INR 4075
Human Rights Policy

Spring 2014
Credit hours: 3

Professor: Demet Yalcin Mousseau
Office: 302M Howard Phillips Hall
Phone: 407-823-2608
E-mail: Demet.Mousseau@ucf.edu

Class meets: Tue-Thu 10:30 – 11:45 AM, MSB 359
Office Hours: Tue-Thu 12:30 – 13:15 PM, and by appointment

UCF Catalogue Description: Human Rights Policy: PR: ENC 1102 or POS 2041 or C.I. Meaning of human rights, political and international implications of human rights policies, relationship to global peace, racism, gender inequality, economic development and democratization.

Course Goals/Objectives: Achieve an accurate and in-depth understanding of human rights issues; improve ability to think; promote research and writing skills.

Detailed Section-specific Description of the Course: Topics include historical, practical, and institutional development of different types of human rights, including civil and political rights, social and economic rights as well as cultural, group and developmental rights, evolution of international human rights, and comparative analysis of human rights around the world. Part I begins with the theoretical and historical roots of human rights; Part II covers international institutions and activities on human rights around the world; Part III proceeds with human rights issues concerning ethnicity, gender, democracy, and pluralism; and Part IV addresses human rights in the context of development and democratization in developing countries.

Required Text: The course texts are: 1) Jack Donnelly, *Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice*; 2) David P. Forsythe, *Human Rights in International Relations* (both latest editions). In addition, several articles and book chapters are used. Pages are assigned according to the order of the lectures, not the order of the text.

Course Web Page: All lecture Power Point slides, including pictures, videos and graphs, as well as supplementary materials, will be made available on the course web page at Webcourses@UCF.

Course Outline

Part I THEORETICAL AND HISTORICAL ROOTS OF HUMAN RIGTHS

January 7 **Introduction**

January 9-16 **What are Human Rights?**
Reading:
Jack Donnelly, chapters 1 and 2

January 14 – 16 **A Brief History of International Human Rights**
Reading:
Jack Donnelly, chapter 5

David P. Forsythe, chapters 1 and 2

January 21-23 **Human Rights in Western Liberalism and the Debates on Cultural Relativism**
Reading:
Jack Donnelly, chapters 6, 7 and 8

January 30 **In-class quiz**. This is a *preliminary* date: I reserve the right to change this date with one week notice.

Part II INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ACTIVITIES ON HUMAN RIGHTS

February 4-6

Internationalization of Human Rights and the United Nations

Reading:
Jack Donnelly, chapter 11

David P. Forsythe, chapters 3 and 4

http://www.derekgevans.com/pdf/ARTICLE-Human_Rights_Four_Generations.pdf

February 11-13

Regional Application of Human Rights

Reading:
Jack Donnelly, chapter 11

David P. Forsythe, chapter 5

February 18 – 20

Human Rights and Foreign Policy

Reading:
Jack Donnelly, chapter 12

David P. Forsythe, chapter 6

February 25

Reminder: Due date for paper topics and outline.

February 25

Non-state Actors and Human Rights

Reading:
David P. Forsythe, chapters 7 and 8

February 27

In-class quiz. This is a *preliminary* date: I reserve the right to change this date with one week notice.

March 3 – 7

Spring Break (holiday).

Part III ETHNICITY, GENDER, DEMOCRACY, AND HUMAN RIGHTS

March 11 - 18 **Ethnicity, Gender and Discrimination**
Reading:
Jack Donnelly, chapters 15 and 16

March 20-25 **Ethnic Conflict, Institutions and Policy for Ethnic Inclusion**
Reading:
Arend Lijphart, (1977) "Consociational Democracy," in Democracy in Plural Societies, pp. 25-52

Mahmood Mamdani, "The New Humanitarian Order?" *The Nation*, September 29, 2008.
http://www.thenation.com/article/new-humanitarian-order

March 27 **Gender and Social Inclusion**
Reading:
http://www.ccsd.ca/subsites/inclusion/bp/as.htm

http://unsdsn.org/files/2013/09/130917_TG3_Final_report.pdf

Part IV DEVELOPMENT, DEMOCRATIZATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

April 1 – 3 **Development and Human Rights Policy**
Reading:
Jack Donnelly, chapter 13 and 14

April 8 – 10 **Democracy, Human Rights and International Policy**
Reading:
https://www.un.org/en/globalissues/democracy/human_rights.shtml

http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2011/oct/13/eu-focus-human-rights-aid

http://www.usoas.usmission.gov/democracy.html

April 15 **Global and Regional Organizations and Human Rights**
Reading:
http://f.edgesuite.net/data/www.humanrights.org/files/human-rights-organizations.pdf

April 17 **Back up (Due date for papers)**

Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation

The course is structured around the lectures.

25% - In class quiz. Short-answer identifications and essays on readings and lectures, closed book.

