

**University of Georgia**  
**INTL 4620: Human Rights**  
**Spring 2020**  
**Room – MLC 268**  
**Time – 2:30-3:20 PM**

Instructor: Charlie Carlee  
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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 12:00-1:00 PM, or by appointment

**Course Description and Objectives:**

The primary objective of this course is to provide the student with a greater understanding of the concept of human rights, including their importance in international politics and the various means by which these rights might be either violated or protected. Further, this course will also explore many of the methods used to study and evaluate respect for human rights cross-nationally.

Throughout the semester, this course will aim to prepare students to address the following goals:

- Have a strong grasp on the various definitions of human rights, including comparisons between universal and culturally contingent perspectives, as well as the ability to clearly express and justify your preferred definition of human rights and explain its implications.
- Have gained a general understanding of many of the sources of human rights violations, as well as the many ways in which human rights may be violated and the cross-national extent of the problem of human rights violations.
- Be able to list and discuss several types of efforts aimed at improving respect for human rights, including the efforts associated with international law, powerful states, and on governmental organizations.
- Be capable of understanding and participating in the public debate over the many issues discussed in this class.
- Have an improved ability to make logical, convincing oral and written arguments.

**Required Reading:**

There are two (2) required text for this course:

- Donnelly, Jack. 2013. *Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Ithaca: Cornell University.
- Goodhart, Michael, ed. 2016. *Human Rights: Politics and Practice*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: Oxford University.

Additional readings can be found via eLC, unless otherwise noted.

## **Course Evaluation and Grading**

Your final grade will be based on the sum of points earned from each of the following assignments:

Attendance:	10%
Participation:	10%
Quizzes:	15%
Midterm Exam:	25%
Presentation:	10%
Paper:	30%

**Attendance:** Your regular attendance is necessary for success in this class because missing class disrupts your ability to participate and turn in assignments. It also detracts from other students' opportunities to benefit from your insights during discussions. You are allowed three unexcused absences, and your grade will be penalized by a graduated percentage for every absence after that.

Excused absences will only be granted for extenuating circumstances such as serious health issues, family emergencies, or university-sponsored events. To apply for an excused absence, you must provide the appropriate documentation that corresponds with the date of the absence.

**Participation:** Participation in class will account for 10 percent of your final grade. A successful student will voluntarily make substantive contributions to class discussion each class, volunteers comments and questions that demonstrate thorough completion of the assigned readings, and actively participates in assigned group work. Simply showing up to class does not constitute participation. Furthermore, disruptive or disrespectful behavior such as using cell phones, sleeping, or surfing the web will cause a deduction in your participation grade, regardless of your fulfillments of the above expectations.

**Quizzes:** To determine the student's level of preparedness for class, 3-5 short quizzes will be designed and implemented at random intervals throughout the semester. Mostly, these will take the form of multiple choice or short answer questions taken from the prior night's reading, however, some will ask for summarization and critique of multiple days' readings.

**Exams:** Exams will draw upon both the assigned readings and class materials. Lectures and class discussions are intended to supplement, not replace, the readings. You are responsible for all information in the assigned readings, even if we have not gone over it in lecture, unless otherwise noted by the instructor. Make-up exams will only be given in cases covered under the excused absences section. If you know you will miss an exam, arrangements can be made at least one week in advance. Midterm exams will be given in class on the assigned date at the regular class time.

**Paper and Presentation:** Each student will submit an 8-10 page paper detailing the human rights situation in a country of the student's choice. Students will choose their desired country in class on **Friday, 17 January**. A draft of the paper will not be formally due in class; however, students are free to send drafts to the instructor for evaluation prior to the submission deadline. Each student will, also, give a brief 8-10 minute presentation over their topic starting on **Monday, 13 April**. Final papers will be due by the beginning of class on **Monday, 27 April**. Late papers will be penalized 10 points per day from final paper grade. Additional details and a

rubric for both the presentation and the paper will be discussed and given during the brief paper seminar in class on **Wednesday, 22 January**.

**Overall Grades:** Letter grades are constructed to reflect the university standards posted at [[http://bulletin.uga.edu/Bulletin\\_Files/acad/Grades.html](http://bulletin.uga.edu/Bulletin_Files/acad/Grades.html)], which are summarized below. Letter grades will be based on how many points you earn according to the following distribution:

93-100	A	90-92	A-		
87-89	B+	83-86	B	80-82	B-
77-79	C+	73-76	C	70-72	C-
60-69	D				
< 60	F				

## **Course Policies**

### **Academic Honesty**

As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in "A Culture of Honesty" found at: [www.uga.edu/honesty](http://www.uga.edu/honesty). Lack of Knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.

### **Disability Statement**

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the UGA Disabilities Services offices will be accommodated according to university policy. Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment. For more information, contact UGA Disabilities Services at 706-542-8719.

### **Student Resources**

You can increase your chance of success in this course by using UGA's academic services. The Division of Academic Enhancement offers tutoring in Collaborative Academic and Retention Effort (CARE) that can help with overall course performance and in writing that can help with critical thinking exercises. You can set an appointment at [<http://dae.uga.edu/>], and the phone number is 706-542-7575. You also may check out opportunities at the Miller Learning Center [<http://mlc.uga.edu/>] and the Writing Center [<http://writingcenter.english.uga.edu/>].

