
INTERNAT'L HUMAN RIGHTS LAW in Fall 2018 (LW3041)

Course Code	LW3041	Professor(s)	Susan Perry
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	G-L18
Class Schedule	TF: 12:10-13:30 in C-103	Office Hours	by appointment
Credits	4	Email	sperry@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2018	Office Tel. Ext.	588

Course Description

Course summary:

Conflict resolution addresses two very different sets of circumstances: societies at war and societies that, at first glance, appear to be at peace. International attention tends to focus on the former, where violence is militarized and regional or international actors are called upon to mediate, and sometimes intervene to end the conflict. Yet not all conflicts are hot; low-grade civil

conflict may have an equally pernicious effect in stable societies whose vulnerable populations are at risk on a daily basis. This course examines the impact of long-term, low-grade civil conflict

on women. Traditionally viewed as weaker members of society, they suffer from forms of violence ranging from trafficking in human beings to domestic beatings, from forced marriage to prostitution. These individualized, intimate forms of violence sap the strength and adaptability of any society, as the community is unable to benefit from the full contribution of all members. Endemic poverty, lack of infrastructure, and susceptibility to disease characterize those pockets of

the population exposed to low-grade civil conflict. In some cases, the entire female population is at risk, reducing the possibility for a nation state to compete effectively in the global arena.

This course will examine the existing international legal framework for the protection of women's rights and contrast the law with the nearly universal perception that the world of women

is a private sphere, one where laws made in the public realm have less weight, or are more difficult to implement due to lack of witnesses, or worse, community acceptance of certain types of gender-based violence. But civil society activists are making progress across the globe in combating insufficient implementation of women's rights. This course will explore their remarkably innovative strategies to achieve conflict resolution and the protection of women in challenging circumstances. Special attention will be focused on women's environmental and digital rights.

In addition to lectures and discussion, please note that considerable creative thinking is required for this course. The professor is interested not only in what the reading says on a

specific
subject, but also what new insights students can bring to their research topics.

Course Learning Outcomes

The course provides a clear understanding of the significance and limitations of international human rights law
The course familiarizes students with the specific treaties that make up the body of international human rights law.
The course familiarizes students with key components of international humanitarian law.
The course provides an opportunity for succinct, well-organized oral expression during in-class discussion and the moot court.
The course encourages reflective, well-structured written work with citations from assigned reading.

General Education

[PLEASE EDIT OR REMOVE THE FOLLOWING TEXT AS APPLICABLE]

The general education program at AUP consists of four requirements: Speaking the World, Modeling the World, