

HUMAN RIGHTS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE
Political Science 153
Winter 1998-99
MWF 9 AM

Prof. Alison Brysk
SSPB 2279
M 11-1
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The final exam will be a take-home, due finals week. The essay will be an analysis of one of the following books, including additional research on relevant background, an evaluation of the information and perspective presented, and a discussion of the connection between the book and class themes.

1. Alison Brysk, *THE POLITICS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA* (Stanford University Press, 1994).
2. John Copper and Ta-Ling Lee, *COPING WITH A BAD GLOBAL IMAGE: HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, 1993-94* (University Press of America, 1997).
3. Daniel Goldhagen, *HITLER'S WILLING EXECUTIONERS* (*)
4. Philip Gourevitch, *WE WISH TO INFORM YOU THAT TOMORROW WE WILL BE KILLED WITH OUR FAMILIES: STORIES FROM RWANDA* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1998).
5. Richard Holbrooke, *TO END A WAR [Bosnia]* (Random House, 1998).

The midterm, final, and essay will be weighted equally at 30%; class participation will determine the remaining 10% of the grade.

Readings

Jack Donnelly, *International Human Rights* (Westview Press, 1998).

Human Rights Watch, *Labor Rights and Globalization in Asia*.

Human Rights Watch, *Slaughter Among Neighbors*.

Human Rights Watch, *Truth and Partial Justice in Argentina*.

Schedule

Week 1 CONCEPTS

M Introduction

W History

F Current Issues

Donnelly, Ch.1

Week 2-

M TheoryBWhat Rights? Donnelly, Ch.2
W Why Rights?
F When Rights Conflict

Week 3-

M MLK, NO CLASS
W Monitoring Human Rights
F Political Causes Slaughter Among Neighbors

Week 4-

M Economic Causes
W Psychological Causes
F ***MIDTERM***

Week 5-PATTERNS AND CASES

M Torture Donnelly, Ch.3
W Disappearances in Argentina
F Genocide

Week 6-

M Ethnic Cleansing in Bosnia Donnelly, Ch.7
W Civil Liberties
F Political Prisoners in China Donnelly, Ch.6

Week 7-

M PRESIDENTS= DAY, NO CLASS
W Social Rights
F Deadly Democracies: Brazil, Colombia Labor in Asia

Week 8-REMEDIES

M Global Institutions Donnelly, Ch.4
W Foreign Policy Donnelly, Ch.5
F International Campaigns

Week 9-

M National Policy: Investigation
W Human Rights Trials Truth and Partial Justice
F Institutional Reform

Week 10-

M Education and Social Consciousness
W Human Rights Movements
F Conclusion Donnelly, Ch.8

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
Political Science 153
T Th 11 AM
Spring 2000-01

Professor Alison Brysk
SSPB 2221
Th 3:30-4:30 PM
x.1582
Abrysk@uci.edu

This course will analyze theories, patterns, and cases of human rights violations throughout the world. What are international human rights standards? What social and political conditions seem to cause widespread human rights violations? What remedies are available, at the international, national, and individual levels?

General Policies

No adds will be accepted after the second week of class.

No late assignments will be accepted without documentation of a medical or family emergency.

Please do not bring cell phones, pagers, or other noise-producing devices to class.

Requirements

Assignments include a midterm, final, case study paper, and class participation. The exams will be a combination of short-answers and essays. The paper (10-12 pages) will be a case study of the human rights situation in a specific country or particular issue-area. The case study should present solid documentation from multiple sources on the nature of human rights violations, the remedies attempted, and *the relationship to concepts we have studied in class*.

The written exercises will each be worth 30% of the final grade, while participation will be 10%. I have a “zero tolerance” policy for academic dishonesty, which includes giving or receiving information or notes during an examination, improperly claiming credit for the work of another author on a paper, or failing to document the source of information used in your paper. Any of these activities will result in failing the assignment and possibly the course.

Readings

Jack Donnelly, International Human Rights, Westview, 1998.

Ervin Staub, The Roots of Evil, Cambridge, 1989.

*article packet will be provided in the first few weeks of class.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS:

CONCEPTS

Week 1—

T: Introduction

Th: History Donnelly, Ch.1

Week 2-

T Theory What Rights? Donnelly, Ch.2

Th Why Rights?

