

Saving Strangers: Humanitarian Intervention in International Society

Fall 2001- CORE 2402

Professor Jack Donnelly

One of the more striking features of post-Cold War international society has been the development of a theory and practice of humanitarian intervention. This course seeks to explore the background, causes, nature, and limits of these changes. As a Thematic Core course, it is interdisciplinary in nature, combining legal, moral, and political analysis. Because no prior background in international studies is assumed, we will also spend some time introducing a few central concepts and issues in that discipline, in order to provide a theoretical framework for our substantive inquiries concerning humanitarian intervention. We will make regular use of written assignments posted to discussion forum in the Blackboard site for this course. Each student will write two "response papers" of about 500 words and two "comments" on response papers, one each in each half of the course, and all four in different weeks of the quarter. A response paper should not simply summarize the argument made in the reading. Rather, it should respond, preferably critically or quizzically, to an important argument or problem raised in the reading. The point is to think critically about the reading before coming into class -- and by you doing so, to help focus some critical thoughts of your classmates. You have substantially more freedom in the comments, but again, critical engagement with ideas and arguments ought to be the goal. Response papers must be posted 48 hours before the class in which the reading will be discussed. Comments must be posted by noon of the day preceding the class. Grades will be based primarily on a final paper of approximately 25 pages. Class participation and Internet writing assignments will also be taken into account.

Thursday, September 13

Anarchy, Order, and International Society

- o Hedley Bull, *The Anarchical Society*, pp. 3-74

Tuesday, September 18

Sovereignty and Intervention

- o Alan James, *Sovereign Statehood*, ch. 1-3.
- o Rosalyn Higgins, "Intervention and International Law," in Hedley Bull (ed.), *Intervention in World Politics*.

Thursday, September 20

Political Realism

- o Jack Donnelly, *Realism and International Relations*, ch. 1.

Tuesday, September 25

Realism and Morality

- George Kennan, "Morality and Foreign Policy," *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 63, Winter 1985/86, pp. 205-218.
- Bull, *Anarchical Society*, ch. 4.
- Donnelly, *Realism*, ch. 6.

Thursday, September 27

Morality and the Use of Force

- Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars*, pp. 3-33, 51-63.

Tuesday, October 2

The Law of Humanitarian Intervention

- Thomas M. Franck and Nigel S. Rodley, "After Bangladesh: The Law of Humanitarian Intervention by Military Force" *American Journal of International Law* vol. 67 (April 1973), pp. 275-305.
- Oscar Schachter, "The Right of States to Use Armed Force." *Michigan Law Review* vol. 82 (1984), pp. 1620-.

Thursday, October 4

The Ethics of Humanitarian Intervention

- Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars*, ch. 6.

Tuesday, October 9

Humanitarian Intervention and International Society

- Nicholas Wheeler, *Saving Strangers*, ch 1, 2.

Thursday, October 11

Uganda and Cambodia

- Wheeler, *Saving Strangers*, ch. 3, 4.

Tuesday, October 16

Iraq, Rwanda, and Bosnia

- Wheeler, *Saving Strangers*, ch. 6, 7, 8, Conclusion.

Thursday, October 18

Kosovo (I)

- Albrecht Schnabel and Ramesh Thakur, *Kosovo and the Challenges of Humanitarian Intervention*, ch. 1-5.

Tuesday, October 23

Kosovo (II)

- Schnabel and Thakur, *Kosovo*, ch. 6-9, 14-17.

Thursday, October 25

Kosovo (III)

- Schnabel and Thakur, *Kosovo*, ch. 20, 21.

This takes us through the end of the seventh week. Around the fifth week we will decide what to do in the final three weeks. Possibilities include other cases (e.g. East Timor), thematic topics (e.g. responding to genocide), or new institutions (international criminal tribunals). And we will probably do one or two wrap-up classes at the very end.