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Office Hours: M, W 11:30-12:30

University of Washington
M, W 9:30 - 11:20 am
PAR 305

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE POL S 447/LSJ 490

This is an undergraduate senior seminar and can be applied to the course requirements for the following fields in the Political Science Department: comparative politics and international relations. It also fulfills requirements for the Law, Societies and Justice Program: seminar requirement and comparative sub field.

This course adopts a global justice approach to examine and understand current policy questions. Students are introduced to the concept of global justice through a discussion of three main types: justice as accountability, justice as fairness and justice as equality. The course will apply these concepts to a series of international justice topics including mass atrocity and criminal law, global health rights, international trade, environmental justice, gender equality, refugees and migration. Students will engage these topics as a dynamic process examining in greater detail a main institution of international justice, the European Court of Human Rights and also the many actors characterizing each justice topic including civil society organizations, state officials, legal activists, prosecutors and judges. The course will raise contemporary challenges in international justice, including the recent exit of countries from the International Criminal Court and questions regarding the ability of international justice institutions to handle issues of mass migration or environmental justice. The topics will also highlight recent innovations such as the expansion in international justice to understand domestic violence as a human rights violation or rape as a form of torture.

There are no exams in this course and assignments will demand active participation in discussion and significant reading, writing and research. Students will be trained in using innovative new databases for international justice research and they will have the opportunity to work in task forces to create multimedia reports on international justice topics. Students will also be required to write and present a final policy report.

Readings

Required readings will be posted on the course website under the Modules link and then listed under the associated class meeting date. To maintain flexibility in the course, the readings may change as the course proceeds and students will be informed in advance of these changes.

Course Website

The course website can be located at: <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1100872>

Expectations and Assignments

All students are required to come to class having read the assigned readings and be prepared to engage in active discussion. Students will be given the chance to lead discussions and engage the readings at a

deep level. The course will emphasize critical thinking and writing. The course will also actively engage students in doing legal research including case briefing and coding international court case law. Full details on the assignments will be added to the course website as the quarter proceeds. The following gives a general guide of the assignments and assessment for the course.

- 1) Reading Response Brief Assignment and Participation: In preparation for our discussion, students are required to submit a Reading Response Brief (RRB) prior to the class meeting. They are to be **uploaded to the course website under Discussions by 5pm the day before class** (so Sunday and Tuesday nights at 5pm) and they are **also due in hardcopy in class** so you can raise your points in the discussion. RRBs are about a paragraph in length (approximately 200-250 words) and they answer the following two questions: 1) In what you read for today, what did you find most illuminating and why? And 2) In what you read for today, what did you find most surprising and why? In addition to these questions, on some days, I may pose a particular related question for you to respond to in your RRB.
- 2) Task Force Group Participation and Assignments: Each student in the course will be assigned to a Task Force (TF). There will be 4 TF Groups and you will work together as a team on a variety of assignments including the following assignments:
 - Discussion Facilitation: Each TF has been assigned to be the discussion leaders for one class session as marked in the Class Schedule below. Students will be required to give a 5-8 min presentation for each of the readings/material assigned on that date (longer or shorter depending on the material), offering background information/material, key arguments and 1-2 questions for group discussion. It is up to the TF Groups to decide how they will divide and share this responsibility. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or need assistance.
 - ECtHR TF Research and Presentation: Each TF Group is assigned to a particular area of ECtHR case law from the ECtHR Factsheets. TF Groups will be given a set of research assignments including coding case law and also constructing a multi-media case study for their case law topic. TF Groups will then lead a class session in discussing related assigned reading and giving a presentation of the multi-media case study. Each group member will present a portion of the case study.
- 3) ECtHR Multi-Media Case Study, Policy Paper and Presentation: Student's will complete a Policy Paper and Multi-Media Case Study on a self-selected topic from the ECtHR Factsheets. It may be an individual topic that came from the larger topic area that you worked on with your TF Group. The Policy Paper is approximately 3,000 words (around 11 pages). The Multi-Media Case Study is a power point based presentation that will bring together research materials on your topic and provide a platform for other's to learn about your topic. Further details will be given when we discuss the assignments.

Assessment:

Reading Response Briefs, Research Exercises and Participation	15%
ECtHR Task Force Group Presentation and Research	20%
ECtHR Policy Multi-Media Case Study and Presentation	25%
ECtHR Policy Paper (3,000 words, app.11 pages)	40%

Late assignments will not be accepted other than in catastrophic circumstances. Please contact me immediately if a circumstance arises that prevents you from completing an assignment.