Week 3-

T Structural Causes Staub, Ch.2-3

Th Individual Causes
+PAPER TOPIC DUE Staub, Ch. 4-6

CASES—

Week 4-

T Genocide in Yugoslavia Donnelly, Ch.7

Th Politicide in Cambodia Staub, Ch. 13

Week 5-

T **MIDTERM**

Th Library Training: Research on Human Rights

Week 6-

T Torture and Disappearances in Argentina Donnelly, Ch.3

Th Political Prisoners in China
+PAPER BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE Donnelly, Ch.6

Week 7-

T Social Rights: Domestic and Global

Th Human Rights in the United States *article packet

REMEDIES--

Week 8--

T Global Institutions Donnelly, Ch.4

Th Foreign Policy
+PAPER OUTLINE DUE Donnelly, Ch.5

Week 9-

T National Policy: Investigation

Th Human Rights Trials *article packet

Week 10-

T Human Rights Movements

Th Conclusion—**PAPER DUE** Donnelly, Ch.8

FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, June 12th @ 10:30 AM

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
Political Science 153E
T Th 11 AM
Winter 2002

Professor Alison Brysk
SSPB 2221
Th 3:30-4:30 PM
x.1582
Abrysk@uci.edu

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Readings

Jack Donnelly, International Human Rights, Westview, 1998.

William F. Schulz, In Our Own Best Interest: How Defending Human Rights Benefits Us All, Beacon, 2001.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS:

VIOLATIONS

Week 1—1/8:

T: Introduction

Th: History

Donnelly, Ch.1

Schultz, Intro.

Week 2-1/15:

T What Are Rights?

Donnelly, Ch.2

Th Arguments For

Schultz, Ch.1

Week 3-1/22:

T Arguments Against

Th Patterns of Violations: Bosnia

Donnelly, Ch.7

+PAPER TOPIC DUE

Week 4-1/29:

T Causes of Violations

Th Effects of Violations

Schultz, Ch.2, 3, 4

Week 5-2/5:

T Review

Th **MIDTERM**

REMEDIES

Week 6-2/12:

T Global Institutions

Donnelly, Ch.4

Th Global Action: Sanctions, Intervention, Law

+PAPER BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

Week 7-2/19:

T Foreign Policy

Donnelly, Ch.5

Th Hard Cases: China

Donnelly, Ch.6

Week 8—2/26:

T Truth, Trials, and Good Cops

Th National Reforms: Argentina

Donnelly, Ch.3

+PAPER OUTLINE DUE

Week 9-3/5:

T Social Rights

Write your paper!

Th Human Rights and Globalization

Week 10-3/12:

T Bringing Human Rights Home

Schulz, Ch.7

Th Conclusion—**PAPER DUE**

Schulz, Ch.8

FINAL EXAM:

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
Political Science 153E
T Th 2 PM
Winter 2003

Professor Alison Brysk
SSPB 2221
Th 10-11 AM
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This course will analyze theories, patterns, and cases of human rights violations throughout the world. What are international human rights standards? What social and political conditions seem to cause widespread human rights violations? What remedies are available, at the international, national, and individual levels?

General Policies

No adds will be accepted after the second week of class.

No late assignments will be accepted without documentation of a medical or family emergency.

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Requirements

Assignments include an in-class midterm, discussion questions, case study paper, and class participation. The midterm exam will be short answers, requiring a definition, example, and analysis of a set of key terms or concepts. The paper (10-12 pages) will be a case study of the human rights situation in a specific country or particular issue-area. The case study should present solid documentation from multiple sources on the nature of human rights violations, the remedies attempted, and *the relationship to concepts we have studied in class*.

If you receive an A on the midterm, you will have the option of substituting a 15-minute oral presentation for the discussion questions. The oral presentation may be related to your paper, but it must involve some new material or different aspect. The oral presentation also must include some written product to share with the class, such as an outline, factsheet, or detailed graphic.

Midterm	30%
Discussion questions (3 @ 10 points each)	30%
Paper	30%
Participation	10%

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Readings

Jack Donnelly, International Human Rights, Westview, 1998.

David Forsythe, Human Rights in International Relations, Cambridge, 2000.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS:

VIOLATIONS

Week 1—1/7:

T: Introduction

Donnelly, Ch.1

Th: History

Forsythe, Ch.1

Week 2-1/14:

T What Are Rights?

