

INTL 4295: War and Human Security
University of Georgia, Department of International Affairs

Course Instructor Information:

Dr. Erin Little

Little.erin@uga.edu

Office hours by appointment in-person (304 Candler Hall) or Zoom (link available on eLC)

Course Meeting Information:

Spring 2023

Sanford Hall 313

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the core of our study of international affairs lies the individual. Each human being is a component of community relations, state politics and leadership, regional and global institutions, and international peace and conflict. This means that actions at these levels also influence the security these individuals experience. This class aims to explore this dynamic more deeply, particularly as it connects to wartime effects on human security.

We will begin with some conceptualization and measurement of human security. We will then explore a series of relevant international and domestic conflict processes to provide a setting for how human security becomes preserved and threatened. Human security may be divided into two categories: freedom from want and freedom from fear. So following some overview of conflict processes, we will discuss specific types of human security as it relates to each of these categories and how a war setting effects these freedoms. Finally, we will explore paths to economic and political development that can help reform and preserve human security.

EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Current Events reports

Beginning in Module III, rather than reading quizzes, you will be asked to submit a short 1-2 paragraph current events report. Find a current event related to the human security issue of the week and describe in what way the event highlights the human security issue. As your source will most likely be a news report, I will require the current event to be corroborated in at least two different news sources, to be cited along with your report. A template will be made available on eLC.

***Cucina povera* Recipe**

Following our discussion of food security, you will be asked to come up with your own recipe that you think meets the principles of *cucina povera*, meaning a recipe that meets a set of nutritional

requirements within a particular budget. Your recipe should include a short review of the dish. I will put all of your recipes together in a free digital cookbook for our class, with your permission. No materials will be published or provided publicly without your permission.

Policy Critiques and Reforms

In the second half of the semester, you will be asked in small groups during class to critique human security-related policies for an assigned country. The first critique will address “freedom from want” issues, while the second critique will address “freedom from fear” issues. You will then have a policy reforms assignment with your same group in which you will select **one** of the two policy critiques assignments and respond to it with a set of proposed policy reforms for the state. Each critique and the reform assignment will be worth 10%. You will have time in class to complete both the critiques and reforms, and due dates are outlined below.

Quizzes

You will have 5 quizzes through Module 2. These will review the readings for that week and are worth 10% of your final grade (2% per quiz). All quizzes can be found on eLC.

There will be no exams in the course. Instead, we will have a simulation during the first half of the semester and a convention in the last week of the semester. An overview of each can be found below, but more specific details will be provided prior to each activity. Each will be worth 20% of your grade.

Simulation

During Module 2, each of the three Fridays will be a simulation day. Each simulation day will ask you to progressively respond to a particular event or set of events in small groups, and you will have a goal for each day made available at the start of class. Actors, available actions, and context for the event will be provided in a dossier prior to the event, and all actions must be taken with the “shadow of the future” in mind, as actions from one simulation day will affect the environment and goals of the next simulation day.

Human Security Convention

In the final week of classes, you will act in small groups to address a global crisis through an international convention for human security. The nature of this crisis and all expectations for this convention will be made available closer to the event week.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance will be taken at the start of each class. Absences will only be excused for the following, discussed with me in advance: observance of a religious practice, documented (by a doctor or health clinic/hospital) sickness, or death of a relative or close friend. More than three cumulative absences without an above listed excuse will affect students' attendance and participation grades. Three unexcused absences are permitted without penalty. However, the fast-paced nature of this course and the use of supplemental materials in class, which will also appear on exams, will make it more difficult for students to do well in this course without being present.

GRADING POLICY

The breakdown of your grades and the scoring rubric for this course are below (P/F indicates a Pass/Fail grade):

- 10% - Quizzes (2% each)
- 10% - Current Events (P/F) (2% each)
- 20% - Policy Critiques (P/F) (10% each)
- 10% - Policy reforms (P/F)
- 10% - *Cucina povera* recipe (P/F)
- 20% - Simulation (P/F)
- 20% - Convention (P/F)

94 to 100 – A

90 to 93 – A-

87 to 89 – B+

84 to 87 – B

80 to 83 – B-

77 to 79 – C+

74 to 77 – C

70 to 73 – C-

67 to 69 – D+

64 to 67 – D

60 to 63 – D-

59 and below – F

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

MODULE I: INTRODUCING HUMAN SECURITY	
Jan. 9, 11, 13	Week 1 – Conceptualizing Human Security
Topics	What is human security? Basic scope of human security issues and its relationship with war
	<i>No quizzes, readings, or assignments this week</i>
Jan. 18, 20	Week 2 – Measuring Human Security <i>1/16 - NO CLASS; MLK, JR. DAY</i>
Topics	Basic qualitative approaches Mindfulness in studying victims of conflict and insecurity
Readings	Smith and McConnell (2018)
<i>Due by 1/23</i>	<i>Week 2 quiz.</i>
Jan. 23, 25, 27	Week 3 – War, the State, and the Individual
Topics	Contextualizing human security within a global structure How war effects all levels, from the international system to the individual
Readings	Acharya (2001)
<i>Due by 1/30</i>	<i>Week 3 quiz.</i>