### **Course Schedule**

*The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviation announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.*

- Day 1, WED 8 JAN (Week 1 – Introduction)
  - Course Introduction and Syllabus Review

- Day 2, FRI 10 JAN
  - Donnelly, Chapter 1
  - Goodhart, Chapter 3 & 5
  
- Day 3, MON 13 JAN (Week 2 – Human Rights and International Law)
  - **\*\*\*Last Day to Add/Drop\*\*\***
  - Donnelly, Chapter 2
  
- Day 4, WED 15 JAN
  - Donnelly, Chapter 4
  
- Day 5, FRI 17 JAN
  - Universal Declaration of Human Rights
    - <https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>
  - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/ccpr.aspx>
  - Optional Protocol to the ICCPR
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/opccpr1.aspx>
  - Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/2ndopccpr.aspx>
  - International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cescr.aspx>
  - Optional Protocol to the ICESCR
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/OPCESCR.aspx>
  
- MON 20 JAN (Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday – No Class)
  
- Day 6, WED 22 JAN (Week 3 – Paper Seminar)
  - Review APSA Style Guide before class (located on eLC)
  
- FRI 24 JAN (No Class)
  
- Day 7, MON 27 JAN (Week 4 – Universalism and Relativism)
  - Donnelly, Chapters 6-7
  
- Day 8, WED 29 JAN
  - Kaley, Henriette. 2004. “Cultural Rights or Human Rights: The Case of Female Genital Mutilation.” *Sex Roles* 51 (5/6). 339-348.
  
- Day 9, FRI 31 JAN
  - Donnelly, Jack. 2007. “The Relative Universality of Human Rights.” *Human Rights Quarterly* 29. 281-306.
  - Goodhart, Michael. 2008. “Neither Relative nor Universal: A Response to Donnelly.” *Human Rights Quarterly* 30. 183-193.
  - Donnelly, Jack. 2008. “Human Rights: Both Universal and Relative (A Reply to Michael Goodhart).” *Human Rights Quarterly* 30. 194-204.

- Day 10, MON 3 FEB (Week 5 – Physical Integrity Rights)
  - Poe, Steven. 2002. “The Decision to Repress: An Integrative Approach to the Research on Human Rights and Repression.” *The Systematic Study of Human Rights Violations at ECPR*: Turin, Italy.
  - Englehart, Neil. 2009. “State Capacity, State Failure, and Human Rights.” *Journal of Peace Research* 46 (2). 163-180.
  
- Day 11, WED 5 FEB
  - Poe, Steven, C. Neal Tate, and Linda Camp Keith. 1999. “Repression of the Human Right to Personal Integrity Revisited: A Global Cross-National Study Covering the Years 1976-1993.” *International Studies Quarterly* 43. 291-313.
  - Boler, Jean. 1985. “The Mothers committee of El Salvador: National Human Rights Activists.” *Human Rights Quarterly* 7 (4). 541-556.
  
- FRI 7 FEB (No Class)
  
- Day 12, MON 10 FEB (Week 6 – Physical Integrity Rights, continued)
  - Goodhart, Chapter 20
  
- Day 13, WED 12 FEB
  - Harff, Barbara. 2003. “No Lessons Learned from the Holocaust? Assessing Risks of Genocide and Political Mass Murder since 1955.” *American Political Science Review* 97 (1). 57-73.
  - Review “Lessons from Rwanda” website
    - <https://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/rwanda/>
  
- Day 14, FRI 14 FEB
  - Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cat.aspx>
  - Selections from:
    - Schultz, William. 2007. *The Phenomenon of Torture: Readings and Commentary*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania.
  
- MON 17 FEB (No Class)
  
- Day 15, WED 19 FEB (Week 7 – Economic Rights)
  - Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. 2005. “Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights: Handbook for National Human Rights Institutions.”

- Day 16, FRI 21 FEB
  - Richards, David. 2012. “What’s in a Name? Human Rights, Human Development, and Human Dignity.” *United Nations University – Wider*.
    - Available at:
      - <https://www.wider.unu.edu/publication/what%E2%80%99s-name>
  - Mosley, Layna, and Saika Uno. 2007. “Racing to the Bottom or Climbing to the Top? Economic Globalization and Collective Labor Rights.” *Comparative Political Studies* 40 (8). 923-948.
  