Donnelly, Ch.2

Th Arguments

Forsythe, Ch.2

Week 3-1/21:

T Patterns

Th Patterns of Violations: Bosnia

Donnelly, Ch.7

+PAPER TOPIC DUE

Week 4-1/28:

T Causes of Violations

Donnelly, Ch.4-5*

Th Effects of Violations

*not on this topic, reading ahead for the following week to avoid overload

Week 5-2/4:

T **MIDTERM**

REMEDIES

Th Global Institutions

Forsythe, Ch.3

Week 6-2/11:

T Global Action: Sanctions, Intervention, Law
+PAPER BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

Forsythe, Ch.4-5

Th Foreign Policy

Forsythe, Ch.6

*Discussion Question #1 Due

Week 7-2/18:

T Hard Cases: China

Donnelly, Ch.6

Th Truth and Justice?

Donnelly, Ch.3

*Discussion Question #2 Due

Week 8—2/25:

T National Reforms: Argentina
Th Human Rights and Globalization

Forsythe, Ch.8

+PAPER OUTLINE DUE

*Discussion Question #3 Due

Week 9-3/4:

T Bringing Human Rights Home
Th Student presentations

Forsythe, Ch.7

Week 10-3/11:

T Student presentations
Th Conclusion—**PAPER DUE.**

FINAL EXAM: The paper substitutes for the final exam.

Discussion Questions (2 pages double-spaced):

ANALYZE these questions, drawing on the Forsythe, Donnelly, and lecture material. Be sure to provide CONCRETE support or illustration for your points.

1. How effective can various forms of global action be in preventing and remedying human rights violations? Why? Are some forms better, or better for some situations, than others?
2. Should human rights be the primary consideration in U.S. foreign policy? Why or why not? What are competing concerns or contradictions?
3. How much can countries do to heal in the aftermath of massive human rights violations? What kinds of measures are most likely to be effective?

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
Political Science 153E
T Th 9:30 AM
Fall 2003-04

Professor Alison Brysk
SSPB 2221
Th 11-12 AM
x.1582
Abrysk@uci.edu

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General Policies

No adds will be accepted after the second week of class.

No late assignments will be accepted without documentation of a medical or family emergency.

Please do not bring cell phones, pagers, or other noise-producing devices to class.

Requirements

Assignments include an in-class midterm, book review essay paper, film review and class participation. The midterm exam will be short answers, requiring a definition, example, and analysis of a set of key terms or concepts. The paper (8-10 pages) will be an in-depth review of a major work from the list below, including *the relationship to concepts we have studied in class*. Participation grades will be based largely on participation in the “warm-ups” exercises the TA will lead at the beginning of each class. The film review will be a 1-2 page summary AND ANALYSIS of a film related to human rights, viewed outside of class.

Midterm	35%
Essay components (4 @ 5 points each)	20%
Final Paper	20%
Film review	10%
Participation	15%

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Readings

Jack Donnelly, International Human Rights, Westview, 1998.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS:

VIOLATIONS

Week 1—9/30:

T: Introduction

Donnelly, Ch.1

Th: History

Week 2-10/7:

T What Are Rights?

Donnelly, Ch.2

Th Why Rights?

Week 3-10/14:

T Causes of Violations

article on Web site

Th Genocide

FILM-The Horror Continues

Week 4-10/21:

T Bosnia/Rwanda

Donnelly, Ch.7

Th Dictatorship: Argentina

Donnelly, Ch.3

Week 5-10/28:

T Deadly Democracies

RD. FOR BK. REVIEW!

Th **MIDTERM**

Week 6-11/4:

REMEDIES

T Global Institutions

Donnelly, Ch.4

Th Global Action: Sanctions, Intervention, Law

*main arg due

Week 7-11/11:

T **NO CLASS**

Th Foreign Policy

Donnelly, Ch.5-6

*cases due

Week 8—11/18:

T National Reforms: Argentina

Th Social Movements

FILM-Las Madres

*class themes due

Week 9-11/25:

T Human Rights and Globalization

Donnelly, Ch.8

*current application due

Th **NO CLASS**

Week 10-12/2:

T Bringing It Home: Human Rights in the U.S.

Th Conclusion—

***PAPER DUE.

FINAL EXAM: The paper substitutes for the final exam.

BOOK REVIEW ESSAYS:

Choose one book from the following list, and write an 8-10 page (double-spaced) ANALYSIS. You may draw on published reviews of the work, but they MUST be properly credited—and a significant portion of the paper should be your own original thought. All of these books have been ordered at the bookstore as Recommended Reading, and there is at least one copy in the library. The books are all lengthy and compare multiple cases, so you will need to read them slowly over many weeks to fully digest them.

- 1) Samantha Power, “A Problem From Hell”: America and the Age of Genocide, Perennial, 2002.

[Pulitzer Prize winner, focus on foreign policy response to violations]

- 2) Ervin Staub, The Roots of Evil, *.