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25% - Final quiz. Short-answer identifications and essays on readings and lectures, closed book. Date not determined by Webcourses@UCF as of this writing.

25% - Paper. Due last day of classes: *April 17* (bring papers to class as hardcopy). **Papers are not accepted electronically**.

Late Paper Policy: Late papers are acceptable but accrue penalties of 5% reduction for each day late. After **April 23,** papers **will not be** accepted. Exceptions are allowed for exceptional circumstances at instructor's discretion.

Make-up Exam Policy: Make-ups for exams will be given only for documented circumstances of illness or official college activities. Under such circumstances you are required to notify me in advance or with 24 hours after missing the exam.

Letter/Grade Equivalencies:

90% - 100%	A
87% - 89.99%	B +
80% - 86.99%	B
77% - 79.99%	C +
70% - 76.99%	C
67% - 69.99%	D +
60% - 66.99%	D
Below 60%	F

Curve Policy: No curve.

Method of Grade Reporting: Webcourses@UCF.

Paper Rules and Guidelines

Rules

- Expected length is 8 pages (cover page is not included).
- Use Microsoft Word.
- Use double spacing, standard margins, and 12-point *New Times Roman* or *Palatino Linotype* font.
- Use the citation style of the *American Political Science Review*. This means reference your sources in the text in parenthetical format: "(last name(s) year: page number(s))". For example, (Horowitz 2000, 8–9)." when referring to particular pages. **Note how the period at the end of the sentence appears AFTER the ending parenthesis.**
- With parenthetical format, use footnotes only if you have something to say that does not fit well with the flow of your paper. Use footnotes, not endnotes.
- You should cite the source every time you use someone else's arguments, research, or quotations (otherwise you are plagiarizing). However, avoid long quotations. Instead try to express quotes in your own sentences, still citing them.
- Number your pages.
- Align text left.
- Divide your papers into sections, including introduction, conclusion and bibliography. You should have subsections in the body.

Guidelines

You will each write an 8 page (double-spaced) research paper on the question below. Cover page is not included in this. The papers are due on April 17th. **Please do not send papers via email.** Bring your papers as hard copy to class by the mentioned deadline. Emailed papers are not accepted.

Focus on the following topic:

Analyze Country X's certain human rights practices since the 1980s. You will focus on a specific human rights issue.

In analyzing the above topic you will pay attention to the following questions:

What kind of human rights are weak or violated in this country, civil and political, minority, or social and economic. Define specific human rights violations with respect to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the United Nations. This section should be short no more than one and half pages. And then, analyze these specific human rights that you think are very problematic and crucial in that country such as political freedoms, labor rights, minority rights, women's rights and so on mostly focusing on the post-1980 era until today. Try to show cases and examples of these violations. Analyze political, cultural and economic factors in that country during this period, that lead to or affect such kind of violations. If these violations have been changing, identify which factors have been changing them (i.e., policy, laws, democratization, external aid and others) You can also utilize theoretical perspectives in the analysis of human rights that we discussed in our lectures but your analysis will be essential part of the paper.

Country Assignments: You will pick a country and a human rights question for analysis in that country, and send it to me with a brief outline by **February 25**. If that country is already taken you need to come up with another one. After your topic is decided and confirmed by the teacher, if you write a paper on a different topic at the end, the paper will not be valid.

Sources: Your sources have to be a combination of the following:

- Books, book chapters, and journal articles (at least five): Conduct research in the relevant databases.

- Web-site sources (internet): Please **do not use Wikipedia** as a web source since they can be unreliable. Web sources should be from reliable international organizations such as the UN, European Council, Amnesty International, World Bank, and others.
- Country sources: These include official web-sites of countries, governments, organizations, political parties, think tanks, universities, etc. Be sure to refer to specific reports and studies as your sources.

Miscellaneous

Campus Resources: You should be aware that help is available if you are struggling with this course! First see me, your instructor: I want you to understand the material and would be most pleased to help if you are having trouble. Other resources include the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC), for supplemental instruction and academic tutoring, and the University Writing Center.

Disability Access Statement: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone 407-823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone 407-823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Academic Conduct Statement: UCF is committed to promoting a culture of academic integrity where faculty and students work together to meet our personal, professional, and social responsibilities. A degree from UCF is only valuable to the extent it reflects valid assessments of student learning. Misrepresenting your learning on tests, projects, reports, or papers invalidates your grades and tarnishes the credibility of UCF. While collaboration is encouraged in the learning and studying process, you should assume that all tests, quizzes, etc. require your individual effort unless explicitly directed otherwise. Unauthorized collaboration, whether voluntary or not, is cheating. Unauthorized use of materials during a test, quiz, or other assessment is cheating. Regarding papers and projects, one of the core fluencies that students need to demonstrate is the ability to discern information that is common to the public from the intellectual property of individuals. Use of protected ideas, processes, or language without attribution or proper citation is plagiarism.