

**GPPS430 – Human Rights: Law, Policy and Politics
Spring 2021
Let's Get Virtual!**

Instructor: Professor Emilie M. Hafner-Burton
School of Global Policy and Strategy
Virtual Office
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30pm to 1:30pm,
Wednesday, 11:30-12:30

Sign up in advance for office hours [here](#).
Join your appointment at your designated time on;
Tuesday and Thursday [here](#)
Wednesdays [here](#).

NOTE: that I will be flexible to accomodate your needs and will be holding many additional office hours by request.

Class Times: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00am to 12:20pm
By [Zoom](#) with details located in Canvas.

GPS Writing Coach: James Radcliff (jjradcli@ucsd.edu)

Class Grader Writing Coach: John Porten (john.porten@gmail.com)
Office hours: by appointment

While there are many strategies for protecting human rights, people living everywhere are repressed in a variety of different ways. This **seminar** is designed to prepare graduate students in international affairs and public policy to analyze the causes of human rights abuses and the effectiveness of various policy interventions and strategies for human rights promotion, locally and globally. It applies insights from a variety of disciplines to explore conflicts among peoples competing for power, resources, and autonomy in various contexts. Attention will be focused on developing the tools to evaluate the design, implementation, and effectiveness of human rights policy, including legal tools, government institutions, militaries, development, trade and investment, social movements and social networks. We will consider core intellectual arguments and puzzles as they concern various forms of violations—including civil and political, economic, social and cultural—against various groups—including children, enemy combatants, minorities, voters, women and workers. We will consider these arguments in the context of specific countries and events. The course emphasizes the development of critical thinking, analytical writing and presentational skills.

Course requirements: Attendance in the virtual classroom is applauded. This is a seminar: all students are required to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings and will be called on to share their views. Class participation, 3 memos (2-3 double spaced pages each), a presentation and a final paper (10-15 double spaced pages) are required. This course is reading, writing and speaking intensive; we will work to build your critical thinking skills and sharpen your analytical and presentational skills.

Reading Assignments: Approximately 100 pages per week. To help you focus your preparation for the discussion, this syllabus lays out questions for every session. You should be prepared to discuss these questions.

Course Materials: All course materials are available electronically. Students will be given a free (electronic) copy of *Making Human Rights a Reality*.

Grading: Final grades will reflect a group presentation (25%), class participation (25%), 3 individual memos (25%) and a final paper in lieu of a final exam (25%).

GPS grading curve: All IRCO and IRGN courses are graded using the School's grading guidelines as follows: In classes with fewer than 25 students, A grades (including A+ and A-) should not be given to more than half of the class.

ZOOM: We will be using Zoom as our virtual classroom. Please pre-set these [zoom settings](#).

[Zoom Policies and Tips:](#) Please read and follow guidelines.

[Meeting Protocol:](#) All meetings with Prof. Hafner-Burton must be setup and confirmed in advance [here](#). Meetings will be centered on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during office hours, but the professor will do her best to accommodate you in this uncertain time. She will be holding extra office hours as needed. Please reach out: the Prof. is here to help make sure you get as much time as needed to make the quarter successful.

If you are presenting, please sign up [here](#) for office hours **at least two weeks** in advance. All meetings will be held via [zoom](#) and with video enabled. Promptness is required as we limit ALL MEETINGS to 15 minutes, unless otherwise specified. Students will be working in virtual groups and will be responsible for organizing those meetings. Please let us know if you need assistance.

Participation: Human Rights is a highly interactive course and everyone must participate. However, due to the evolving nature of the crisis, we are going to be flexible about how that participation is graded to ensure that no one is penalized if they cannot participate in synchronous time. Please advise the professor of your ability to participate by zoom (Grade 25%).

Asynchronous Participation: For those of you who are not able to attend class "in person", you may watch the videos which are uploaded to canvas (though there seem to be some glitches in the process of making the accessible to you, so please let us know if you cannot access them). I will also upload the slides under "Files". Please turn in (under "Assignments" in Canvas) a one to two page single-spaced memo per week (starting week 2) outlining your reflections on the material: the main lessons learned from the material as well as your analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the material we are discussing. Please feel free to add comments on the case studies that we will be discussing in class as well.

