

# Human Rights and Third World Development

Dr. Bessie House-Midamba  
Spring 1994

## Course Description

The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to the relationship between human rights and the problems of the Third World. In this context, human rights and third world development are viewed as complementary, rather than competing goals.

The course focuses on the importance of the attainment of all human rights -- civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights.

Various theoretical approaches will be examined which include the liberal, imperial, and political economic approaches to human rights. We will also focus on some problems inherent in the national and international implementation of human rights. We will analyze the manner in which factfinding undertaken by NGO's, the United Nations, and regional agencies, can support human rights.

The course has three major goals:

1. to provide a basic understanding of human rights and third world development problems
2. to present major theories in the area of human rights
3. to analyze how national and international agencies monitor human rights abuse.

Students are expected to complete reading assignments before the topic is presented in class. Students are also encouraged to do extra reading on their own. Class participation is strongly encouraged and will account for 15% of the final grade.

## Course Reading

Jack Donnelly, *International Human Rights*

George Shepherd Jr. and Ved Nanda, *Human Rights and Third World Development*

Richard Falk, *Human Rights and State Sovereignty*

Bessie House-Midamba. *Class Development and Gender inequality in Kenya. 1963-1990*

Journal articles for this course have been placed on reserve in the university library.

## Course Evaluation

There will be two midterms and a final examination. The final examination will be comprehensive. Students are expected to take examinations at scheduled times. Makeup exams will not be given except in cases of verifiable medical emergency.

Regular attendance and consistent punctuality to class are expected. Class attendance is mandatory and no incomplete grades will be given for this course.

A term paper is required. Each undergraduate student will write a 12-page paper on an aspect of human rights in the Third World. Papers are due on April 29, 1994.

The final grade will be based on the scores of the three examinations and the term paper:

Midterm I	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Final Exam	20%
Paper	25%
Class Participation	15%

### **Week 1 -- January 19-21**

#### *Introduction*

What do we know about Human Rights?  
Major Issues in Human Rights

Donnelly, Chapter 1  
Falk, Introduction  
Shepherd and Nanda, Introduction and Chapter 1

### **Week 2 -- January 24-28**

#### *Theoretical Foundations of Human Rights*

Donnelly, Chapter 1  
Falk, Chapter 3

Maurice Cranston, "What are Human Rights?," *Human Rights Reader*, pgs. 17-25.

Kenneth Minogue, "The History of the Idea of Human Rights," *Human Rights Reader*, pgs. 1-17

Daniel P. Moynihan, "The Politics of Human Rights," *Human Rights Reader*, pgs. 25-40.

### **Week 3 -- January 31-February 4**

#### *U.S. Foreign Policy and Human Rights*

Falk, Chapter 2  
Donnelly, Chapter 5

J. Bryan Hehir, "The United States and Human Rights: Policy for the 1990's in Light of the Past," in *Eagle in a New World*, edited by Kenneth Oye, pgs. 233-258.

Robert Ross, "National Security, Human Rights & Domestic Politics: The Bush Administration and China," in *Eagle in a New World*, edited by Kenneth Oye, pgs. 231-314.

### **Week 4 -- February 7-11**

#### *Human Rights in a Third World Context*

George Shepherd, "Global Majority Rights: The African Context," *Africa today Journal*, Vol. 34, no. 1 and 2, 1987.

Jack Donnelly, "Human Rights and Human Dignity: An Analytic Critique of Non Western Conceptions of Human Rights," *American Political Science Review*, 76, no. 2, (June), pgs. 303-316.

### **Week 5 -- February 14-18**

#### *Human Rights and Economic Development*

Shepherd & Nanda, chapter 2

Jeff Frieden, Classes, Sectors and Foreign Debt in Latin America, *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 21, no. 1, October 1988, pgs. 1-20.

Richard Feinberg and Delia Boylan, "Modular Multilateralism: U.S. Economic Policy Toward Southern Nations in an Age of Uneven Development in *Eagle in a New World*, edited by Kenneth Oye, pgs. 179-206.

Kenneth P. Jameson, "Mortgaging a House of Cards: The Ethics of International Debt" in *Third World* 1991/92, pgs. 182-185.

### **Week 6 -- February 21-25**

#### *Democratization Movements in Latin America*

Adrian Leftwich, "Governance, Democracy and Development in the Third World", *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 14, No. 3, 1993, pgs. 605-621.

Kenneth Bollen, "Issues in the Comparative Measurement of Political Democracy," *American Sociological Review*, 45, no.3, (June), pgs. 370-390.

Terry Lynn Karl, Dilemmas of Democratization in Latin America,' *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 23, no. 1, 1990, pgs. 1-22.

Jan Knippers Black, Elections and other Trivial Pursuits: Latin America and the New World Order," *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 14, No. 3, 1993, pgs. 545 -554.

