Political Science 3388E
International Human Rights
Intersession 2013

Intersession 2013                  Instructor: David Hoogenboom
Monday to Friday 1:30 - 4:00         Office Location: SSC 4247
SSC 3010                                  Office Hours: Wed: 12:30-1:30
                   (or by appointment)  Email: dhoogen2@uwo.ca

Course Description:

The first half of the course will provide an overview of the topic of human rights, from
its origins to its 21st century reality, as well as its various conceptions, theoretical
notions, and instruments. The second half of the course will look at issues of concern,
abuses and potential solutions.

Required Texts:


2002.

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
Course Requirements:

Participation 20%
Critical Commentary Paper 10%
Essay 40%
Final Exam 30%

Participation:

Participation grades are based on participation in each lecture’s class discussion. Students are expected to attend class having completed all of the required readings. Please consult the participation grading grid below for more information.

Critical Commentary Paper:

Students are required to write one critical commentary papers examining one of the day’s readings. The papers should be roughly 4 to 5 pages, in length (double-spaced). The purpose of the paper is NOT to summarize the readings. Instead, students should briefly discuss one or two major points addressed in the readings, highlight important questions or issues identified by the author(s) as well as provide their own observations, questions, and critical analysis. Papers are due at the start of the class in which the readings in question will be discussed. Late penalties do not apply to these assignments, and no extensions will be granted.

Essay:

Students are required to write a research paper of 12-15 pages double-spaced in length, using 12-point font. This paper will be due at the beginning of class on June 17, 2013. Late papers will be subject to a 5% penalty per day. Students are expected to write an argumentative essay, which examines some aspect of international human rights covered in the class material. Students interested in covering a topic outside of the class material will be required to seek approval from the instructor before the paper is due. Students will be expected to make use of academic books and refereed journal articles to build up and support their arguments. The use of Internet sites is strongly discouraged.

Students are required to use Chicago Style formatting for all assignments, and marks will be deducted for improper formatting. Please consult a writer’s handbook when composing your essays in order to see how to format things like bibliography and footnotes. One such excellent handbook is Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 7th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago

**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 them to accommodate that student. Services for Students with Disabilities is located in The Student Development Centre in UC 210; they can be reached by telephone at (519)661-2147, by email at ssd@sdcsdc.uwo.ca, or on the web at http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ The university’s policy on the accommodation of students with disabilities can be found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_disabilities.pdf

**Other Resources:**

There are many resources at UWO 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 UC 210; 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/#

**Course Outline by Topic:**

**May 13 - Introduction to Course**

**May 14 - Introduction to Human Rights**
- Goodhart “Introduction”
- Orend chapter 1

**May 15 - Concept and History: I**
- Orend chapter 7, 8
May 16 - Concepts and History: II

- Goodhart chapter 1

May 17 - United Nations: History and Structure

- Karen Mingst and Margaret Karns, The United Nations in the Post-Cold War Era, 2nd ed. (Boulder: Westview, 2002). Please read chapter 2, pp. 16-45. (On reserve at Weldon Library)

May 20 - Victoria Day (no classes)

May 21 - Human Rights and International Law

- Goodhart chapter 2

May 22 - Universality

- Orend chapter 2, 3

Additional Reading:

May 23 - Cultural Relativism


May 24 - Rights vs. Duties

- Orend chapter 5
May 27 - Non-Western Conceptions: Africa and Asia


May 28 - Human Rights, International Relations, and Foreign Policy

- Goodhart chapter 4

May 29 - (Mis)Use of Human Rights

- Goodhart chapter 7

May 30 - Political Democracy

- Goodhart chapter 8 (read only 130-134)
- “*South Africa: Overcoming Apartheid, Building Democracy,*” (see especially all eight “Units” but also explore additional media links and interviews throughout the site); available from http://overcomingapartheid.msu.edu/listunits.php

June 31 - Mid-Term Summary

June 03 - Economic Globalization

- Goodhart chapter 11 (read only 183-186)

June 04 - Global Civil Society

- Goodhart chapter 9

June 05 - Human Rights and Development

- Goodhart chapter 10
- “UN Millennium Project;” (read through the site and view the resources it lists); available from http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/index.htm

June 06 - Environment
• Goodhart ch.18

June 07 - Human Trafficking
• Goodhart chapter 12

June 10 - Children’s Human Rights
• Goodhart chapter 13

June 11 - Human Rights and Forced Migration
• Goodhart chapter 14

June 12 - Indigenous Peoples
• Goodhart chapter 15
• Stolen sisters: a human rights response to discrimination and violence against indigenous women in Canada. (Ottawa: Amnesty International Canada, 2004); Available from the Western library website:

June 13 - Torture
• Goodhart chapter 17

June 14 - Genocide
• Goodhart chapter 16
• http://www.24hoursfordarfur.org/main.php

June 17 - Humanitarian Intervention (Essay Due Date)
• Goodhart chapter 19

June 18 - Transitional Justice
• Goodhart chapter 20

June 19 - A Radical Doubt

June 20 - The Future of Human Rights
• Goodhart “Conclusion”

June 21 - Exam Preparation
PARTICIPATION

Participation may take many forms. Throughout this course, you will be asked to participate in a number of different ways, including participation in discussions, simulations, and debates. Critical to all of this, of course, is attendance—you can’t participate if you’re not here!!

Participation Grading Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Always</td>
<td>Excellent: leads debate; offers analysis and comments; always has ideas on theme of reading; takes care not to dominate; asks questions</td>
<td>Clearly has done and prepared questions on virtually all readings; intelligently uses this understanding and these questions in discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Almost always</td>
<td>Very Good: thoughtful comments and questions for the most part; willing, able and frequent contributor</td>
<td>Has done most readings; provides competent analysis of reading when prompted by others</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Frequent</td>
<td>Good: 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</td>
<td>Displays familiarity with most readings, but tends not to analyze them or to relate them to the course material</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Occasional</td>
<td>Somewhat Poor: remarks in class marred by misunderstandings of key concepts; seldom contributes effectively to discussion of the main theme; often digresses in unhelpful ways; sporadic</td>
<td>Actual knowledge of material is outweighed by improvised comments and remarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>Rare</td>
<td>Poor: rarely speaks; parrots text or comments of others</td>
<td>Little or no apparent familiarity with assigned material</td>
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## Grading Grid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argument</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization of the Essay</td>
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<td>Quality of evidence</td>
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<td>Communication Skills</td>
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<td>Use of quotations and footnotes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Comments</td>
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<td>Grade</td>
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