

**Political Science 4426F
Genocide**

Winter 2012
Wed. 1:30-3:30
Location: SSC 4255
Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:30-12:00

Instructor: Joanna R. Quinn
Office Location: SSC 4158
Telephone: 519-661-2111 ext. 85172

Course Description:

An examination of the theoretical and methodological issues related to the topic of genocide and a consideration of empirical cases of genocide and genocidal acts, such as “ethnic cleansing.” The course begins by looking at the definition of genocide provided by the 1948 UN Genocide Convention and the legal-political context in which that convention was held. We will examine recent debates and alternative theoretical models by referring to selected specific cases, beginning with those of the Armenians and Nazi Germany in the first half of the Twentieth century, and then move to discuss more recent cases, including those in Cambodia, Rwanda, and Bosnia, among others.

Texts:

Hinton, Alexander Laban, ed. *Genocide: An Anthropological Reader*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 2002.

Naimark, Norman M. *Fires of Hatred: Ethnic Cleansing in Twentieth-Century Europe*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001.

Totten, Samuel and William S. Parsons, eds. *Century of Genocide: Eyewitness Accounts and Critical Views*. Fourth Edition. New York: Routledge, 2012.

Political Science 4426F– Selected Topics in Political Science
Prerequisite: International Human Rights 3388E
2 hours, half course

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE PREREQUISITES/ANTIREQUISITES

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed. If you find that you do not have the course requisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

Office of the Dean, Faculty of Social Science

Grade Distribution:

Undergraduate Students:

In-Class Essay (Oct.17)	20%
Essay, due Nov.21 (12-15 pp.)	40%
Seminar Presentation	20%
Seminar Participation	20%

Graduate Students:

Essay, due Nov.21 (20-25 pp.)	60%
Seminar Presentation	20%
Seminar Participation	20%

In-Class Essay

On October 17, undergraduate students will write an in-class essay, from a selection of questions determined in advance, on the material covered to that point in the course. No notes or aids will be permitted. Graduate students will not attend the seminar that day.

Essay

Undergraduate students will be required to write one term essay of 12-15 typed, double-spaced pages, or between 3000-3750 words; graduate students will be required to write one term essay of 20-25 typed, double-spaced pages, or between 5000-6250 words.

In all cases, students should include a word count at the bottom of the essay. The topic of the paper may be selected from the list of topics provided below. The paper must be submitted at the beginning of class on November 21.

Essays must be formatted using Chicago/Turabian style, with footnotes, not in-text citations.

A late penalty of 10% per day will be applied to papers submitted at any point after the start of class on November 21.

Please note that all essays must be submitted to Turnitin, using the link provided on WebCT.

Seminar Presentation

Each week, a group of two or more students will present the main points and arguments pertaining to that week's case study, and also relating to that week's main theme, to the class. Each presentation should be approximately 20 minutes in length, and must include a one-page, single-sided hand-out for students in the class as well as questions for discussion. As the presentation is expected to be a joint project between the students involved, all students in the group will receive the same grade. Student presenters are expected to refer to material beyond that assigned to the class.

Seminar Participation

This assessment will be based on regular contributions to the class discussion, reflecting some grasp of the relevant materials and some analytical abilities in applying those materials in the discussion. Students should consult the handout "Student Participation" for criteria.

Academic Dishonesty:

Many different types of actions may be considered academically dishonest. These might include, although not exhaustively, the following: cheating, submission of work not authored by you, double submission, fabrication, plagiarism. You are advised to familiarize yourself with the guidelines set out in the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy. These may be found at the following url: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>

Students with Disabilities:

Any student with a disability is advised to contact the Coordinator for Services for Students with Disabilities in order that arrangements can be made through the Student Development Centre to accommodate that student. The Student Development Centre is located in Room 4100 of the Western Student Services Building; they can be reached by telephone at 519-661-2147, or on the web at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/>

Other Resources:

There are many resources at Western designed to assist you in your learning. You are strongly advised to utilize these services. The Student Development Centre offers many services, including Effective Writing Programs and Learning Skills Services. The Student Development Centre is located in Room 4100 of the Western Student Services Building; they can be reached by telephone at 519-661-3031, or on the web at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>. You should also become familiar with the services offered by the University Library System. The D.B. Weldon Library may be contacted by telephone at 519-661-3162 or by email at dbwref@lib.uwo.ca, or on the web at <http://www.lib.uwo.ca/weldon>.

Writing Style:

Essays must be formatted using Chicago/Turabian style, with footnotes, not in-text citations. Students are advised to consult a writer's handbook when composing their essays in order to see how to format things like bibliography and footnotes. One such excellent handbook is *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* by Kate L. Turabian, and this book is available from the Book Store. A useful link may be found at the following url: <http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocChicago.html>.