[analyzes the causes and process of genocide]

- 3) Thomas Risse, Stephen Ropp, and Kathryn Sikkink (eds.) The Power of Human Rights, Cambridge University Press, 1999.

[an edited collection of case studies of international pressure that produces human rights reform]

Each essay must answer the following questions:

--Summarize the author(s)' main argument. Why is this argument significant or innovative?

--Provide detailed examples of the evidence presented, covering at least THREE cases. How does the evidence support or challenge the main argument? How was the evidence gathered, and what types of sources were used?

--How do the author(s)' conclusions relate to themes we have studied in class? Do these findings fit into general principles? Compare to similar cases? Raise new questions?

--How could this book's main message be applied to a current, ongoing case of human rights violations (briefly summarize the situation)? How would reading this book influence policy, protest, or other forms of action towards a current situation?

--What is your overall evaluation of this text? What are its major strengths and weaknesses? What did you learn? What questions are still unanswered? What new research could answer these questions?

Any additional sources cited should be included in a bibliography at the end of the essay.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
Political Science 153E
T Th 9:30 AM
Winter 2005

Professor Alison Brysk
SSPB 2221
Ofc HR: Th 11-12 AM
x.1582
Abrysk@uci.edu

This course will analyze theories, patterns, and cases of human rights violations throughout the world. What are international human rights standards? What social and political conditions seem to cause widespread human rights violations? What remedies are available, at the international, national, and individual levels?

General Policies

No adds will be accepted after the second week of class.

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Requirements

Assignments include an in-class midterm, book review essay paper, film review and class participation. The midterm exam will be short answers, requiring a definition, example, and analysis of a set of key terms or concepts. The paper (8-10 pages) will be an in-depth review, including *the relationship to concepts we have studied in class*. The film review will be a 1-2 page summary AND ANALYSIS of a film related to human rights, viewed outside of class.

Midterm	35%
Essay Final Paper	35%
Film review	10%
Participation	15%

I have a “zero tolerance” policy for academic dishonesty, which includes giving or receiving information or notes during an examination, improperly claiming credit for the work of another author on a paper, or failing to document the source of information used in your paper. Any of these activities will result in failing the assignment and possibly the course.

Readings

Darren J. O’Byrne, HUMAN RIGHTS: AN INTRODUCTION, Prentice Hall, 2003.

Thomas Risse, Stephen C. Ropp, and Kathryn Sikkink, THE POWER OF HUMAN RIGHTS: INTERNATIONAL NORMS AND DOMESTIC CHANGE, Cambridge University Press, 1999.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS:

Week 1—4/4:

T: Introduction

Th: History

O’Byrne, Introduction

Week 2-4/11:

T What Are Rights?

O’Byrne, Chapter 1

Th Why Rights?

Week 3-4/18:

T Causes of Violations

Th Human Rights Problems: Genocide-Rwanda

O’Byrne, Chapter 9

Week 4-4/25:

T *Human Rights Solutions: International Law

O’Byrne, Chapter 2

Th *Human Rights Solutions: Boycotts and Divestment

Week 5-5/2:

T Human Rights Problems: Globalization

O’Byrne, Chapter 10

Th MIDTERM

Week 6-5/9:

T Human Rights Problems: Political Prisoners-China

O’Byrne, Chapter 4

Th Human Rights Solutions: Foreign Policy

Week 7-5/16:

T Human Rights Problems: Torture-Argentina

O’Byrne, Chapter 5

Th Human Rights Solutions: Transitional Justice

Week 8—5/23:

T Human Rights Problems: Death Penalty—US

O’Byrne, Chapter 6

Th Human Rights Solutions: Law and Protest

Week 9-5/30:

T Human Rights Problems: War Crimes—Iraq and Beyond

Th Human Rights Solutions: Rethinking National Security

Week 10-6/6:

T Expanding Human Rights

O’Byrne, Conclusion

Th Conclusion

*****PAPER DUE.**

FINAL EXAM: The paper substitutes for the final exam.

BOOK REVIEW ESSAYS:

Using the Risse, Ropp, and Sikkink book, each essay must answer the following questions:

- Summarize the author(s)' main argument. Why is this argument significant or innovative?
- Provide detailed examples of the evidence presented, covering at least TWO cases. How does the evidence support or challenge the main argument? How was the evidence gathered, and what types of sources were used?
- How do the author(s)' conclusions relate to themes we have studied in class? Do these findings fit into general principles? Compare to similar cases? Raise new questions?
- How could this book's main message be applied to a current, ongoing case of human rights violations (briefly summarize the situation)? How would reading this book influence policy, protest, or other forms of action towards a current situation?
- What is your overall evaluation of this text? What are its major strengths and weaknesses? What did you learn? What questions are still unanswered? What new research could answer these questions?