First Midterm Exam, Friday, February 28, 1992.

### **Week 7 -- February 28-March 4**

#### *Democratization Movements in Africa*

Robert Fatton, "Liberal Democracy in Africa," *Political Science Quarterly*, 105, (Fall), pgs. 455-474.

Nigel Gibson, "Why is Participation a Dirty Word in South African Politics?", *Africa Today*, Vol. 37 (1990), pgs. 23-52.

Michael Bratton and Nicholas Van de Walle, "Towards Governance in Africa: Popular Demands and State Responses," in *Governance and Politics in Africa*, edited by Goran Hyden and Michael Bratton, pgs. 27-56.

*Third World Quarterly*, vol. 14, No. 3, 1993! pgs. 423-438.

**Week 8 -- March 7-11***Human Rights and Racial Equality*

Christopher Marrett, "Detention Without Trial in South Africa: The Abuse of Human Rights as a State Strategy in the Late 1980's," *Africa Today*, Vol. 37, no. 2, pgs. 53-66.

David Penna, "Apartheid, The Law and Reform in South Africa," *Africa Today*, vol. 37, no. 2, pgs. 5-22.

**Week 9 -- March 14-18***Political Killings. Torture and Arbitrary Arrest*

Donnelly, Chapter 3

Ted C. Lewellen, "Structures of Terror: A Systems Analysis of Repression in El Salvador," in Shepherd and Nanda, eds., Chapter 3

Gordon Bowen, "The Political Economy of State Terrorism: Barrier to Human Rights in Guatemala," in Shepherd and Nanda, eds., Chpt. 4.

**Week 10 -- March 21-25***Political Freedom to the Eliminating of Torture*

James David Barber, "The Fight to Stop Torture" in *Third World*, 91/92, pgs. 160-162.

William McGinn, "The Scandal of the Boat People," *Third World*, 91/92, pgs. 163-167.

Gary Thatcher, "Iraq's Fleeing Kurds," *Third World*, 170-171.

**Week 11 -- March 28-April 1*****Spring Break Week*****No Classes****Week 12-- April 4-8***Women, Development. and Human Rights*

United Nations, "The State of the World's Women, 1985, pgs. 1-17.

Bessie House-Midamba, *Class Development and Gender Inequality in Kenya*, 1963 1990, Chpts. 1, 2, 4, 5.

Fran Hosken, "Toward a Definition of Women's Rights," *Human Rights Quarterly*, Vol. 3, Number 2, pgs. 1-10.

Laura Reanda, "Human Rights and women s Rights: The United Nations Approach in *Human Rights Quarterly*, Vol. 3, Number 2, pgs. 11-31.

Kathleen Barry, "Female Sexual Slavery: Understanding the International Dimensions of Women's Oppression , *Human Rights Quarterly*, Vol. 3, Number 2, pgs. 44-52.

Second Midterm Exam, Friday, April 8, 1994

**Week 13 -- April 11-15**

*The Struggle for Self Determination*

Shawky Zeiden, "A Human Rights Settlement. The West Bank and Gaza," in Shepherd and Nanda, eds.

Guy McDougall, "International Law, Human Rights and Namibian Independence, *Human Rights Quarterly*, August 1986.

**Week 14 -- April 18-22**

*The Right to Know*

Anthea J. Jeffery, "Free Speech and Press, An Absolute Right?, *Human Rights Quarterly*, May 1986.

Thomas Franck and H. Scott Fairley, "Procedural Due Process in Human Rights Fact-Finding by International Agencies," *American Journal of International Law*, 74, April 1980.

Amnesty international, "Academics Imprisoned in African Countries who are Prisoners of Conscience," pgs. 1-7.

Amnesty International, "Togo: Report of a Government Commission of Inquiry into Torture," pgs. 1-10.

Amnesty International, "South Africa: Imprisonment and Ill-Treatment of Children and Young People," pgs. 1-14.

**Week 15 -- April 25-29**

*Implementing Human Rights*

Dennis Driscoll, "The Development of Human Rights in International Law," *Human Rights Reader*, pgs. 11-45.

"Amnesty International Twelve Point Program for the Prevention of Torture," 1983, *Human Rights Reader*, pgs. 366-367.

Philip Alston and Gerard Quinn, "The Nature and Scope of States Parties Obligations Under the International Covenant on Economic and Social and Cultural Rights," *Human Rights Quarterly*, Nov. 9, no. 2, 1987.

Richard Carver, "How African Governments Investigate Human Rights Violations, pgs. 1-23.

**Week 16 -- May 2-6**

*Preventing Human Rights Abuse*

Holly Burkhalter, Human Rights Watch, "The Reagan Administration's Human Rights Record 1988," *Human Rights Reader*, pgs. 430-433.

Falk, Chpts. 6-7.

**Week 17 -- May 9-13**

Final Exam