Prosecutions of Human Rights Violations” on Triton Ed
 - David Rieff “The Precarious Triumph of Human Rights” on Triton Ed
 - Stephen Hopgood “The Endtimes of Human Rights,” pp. 11-18, in *Debating The Endtimes of Human Rights* on Triton Ed

Wednesday, May 3rd: **MIDTERM**

Week Six: Persons of Concern: Refugees, Migrants, IDP

Monday, May 8th:

- Reading Assignments:
 - Jill Goldenziel “The Curse of the Nation-State: Refugees, Migrants, and Security in International Law” on Triton Ed
 - UNHCR *Mid-Year Trends 2016* on Triton Ed

Wednesday, May 10th:

- Reading Assignments:
 - David Miliband “The Global Refugee Crisis and What to Do About It” on Triton Ed

- Nicole Ostrand “The Syrian Refugee Crisis: A Comparison of Responses by Germany, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States” on TED
- <https://www.iom.int/> Please familiarize yourself with the cases/data/maps on this cite on the Mediterranean crisis, migration flows, and missing migrants.

Week Seven: Is There a Right to Health and Quality of Life?

Monday, May 15th:

- Reading Assignments:
 - UNHCHR “The Right to Health” Fact Sheet no. 13, on Triton Ed
 - Richard Bellamy *Citizenship: A Very Short Introduction* Chapter 4
 - Ann E. Cudd “Human rights and global equal opportunity: inclusion not provision” Chapter 10 in *Human Rights: The Hard Questions*

Wednesday, May 17th:

- Reading Assignments:
 - Paul Farmer *Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor* Introduction, Chapter One, and Chapter Nine. On Triton Ed

Week Eight: Torture and the Death Penalty

Monday, May 22nd: Torture

- Reading Assignments:
 - Seymour Hersh “Torture at Abu Ghraib” on TED
 - Mark Danner and Hugh Eakin “Our New Politics of Torture” please see: <http://www.nybooks.com/daily/2014/12/30/new-politics-torture/>>

Wednesday, May 24th: The Death Penalty

- Reading Assignments:
 - Amnesty International *2014 Death Penalty Report* on TED
 - Death Penalty Information Center *Struck by Lightning; The Continuing Arbitrariness of the Death Penalty Thirty-Five Years After Its Reinstatement in 1976* on Ted

Week Nine: Censorship Again

Monday, May 29th: HOLIDAY- MEMORIAL

Wednesday, May 31st: Freedom of the Press and Why It Matters

- Reading Assignment:
 - Freedom House *Freedom of the Press 2016: The Battle for the Dominant Message* on Triton Ed
 - Committee to Protect Journalists: <https://cpj.org/reports/2016/12/journalists-killed-murdered-syria-most-deadly-war.php> Please familiarize yourself with the reports on the murders and combat deaths of journalists around the world

Week Ten: All that is Banned is Desired

Monday, June 5th:

- Reading Assignment:
 - Freemuse *All that is Banned is Desired* on Triton Ed.

Wednesday, June 7th: Last Day of Class: Talking through your final papers: the cases, the requirements, and what you need to do to get a decent grade.

Final Paper Due: Wednesday, June 14th at 12:00PM **NOON** to Turnitin.com via Triton Ed and in hard copy to the Front Desk of the Student Services, ISP Offices, RBC 300 Building.