Any additional sources cited should be included in a bibliography at the end of the essay.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
Political Science 153E
T Th 11-12:30 AM
Fall 2005

Professor Alison Brysk
SSPB 2221
Ofc HR: T 2-3 PM
x.1582
Abrysk@uci.edu

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General Policies

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Requirements

Assignments include a midterm, final, short discussion papers, and class and section participation. The midterm exam will be short answers, requiring a definition, example, and analysis of a set of key terms or concepts. The final will be an essay.

Midterm	35%
Final	35%
Short papers	10%
Participation	15%

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Readings

Darren J. O’Byrne, HUMAN RIGHTS: AN INTRODUCTION, Prentice Hall, 2003.

David P. Forsythe, HUMAN RIGHTS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, Cambridge, 2000.

Week 1:	T	9/27	Introduction	
	TH	9/29	History of Human Rights	
Week 2:	T	10/4*	What Are Rights?	F, Ch. 2

	TH	10/6	Debating and Justifying Rights	O'B, Ch. 1
Week 3:	T	10/11	*Conference—International Tribunals	F, Ch. 4
	TH	10/13*	Problem: Genocide	O'B, Ch. 9
Week 4:	T	10/18	Solution: International Law	F, Ch. 3
	TH	10/20	Problem: Torture	O'B, Ch. 5
Week 5:	T	10/25	Solution: Justice	
	TH	10/27*	MIDTERM	
Week 6:	T	11/1	Problem: Political Prisoners	O'B, Ch. 4
	TH	11/3	Solution: Foreign Policy	F, Ch. 6
Week 7:	T	11/8	Problem: Death Penalty	O'B, Ch. 6
	TH	11/10	Solution: NGOs	F, Ch. 7
Week 8:	T	11/15	Problem: Globalization	O'B, Concl.
	TH	11/17	Solution: Campaigns	F, Ch. 8
Week 9:	T	11/22	Problem: War Crimes	
	TH	11/24	NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING	
Week 10:	T	11/29	Solution: Think Different?	F, Ch. 9
	TH	12/1	Conclusion	
FINAL:			TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 10:30-12:30 AM	

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
Political Science 149
T Th 3:30-4:50
Winter 2008

Professor Alison Brysk
SSPB 2221
x.1582
Abrysk@uci.edu

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Requirements

Assignments include a midterm, final, four short papers/presentations, and class participation. The midterm exam will be short answers, requiring a definition, example, and analysis of a set of key terms or concepts. The final will be an essay.

Midterm	30%
Final	35%
Short papers (5 points each)	20%
Participation	15%

The short papers/presentations include:

- writing a Wiki entry for the Human Rights portal
- leading a blog for the Human Rights portal
- a one-minute briefing on a current human rights issue (scheduled by problem area)
- a book review of a new academic book on human rights

Guidelines for each of these will be distributed in class.

Readings

Jack Donnelly, *International Human Rights*—Third Edition, Westview, 2007.

Week 1:	T	1/8	Introduction	
	TH	1/10	History of Human Rights	Ch. 1
Week 2:	T	1/15	What Are Rights?	Ch. 2

	TH	1/17	Debating and Justifying Rights	Ch. 3
Week 3:	T	1/22	Problem: Discrimination	
	TH	1/24	Solution: *MLK Lecture—7 PM*	
Week 4:	T	1/29	Patterns and Causes	
	TH	1/31	The Study of Human Rights	
Week 5:	T	2/5	MIDTERM	
	TH	2/7	Problem: Torture	Ch.4
Week 6:	T	2/12	Solution: International Law	Ch. 5
	TH	2/14	Problem: Political Prisoners	Ch. 7
Week 7:	T	2/19	Solution: Foreign Policy	Ch. 6
	TH	2/21	Problem: Genocide	Ch. 8
Week 8:	T	2/26	Solution: Intervention?	*Wiki due
	TH	2/28	Problem: Globalization	Ch. 9
Week 9:	T	3/4	Solution: Campaigns	
	TH	3/6	*Human Rights Portal Interactive*	*blog
Week 10:	T	3/11	Problem: War Crimes/Counter-terror	Ch. 10
	TH	3/13	Conclusion	*book review due
FINAL:		TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 4-6 PM		