- Day 17, MON 24 FEB (Week 8 – Discrimination and Membership)
  - Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cedaw.aspx>
  - Convention on the Rights of the Child
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>
  - Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/IPeoples/Pages/Declaration.aspx>
  - Declaration on the Rights of Minorities
    - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/minorities.aspx>
  
- Day 18, WED 26 FEB
  - Facio, Alda, and Martha Morgan. 2008. “Equity or Equality for Women? Understanding CEDAW’s Equality Principles.” *Alabama Law Review* 60 (5). 1133-1170.
    - Focus on pages 1133-1159
  
- Day 19, FRI 28 FEB
  - Brysk, Alison. 2009. “Beyond Framing and Shaming: Human Trafficking, Human Security, and Human Rights.” *Journal of Human Security* 5 (3). 8-21.
  - Stackpole, Thomas. 2015. “The New Abolitionists.” *Foreign Policy* 213. 84-93.
  - Kessler, Glenn. 2015. “Why You Should be Wary of Statistics on ‘Modern Slavery’ and ‘Trafficking’.” *Washington Post*.
    - Available at:
      - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2015/04/24/why-you-should-be-wary-of-statistics-on-modern-slavery-and-trafficking/?arc404=true>
  
- Day 20, MON 2 MAR (Week 9 – Midterm Week)
  - Midterm Review
  
- Day 21, WED 4 MAR
  - Midterm
  
- Day 22, FRI 6 MAR
  - Midterm Feedback

- 9 MAR – 13 MAR (Spring Break – No Class)
- Day 23, MON 16 MAR (Week 10 – Measuring and Studying Human Rights)
  - Goodhart, Chapter 8
- Day 24, WED 18 MAR
  - Cingranelli, David, and David Richards. 2010. *Human Rights Quarterly* 32. 401-424.
  - The CIRI Human Rights Data Project website
    - <http://www.humanrightsdata.com/>
    - Particularly the “CIRI Documentation” under “Data & Documentation”
  - The Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI) website
    - <https://humanrightsmmeasurement.org/>
    - Particularly the “Methodology” section
  - The Subnational Analysis of Repression Project (SNARP) website
    - <http://snarpdata.org/>
- Day 25, FRI 20 MAR
  - \*\*\***Withdrawal Deadline**\*\*\*
  - Fukuda-Parr, Sakiko, Terra Lawson-Remer, and Susan Randolph. 2009. “An Index of Economic and Social Rights Fulfillment: Concept and Methodology.” *Journal of Human Rights* 8. 195-221.
  - Clay, K. Chad, David Richards, K. Anne Watson, Charlie Carlee, and Stephen Bagwell. “Measuring Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights: Effective Efforts versus Conditions.”
- Day 26, MON 23 MAR (Week 11 – Human Rights and Civil Conflict)
  - Mason, T. David. 2004. *Caught in the Crossfire*. Oxford: Rowman and Littlefield.
    - Chapter 5
- Day 27, WED 25 MAR
  - Mason, Chapter 6
- Day 28, FRI 27 MAR
  - Mason, Chapter 8
- Day 29, MON 30 MAR (Week 12 – Economic Globalization of Human Rights)
  - Goodhart, Chapter 13
  - Richards, David, Ronald Gellany, and David Sacko. 2001. “Money with a Mean Streak? Foreign Economic Penetration and Government Respect for Human Rights in Developing Countries.” *International Studies Quarterly* 45. 219-239.
- Day 30, WED 1 APR
  - Blanton, Shannon, and Robert Blanton. 2007. “What Attracts Foreign Investors? An Examination of Human Rights and Foreign Direct Investment.” *Journal of Politics* 69 (1). 143-155.

- Day 31, FRI 3 APR
  - Richards, David, and Ronald Gellany. 2007. "Women's Status and Economic Globalization." *International Studies Quarterly* 51. 855-876.
  - Greenhill, Brian, Layna Mosley, and Aseem Prakash. 2009. "Trade-based Diffusion of Labor Rights: A Panel Study, 1986-2002." *American Political Science Review* 103 (4). 669-690.
  
- Day 32, MON 6 APR (Week 13 – International Efforts to Protect Human Rights)
  - Goodhart, Chapter 21
  - DeMeritt, Jacqueline. "Delegating Death: Military Intervention and Government Killing." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 59 (3). 428-454.
  - Peksen, Dursun. 2009. "Better or Worse? The Effect of Economic Sanctions on Human Rights." *Journal of Peace Research* 46 (1). 59-77.
  
- Day 33, WED 8 APR
  - Murdie, Amanda, and David Davis. 2012. "Shaming and Blaming: Using Events Data to Assess the Impact of Human Rights INGOs." *International Studies Quarterly* 56. 1-16.
  - Barry, Collin, K. Chad Clay, and Michael Flynn. 2013. "Avoiding the Spotlight: Human Rights Shaming and Foreign Direct Investment." *International Studies Quarterly* 57. 532-544.
  - Bell, Sam, K. Chad Clay, and Amanda Murdie. 2012. "Neighborhood Watch: Spatial Effects of Human Rights INGOs." *Journal of Politics* 74 (2). 354-368.
  
- FRI 10 APR (Good Friday – No Class)
  
- Day 34, MON 13 APR (Week 14 – Presentations)
  - Presenters 1-5
  
- Day 35, WED 15 APR
  - Presenters 6-10
  
- Day 36, FRI 17 APR
  - Presenters 11-15
  
- Day 37, MON 20 APR (Week 15 – Presentations, continued)
  - Presenters 16-20
  
- Day 38, WED 22 APR
  - Presenters 21-25
  
- Day 39, FRI 24 APR
  - Overflow Presenters
  
- Day 40, MON 27 APR (Week 16 – Conclusion)
  - Course Synthesis and Conclusion