Course Outline by Topic:

September 12	Introduction
September 19	Conceptual Foundations of Genocide I Hinton ch. Intro, 1,2
September 26	Conceptual Foundations of Genocide II Hinton ch. 3,4; Naimark pp.1-11
October 03	Armenians Totten, Parsons ch.4; Naimark ch.1
October 10	Nazi Germany Totten, Parsons ch. 6, Hinton ch. 6; Naimark ch.2
October 17	** In-Class Essay **
October 24	Soviet Union Totten, Parsons ch. 5; Naimark ch.3
October 31	Cambodia Totten, Parsons ch. 9; Hinton ch. 12
November 07	Former Yugoslavia, Post-World War II Totten, Parsons ch. 14; Hinton ch. 10,11; Naimark ch. 5
November 14	Rwanda Totten, Parsons ch. 13 ALSO Helen M. Hintjens, "Explaining the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda," <i>The Journal of Modern African Studies</i> 37.2 (June 1999): 241-286. <i>This article is available from JSTOR.</i>

November 21

Darfur

Totten, Parsons ch. 15

ALSO Gerald Caplan, "What Darfur Teaches Us about the Lessons Learned from Rwanda," in *The world and Darfur: international response to crimes against humanity in western Sudan*, ed. Amanda F.Grzyb (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2009), ch.1. *Copies of this reading are available from the Reserve Desk at D.B.Weldon Library, and the book itself is available in the Stacks at D.B.Weldon Library.*

** Essays due at beginning of class **

November 30

Learning to Care About Humanity

Totten, Parsons Introduction

December 07

Concluding Discussion

**Political Science 4426F/9723A
Genocide**

ESSAY TOPICS

Topic 1: Case Study of a Genocide

This topic asks you to focus on a specific case of genocide. Working from a particular definition of genocide, your task is to select a particular genocide/genocidal massacre/genocidal act/ethnic cleansing and to provide an examination of that case. (You may not write an essay based on the same topic on which you make your oral presentation during the term.) The paper, however, must not be purely descriptive. Your analysis should include a brief history of the development of the situation which led to the acts of genocide, along with attempting to define the type of genocide which took place, based upon the definitions and reasoning provided in the course readings and elsewhere, and a look at the social-cultural and other factors which were present.

Topic 2: Institutions dealing with Genocide

This topic focuses, rather than on a particular case, on a body or process that deals with genocide/genocidal massacre/genocidal act/ethnic cleansing. This body may be either national or international in scope, and either an historical or current institution. Your task is to focus upon one specific organization established specifically to deal with the crime of genocide. Your analysis should include a brief history of the development of the particular body or agency, and also its mandate. Does the institution you have chosen seem to have been successful in fulfilling its objectives? Has it produced any tangible successes?

Topic 3: Legal Constructions dealing with Genocide

This topic considers neither a particular case nor a particular institution. Rather, you are asked to focus upon a specific legal construction that has been established to deal with crimes of genocide/genocidal massacre/genocidal act/ethnic cleansing. You may choose to look at either a current legal construction, or one which has existed within the past two hundred years. Your task, once you have identified the particular law, set of laws or legal debates, is to look at an instance in which they have been used. Your analysis should include an historical account of the actions which led to its establishment, as well as an examination of the manner in which the international community views and uses this legal construction.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Participation Grading Guide

Grade	Attendance	Discussion	Reading
5	Always	<u>Excellent</u> : leads debate; offers analysis and comments; always has ideas on theme of reading; takes care not to dominate; asks questions	Clearly has done and prepared questions on virtually all readings; intelligently uses this understanding and these questions in discussion
4	Almost always	<u>Very Good</u> : thoughtful comments and questions for the most part; willing, able and frequent contributor	Has done most readings; provides competent analysis of reading when prompted by others
3	Frequent	<u>Good</u> : has basic grasp of key concepts and occasional ideas on the main theme of the reading; arguments are sporadic and at times incomplete or poorly supported; unwilling to ask questions	Displays familiarity with most readings, but tends not to analyze them or to relate them to the course material
2	Occasional	<u>Somewhat Poor</u> : remarks in class marred by misunderstandings of key concepts; seldom contributes effectively to discussion of the main theme; often digresses in unhelpful ways; sporadic	Actual knowledge of material is outweighed by improvised comments and remarks
0-1	Rare	<u>Poor</u> : rarely speaks; parrots text or comments of others	Little or no apparent familiarity with assigned material

ESSAYS
Grading Grid

Argument	
Organization of the Essay	
Quality of evidence	
Communication Skills	
Use of quotations, footnotes or endnotes	
Creativity	
Other Comments	
Grade	

**APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary rerequisites."

Essay course requirements

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")

"Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning.

Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence."

Security and Confidentiality of Student Work (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar*

(<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>)

"Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

Duplication of work

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

Grade adjustments

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

Academic Offences

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf> ."

Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS MUST BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

Students registered in Social Science should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/> <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

Plagiarism

"Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject

to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>)."

Multiple-choice tests/exams: "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

PLAGIARISM*

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

*Reprinted by permission of the Department of History

Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991

Accessibility at Western

Please contact poliscie@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.