MODULE II: CONFLICT PROCESSES & THE FOG OF WAR

Jan. 30, Feb. 1, 3	Week 4 – Information and Bargaining Theory
Topics	Bargaining theory as a framework to understand information problems and conflict <i>Simulation Day #1</i>
Readings	Muthoo (2000); Debs and Monteiro (2014)
<i>Due by 2/6</i>	<i>Week 4 quiz</i>
Feb. 6, 8, 10	Week 5 – Patterns of Interstate Conflict
Topics	Rivalry, alliances, and escalation behavior <i>Simulation Day #2</i>
Readings	Watch <i>The Fog of War</i> (2003) (link on eLC)
<i>Due by 2/13</i>	<i>Week 5 quiz</i>
Feb. 13, 15, 17	Week 6 – Grievance and Civil Conflict
Topics	Relationship between leaders and their populations <i>Simulation Day #3</i>
Readings	Cederman and Vogt (2017); Villamil (2021)
<i>Due by 2/20</i>	<i>Week 6 quiz</i>

MODULE III: FREEDOM FROM WANT

Feb. 20, 22, 24	Week 7 – Environment and Food Security
Topics	Access to and management of natural resources Climate change and inequality
<i>Due by 2/27</i>	<i>Current Event #1</i>
Mar. 1, 3	Week 8 – Economic Security <i>2/27 – NO CLASS</i>
Topics	Patterns of income inequality and prosperity Approaches to economic development
<i>Due by 3/6</i>	<i>Recipe assignment & Current Event #2</i>

Mar. 6-10	<i>SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS</i>
	No lectures or assignments – Have a good Spring Break!

MODULE IV: FREEDOM FROM FEAR

Mar. 15, 17	Week 9 – Political Security <i>3/13 – NO CLASS</i>
Topics	Political dissidents and extrajudicial state action Democratic institutions and civic rights
<i>Due by 3/20</i>	<i>Current Event #3</i>
Mar. 20, 22, 24	Week 10 – Personal Security (Part 1)

Topics	Drugs, arms, and human trafficking Refugees and displaced persons
<i>Due by 3/27</i>	<i>Policy Critiques assignment #1</i>
Mar. 27, 29, 31	Week 11 – Personal Security (Part 2)
Topics	Mass killing, genocide, and ethnic cleansing Sexual violence during war
<i>Due by 4/3</i>	<i>Current Event #4</i>
Apr. 3, 5, 7	Week 12 – Health and Community Security
Topics	Ethnic, religious, and national heterogeneity Access to community health protection
<i>Due by 4/10</i>	<i>Current Event #5 and Policy Critiques assignment #2</i>

MODULE V: STABILIZING HUMAN SECURITY

Apr. 10, 12, 14	Week 13 – Legitimizing Secure Regimes
Topics	The challenges of political development
Readings	TBD
	<i>No quizzes or assignments due this week</i>
Apr. 17, 19, 21	Week 14 – Restructuring Economies

Topics	Paths to economic development Global institutions, NGOs, and labor
Readings	TBD
<i>Due by 4/21</i>	<i>Policy Reforms assignment</i>
Apr. 24, 26, 28	Week 15 – <i>Human Security Convention Week</i>
	No preparation required prior to class You will receive a dossier with details for the convention in the week prior
May 1	Convention De-brief
Topics	Discussing the outcome of the convention Explore options for prevailing human security issues in the modern world

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

UGA Student Honor Code: “I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others.” A Culture of Honesty, the University’s policy and procedures for handling cases of suspected dishonesty, can be found the website of Office of Instruction. We expect that the Student Honor Code will guide your efforts in this course. A lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy does not explain a violation. Please direct any questions to the instructor.

COURSE POLICIES

The following is taken verbatim from the University Council: “The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.”

The following is taken verbatim from LINK: “In the absence of written authorization from the UGA Disability Resource Center, students may not make a visual or audio recording of any aspect of this course. Students who have a recording accommodation agree in writing that they:

- Will use the records only for personal academic use during the specific course.

- Understand that faculty members have copyright interest in their class lectures and that they agree not to infringe on this right in any way.
- Understand that the faculty member and students in the class have privacy rights and agree not to violate those rights by using recordings for any reason other than their own personal study.
- Will not release, digitally upload, broadcast, transcribe, or otherwise share all or any part of the recordings. They also agree that they not profit financially and will not allow others to benefit personally or financially from lecture recordings or other course materials.
- Will erase/delete all recordings at the end of the semester.
- Understand that violation of these terms may subject them to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct or subject them to liability under copyright laws.”

FERPA STATEMENT

The following is taken verbatim from the Syllabus Checklist:

“The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) grants students certain information privacy rights. See the registrar’s explanation. FERPA allows disclosure of directory information (name, address, telephone, email, date of birth, place of birth, major, activities, degrees, awards, prior schools), unless requested in a written letter to the registrar.”

DISABILITY SERVICES

The following is taken verbatim from the Disability Resource Center:

“If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the Disability Resource Center. They can be reached by visiting Clark Howell Hall, calling 706-542-8719 (voice) or 706-542-8778 (TTY), or by visiting the Disability Resource Center”

The following is taken verbatim from the document of Syllabus Creation:

“Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment.”

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES

The following is taken verbatim from the University Council:

“If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care and Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit the website of Student Care and Outreach. They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services.

UGA has several resources for a student seeking mental health services or crisis support. If you need help managing stress anxiety, relationships, etc., please visit BeWellUGA for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center. Additional resources can be accessed through the UGA App.”