Course [Memos](#) are listed on the syllabus and due through Canvas (to: turnitin.com) 5pm the day before class and should be carefully edited. They are not to exceed 3 double spaced pages, with one-inch margins. Memos must follow all conventions of attribution and notation. Quotes and paraphrasing must be explicitly cited. Violation of these rules is plagiarism. (Grade: 25%)

Presentation: Each student will participate in a presentation consisting of two parts. (1) A 5 minute pre-recorded [video](#) to be viewed by all students PRIOR to class. After watching the video, all students must post at least one constructive comment on the video on a pinned Discussion Board. (2) A 15 minute in class guided [discussion](#) relating the video/case to the assigned reading. Your assignment will be posted [here](#). All students **MUST meet at least two weeks prior** to giving their presentation with the professor to review their approach and method. **BE CREATIVE!** (Grade: 25%) **LISTEN to instructions** [here](#).

Presentation Materials: Please send live links of your video and your slides **at least 24-36 hours in advance** of the presentation via google drive, or similarly user friendly file sharing service. Please allow anyone to download so that we can access it on the first try, regardless of location. The video link will be posted in Canvas under presentations and your assigned date and topic for each student to watch on their own time. The slides for the presentation will be live screenshared during class.

Final Paper: The final paper (10-15 double-spaced pages) is a policy memo to the organization of your choice analyzing the effectiveness of the international human rights system to address a specific problem of your choice in the country of your choice and recommending a specific policy strategy to address the problem. The memo must focus on one type of human rights violation and one country. Papers are due on Friday, June 5th at 5:00pm to: turnitin.com. (Grade: 25%).

Writing and Analytical Development: Written work will be graded for substance as well as for quality of writing. Students are highly encouraged to set appointments with our GPS writing coach, Erin Carson, as well as our course writing coach and grader, John Porten.

Class	Date & Subject	
1	Tuesday, March 30th: An Introduction	
UNIT ONE – AN INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS		
2	Thursday, April 1st: What Are Human Rights?	
	<i>Please indicate your preferred subjects for presentation here.</i>	

3	Tuesday, April 6th: Fact-finding Missions and Data	
UNIT TWO – CAUSES		
4	Thursday, April 8th: Economic, Political and Social Contexts	
	<i>Monday, April 11th: 1st Memo Assignment, due by 5pm</i>	
5	Tuesday, April 13th: Psychological Rationales	
UNIT THREE – INTERNATIONAL LEGAL TOOLS		
6	Thursday, April 15th: The International Human Rights System	
7	Tuesday, April 20th: How International Law Works—Prospects	
8	Thursday, April 22nd: How International Law Works—Problems	
	<i>Monday, April 26th: 2nd Memo Assignment, due by 5pm</i>	
UNIT FOUR – POLICY AND PRACTICE		
9	Tuesday, April 27th: Reforming the Human Rights System	
10	Thursday, April 29th: Humanitarian Intervention and Regime Change	
	<i>Monday, May 3rd: 3rd Memo Assignment, due by 5pm</i>	
11	Tuesday, May 4th: Elections	
12	Thursday, May 6th: International Trade	
13	Tuesday, May 11th: Multinational Corporations and Foreign Investment	
14	Thursday, May 13th: Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)	
15	Tuesday, May 18th: <i>In Class Time to Work on Final Paper</i>	
16	Thursday, May 20th: National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs)	
17	Tuesday, May 25th: <i>In Class Time to Talk about the World, Your Needs and Concerns, Your Passions and Futures.</i>	
UNIT FIVE – STRATEGY		

18	Thursday May 27th: Social Networks and Technology	
19	Tuesday, June 1st: Priorities and Strategies Moving Forward	
20	Thursday, June 3rd: The Future of Human Rights	

21	Friday, June 4 th : FINAL PAPER is due at 5:00pm to turnitin.com	
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