Academic Conduct: I will enforce strictly the University of Washington's Student Conduct code, including the policy on plagiarism. The entire code can be found at <http://www.washington.edu/students/handbook/conduct.html>.

Disability Accommodations. If you would like to request accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Disability Resources for Students office, 448 Schmitz Hall, 543-8924 (V/TDD). If you have a letter from Disabled Student Services indicating you require accommodations, please present the letter to me as soon as possible so that I can make necessary arrangements.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 4: Introduction to the course

PART I: CONCEPTS AND TYPES OF GLOBAL JUSTICE

Monday, January 9: Concepts of Global Justice

- Johnston, *Prologue: From the Standard Model to a Sense of Justice*
- Risse, *Global Justice (read sections 1 and 7-10)*
- Irwin, *How a Quest by Elites is Driving Brexit and Trump*, NY Times
- Pinker, *The Moral Instinct*, NY Times Magazine

Type 1: Global Justice as Accountability

Wednesday, January 11: Accountability and Mass Atrocity

- Grant and Keohane, *Accountability and Abuses of Power in World Politics*
- Sikkink, *Justice Cascade (Chap. 1: Introduction)*
- Leonard, *Establishing an International Criminal Court*

Monday, January 16: MLK Holiday, no class meeting

Type 2: Global Justice as Fairness

Wednesday, January 18: Fairness and International Trade and Public Health

- Klosko, *Fairness, The Encyclopedia of Political Science*
- Risse, *Chapter 18: Justice and Accountability: The World Trade Organization*
- HRCases Online, *The Treatment Action Campaign in South Africa*

Monday, January 23: Accountability and ICC Case Study

- ICC Class Simulation: HKS Multimedia Case Study, *A Delicate Balance: The ICC's Process for Identifying New Cases* (purchase online access)

Wednesday, January 25: Fairness and Environmental Justice

Discussion Facilitator: Task Force 4

- Schlosberg, *Reconceiving Environmental Justice: Global Movements and Political Theories*
- Chan, *Climate Contribution and Paris Agreement: Fairness and Equity*
- European Court of Human Rights, *Steel & Morris vs. UK*
- *How to Brief a Case Template*

Type 3: Global Justice as Equality

Monday, January 30: Economic Equality

Discussion Facilitator: Task Force 3

- Milanovic, *The Three Concepts of Inequality Defined*
- Piketty, *Introduction and Chap. 15*
- Milanovic, *Chap. 1: The Rise of the Global Middle Class and Global Plutocrats*

Wednesday, February 1: ECtHR Task Force Group Research Sessions (*group organized session, out of class option*)

Monday, February 6: *Snow day, class canceled*

Wednesday, February 8: Trends in (In)equality: Gender, Health, Education and others

Discussion Facilitator: Task Force 2

- Dorius and Firebaugh, *Trends in Global Gender Inequality*
- Kenny, *Why Are We Worried about Income?*
- Reid, *Equality to Brutality: Global Trends in LGBT Rights*

PART II: INTERNATIONAL COURTS AND THE ECtHR AS INSTITUTIONS OF JUSTICE

Monday, February 13: International Courts and the ECtHR

Discussion Facilitator: Task Force 1

- Alter, *The Evolving International Judiciary*
- Cichowski, *Courts, Rights and Democratic Participation*
- Alter, *Private Litigants and the New International Courts*

Wednesday, February 15: *Task Force 4*

- Mowbray, *The Creativity of the European Court of Human Rights*
- Presentations and Discussion

Monday, February 20: President's Day Holiday, no class meeting

Wednesday, February 22: out of class research assignment, no class meeting

Monday, February 27: *Task Force 3*

- Van den Eynde, *An Empirical Look at the Amicus Curiae Practice of the Human Rights NGOs before the ECtHR*
- Presentations and Discussion

Wednesday, March 1:

Task Force 2

- Helfer & Voeten, *International Courts as Agents of Legal Change*
- Presentations and Discussion

Task Force 1

- Van der Vet, *Seeking Life, Finding Justice: Russian NGO Litigation before the ECtHR*
- Presentations and Discussion

PART III: POLICY/JUSTICE ISSUE PRESENTATIONS

Monday, March 6: *Individual Presentations*

Wednesday, March 8: *Individual Presentations*

Friday, March 10: Policy/Justice paper due by **4pm to my mailbox in Gowen 101**. Please put both my name and your name on the paper. The paper must also be **submitted electronically to the course website**.