

Humanitarian Intervention
A-S 3900
Spring 2017

Course Description: From the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, to the Rwandan genocide in 1994, to the Arab Spring in 2011, the norms governing humanitarian intervention have been subjected to intense scrutiny and debate. This discussion is complicated by the multitude of stakeholders affected, the politicization of intervention, and the wide variety of forms intervention can take—from traditional UN peacekeeping to NGOs to full-fledged military engagement. Where the just war tradition turns to cases of individual self-defense in search of moral principles that govern national self-defense, humanitarianism finds its moral basis in other-defense. This course will explore how to apply principles of just war theory to humanitarian intervention. Using the Responsibility to Protect as our conceptual framework, we will evaluate the morality of unilateral humanitarian wars of the cold war era, UN peace keeping operations of the early 1990s, and contemporary humanitarian aid.

Professor: Dr. Fritz Allhoff, J.D., Ph.D.
fritz.allhoff@wmich.edu, 269-387-4503 (w)
Moore 3006, Monday 11:00-1:00

Guest Lecturers: Mr. Keagan Potts
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Mr. Dale Brown
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Mr. Andrew Marquis
andrew.h.marquis@wmich.edu

Class: 3014 Moore Hall
TR 9:30-10:45

Electronics: In order to facilitate our collective concentration, please leave laptops, tablets, and smartphones out of reach; bring hard copies of readings.

Texts: All readings will be made available electronically; students do not need to purchase any materials.

Grading: Students will submit four reaction papers (see below), each of which comprises 20% of the final grade. The remaining 20% is attendance and participation.

This course uses a standard scale: >92% = A; 90-92% = A-; 88%-90% = B+; 82%-88% = B; 80%-82% = B-; 78%-80% = C+; 72%-78% = C; 70%-72% = C-; 68%-70% = D+; 62%-68% = D; 60%-62% = D-; <60% = E.

Reaction Papers: Each week, students are required to submit a reaction paper; these should be 1000 words, half exegetical, half evaluative. Reaction papers should include approximately ten footnotes to primary source material—i.e., neither substantially more nor substantially fewer—which, at a minimum, should include the week’s reading(s). Use of additional sources is welcome, but not required.

Late submissions will be penalized 10% and will not be accepted more than one week past the due date.

Attendance: Each student will be allowed up to two absences. Beyond those, each subsequent absence reduces the course grade by one third of a letter grade (e.g., A to BA, BA to B, B to CB, etc.). There is no distinction between excused and unexcused absences and *no need to provide notice with regards to any absences*. Any student needing further dispensation (e.g., with regards to ongoing health issues) should speak with Dr. Allhoff.

Participation: Students should make regular contributions to in-class discussions; they are encouraged to contribute orally at least once a week (i.e., every other lecture). Participation will be used to adjudicate borderline final grades.

Statement on Academic Honesty: You are responsible for making yourself aware of and understanding the policies and procedures in the Undergraduate Catalog that pertain to Academic Honesty (pp. 274-276). These policies include cheating, fabrication, falsification and forgery, multiple submission, plagiarism, complicity and computer misuse. If there is reason to believe you have been involved in academic dishonesty, you will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. You will be given the opportunity to review the charge(s). If you believe you are not responsible, you will have the opportunity for a hearing. You should consult with me if you are uncertain about an issue of academic honesty prior to the submission of an assignment or test.

CLASS	DATE	INSTRUCTOR	TOPIC	READINGS
1	1/9	Allhoff	Just War Theory	Frowe, chapter 2
2	1/11	Allhoff	<i>Jus ad Bellum</i>	Frowe, chapter 3
3	1/16	Potts	Humanitarian Intervention in Theory	Weiss, chapter 1
4	1/18	Potts	Humanitarian Intervention in Practice	Weiss, chapter 2
5	1/23	Marquis	Obligations to Refugees	Carens
6	1/25	Marquis	Immigration & Culture	Scheffler
7	1/30	Brown	Climate Change & Justice	Widdows; Singer & Fei
8	2/1	Brown	Climate Change & Refugees	UNHCR; Singer
9	2/6	Allhoff	Discussion	N/A