

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
SOC 401.31, Summer 2008

CLASS:	TR 5:00 pm-7:45 pm	OFFICE:	MW 2:00-2:30 pm, TR 7:45-8:15 pm or by appt.
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Bruce K. Friesen	E-MAIL:	bkfriese@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE:	SS 902	ROOM:	SS 010
PHONE:			

I. REQUIRED TEXTS:

Micheline Ishay, *The History of Human Rights: From Ancient Times to the Globalization Era*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2004.

Richard Falk, *Human Rights Horizons: The Pursuit of Justice in a Globalizing World*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2000.

II. PURPOSE OF THE COURSE:

How can human beings protect themselves from their governments? Over time, humankind has answered this question by articulating and institutionalizing a commitment to the philosophy of human rights. Is this method effective? By examining the historical and sociological movements that have given rise to the human rights movement, students will be in a position to critically evaluate for themselves the effectiveness of this movement that, both internationally and domestically, is ubiquitous.

III. A NOTE ABOUT SUMMER CLASSES:

Summer courses are necessarily *intense* due to the abbreviated time period in which to complete the course. Expectations regarding student performance are, if anything, *higher* in such courses than during a regular term since a full course must be completed in a shorter period of time. Students are expected to put in at least 1.5 hours of outside classroom study for every one hour of classroom instruction; or approximately five hours of study per class period. ***Be forewarned: adjust your other commitments accordingly!***

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

All course requirements must be completed for a passing grade in this course.

<u>Requirement:</u>	<u>Points:</u>	<u>Percentage:</u>
In-Class Essays (3x20 ea.)	60	20%
Paper	60	20%
Paper Presentation	40	13%
Quizzes (4x10 ea.)	40	13%
Professionalism	20	7%
Take-Home Exam	<u>80</u>	<u>27%</u>
TOTAL	300	100%

Grading -Grades are calculated according to the following scale:

A	93-100%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	77-79%	F	<60%

A. In-Class Essays – Students will write a response to a prompt for 30 minutes of class on three different days. A hint for the prompt will be shared at the end of the class prior to the day on which the essay is written. The essays are closed book. Essays will be graded on the following criteria: 1) logic and flow of ideas, 2) use of text material, 3) integration of examples from other sources (news items, other courses taken or books read), and 4) acknowledgement of sources (indicate where the information comes from).

B. Paper – Students will write a nine to ten page research paper on a topic selected from a list provided by the professor. Provide enough information on your topic so that the reader has a good overview of the issue at hand. Next, explain how your topic relates to the content in the relevant chapter in Robbins. Finally, provide information to critique the relevant chapter in Robbins. That is, is there information that contradicts, supplements, or updates what Robbins has written? Papers will be graded accordingly.

Your bibliography should consist mostly of quality sources (i.e. peer reviewed articles or books), on an average of one different quality source per page of text. At this level of study, parenthetical citations, a quality bibliography, and good grammar are imperative.

B. Class Presentation – These 30 minute presentations will be graded on the following: 1) Clarity in presenting and explaining the contents of the research paper (15 points), 2) Use of visual aids or handouts (5 points), 3) Attempts to engage the class in content-related discussion or activity throughout the presentation (15 points), 4) Organization and time-consciousness (5 points). DO NOT simply read your presentation.

C. Quizzes – Four quizzes will be given, consisting of ten true/false questions on required readings. *There is NO make-up for a missed quiz, for any reason.*

D. Professionalism – Employers expect college-educated employees to act in a professional manner. Thus, points will be earned in class for acting in a professional manner. This includes being on time for class and returning from class breaks, staying for the duration of the class, listening respectfully while others (including the professor) are talking, sharing at least once during each class period yet being careful to not dominate class discussions, being prepared for class and being on task when class is in session. Talking to others (including the professor), one-on-one, in a respectful, deferent, and confidential manner, is the professional way to resolve problems.

Points are *not* earned for unprofessional behaviors, which include: tardiness, leaving while class is in session, engaging in distracting activities including cell phones buzzing or ringing, communicating to others when someone has the floor, working on homework for other classes, sleeping in class, or displaying disrespectful gestures or other forms of non-verbal communication.

E. Take-Home Exam – Students will have an opportunity in this exam to answer the question “Is humankind better off today than before the advent of capitalism?” In addition to course materials, readings specifically oriented towards this question will be provided as inspiration.

V. COURSE EXPECTATIONS-

A. No Recordings – Do not record lectures electronically without explicit permission from the Instructor. In the rare case that you receive this permission, the recording must be destroyed within one week of its creation.

B. Academic Integrity - Most members of society expect that people with college degrees act with integrity and determination. Indeed, we expect it of ourselves and each other. Your own ethical behavior will reflect positively on both you and the tradition established at the University of Calgary, and will raise your self-esteem. Violations of this code cast doubt on us all.

We therefore have little tolerance for those who choose to cheat, plagiarize, or otherwise violate the integrity of the educational experience. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar, which contains a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with plagiarism, cheating, and other academic misconduct.

As a reminder, copying an author’s words OR even ideas (this includes those of another student or any information collected via the Internet and other sources) and presenting them as your own is academic fraud or plagiarism. Thus, make sure the work you hand in is entirely your own, and that you have not created the work for another class. Properly cite the sources of any phrase or idea that is not your own, and include all cited sources in a bibliography. ***It is YOUR responsibility to educate yourself how to make correct parenthetical citations and bibliographic entries.*** In addition, always keep a copy of any work you hand in. Be aware that your Instructor may use software to identify portions of papers which have been taken from other sources such as the Internet.

Any student found guilty of violating the rules for academic integrity will, at a minimum, be awarded a grade of “F” for the assignment and/or the course. A report will also be filed with the Administration who will decide if further disciplinary action is warranted.

C. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor’s office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

VI. ASSISTANCE AND ENRICHMENT:

A. Blackboard.com – Log in regularly to check for messages and to check your grades.

B. Academic Accommodation -- Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, Telephone 220-8237). Academic recommendation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. **It is the student’s responsibility to**

register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.

C. Safewalk – The University of Calgary provides a safewalk service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around campus.

D. For Extra Credit (10 points), you may attend ONE public function preapproved by your Instructor.

Hand in a two-page typewritten, double-spaced paper summarizing: 1) the content of the presentation (1 page), 2) your reaction (half page), and 3) what you learned about globalization through the presentation (half page). **AUGUST 6 is the last day possible to hand this in.**

TOPICAL OUTLINE FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Complete the assigned chapter readings *BEFORE* the topic is addressed in class.

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>TOPIC:</u>	<u>QUIZ:</u>	<u>ISHAY CHP.</u>	<u>FALK CHP.</u>
July 3	What are Human Rights?			
8	The Declaration of HR		pp. 211ff	
10	The Holocaust			
July 15	Ethical Contributions		1	
17	The Enlightenment		2	
22	Socialist Contributions		3	
24	Midterm Exam , The UN			
29	Framing the Dialogue			2, 4, 5
July 31	Dilemmas			6, 7, 8
Aug 5	Past Grievances			10, 11, 12
7	Globalization		5	
12	Presentations Paper Due			
Aug 14	Final Exam			