INTS 4875: Human Rights and Foreign Policy

Spring 2001

Jack Donnelly and David Goldfischer

This course explores the interaction of human rights with other foreign policy concerns, with special attention to United States foreign policy in the post-Cold War era. The course seeks to combine, in a team taught format, standard human rights and foreign policy approaches. Our goal is to explore the spaces that have (and have not) been and may (and may not) be available for the pursuit of human rights interests in national foreign policies. We focus on a case study approach, in order to be able to pursue issues in depth. Following an introductory comparative overview, we devote six weeks to U.S.-Chinese relations since Tiananmen, a case that runs the full gamut of foreign policy issues and instrumentalities short of the threat of force. The final three weeks will be devoted to Kosovo, where the issue of force was raised in a dramatic way in what a number of commentators have seen as an historical turning point.

Students will write a paper of about 25 pages on a topic related to the course. In addition, there will be weekly Blackboard assignments. Each student will write one five-page paper that seeks to provide either a) an analytical overview of the week's readings or b) a defense or critique of a leading perspective represented in the week's reading. In addition, each student will write two two-page comments on one of the weekly papers. Papers need to be posted by noon on Saturday. Comments need to be posted by noon on Monday. Instructions for posting are available at http://www.du.edu/~jdonnell/BlackboardHelp.htm
Week 1 (March 27): Introduction: Human Rights and Foreign Policy

Reading:

David P. Forsythe, Human Rights and Comparative Foreign Policy, ch. 1-7, 10

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Recommended:


Bruce W. Jentelson, American Foreign Policy: The Dynamics of Choice in the 21st Century (for students without any U.S. foreign policy background).

Week 2 (April 3): Tiananmen and its Aftermath

Reading:
Rosemary Foot, Rights Beyond Borders, ch. 1, 4, 5.


Recommended:


Week 3 (April 10): Human Rights and Asian Values

Reading:

Bilahari Kausikan. "Asia's Different Standard." Foreign Policy Fall 1993, pp. 24-41.

Aryeh Neier, "Asia's Unacceptable Standard." Foreign Policy Fall 1993, pp. 42-51.


Recommended:


Yash Ghai, "Rights, Social Justice, and Globalization in East Asia," in Bauer and Bell.

Week 4 (April 17): Human Rights in American Foreign Policy

Reading:


Jack Donnelly, Realism and International Relations, ch. 6.


Hans Morgenthau, "Human Rights and Foreign Policy"


Recommended:


**Week 5 (April 24): Sino-American Relations: An Historical Overview**

Reading:
Week 6 (May 1): Sanctions: Competing Interests and Approaches in the mid-1990s

Reading:

Foot, ch. 6-7

CSIS U.S. China Policy Task Force, Developing a Consensus for the Future, Executive Summary and ch. 3.


https://wwwcc.cc.columbia.edu/sec/dlc/ciao/olj/jia/jia_win9619.htm1

Chas. W. Freeman, "Sino-American Relations: Back to Basics," Foreign Policy Fall 1996, pp. 3-25


Recommended:
Mann, ch. 11-15.


Kent, ch. 5, 6


Week 7 (May 8): From Sanctions to PNTR

Reading:

Foot, ch. 8-9

Elizabeth Economy and Michel Oksenberg, China Joins the World, ch. 1, 3-6.


Recommended:

Mann, pp. 292-380.

Economy and Oksenberg, ch. 2, 7-9.
Week 8 (May 15): Kosovo: An Introduction

Reading:


Weeks 9 and 10: TBA

Our tentative plan is to devote the last two weeks to group projects connected with Kosovo, but this may change based on the interests of the class.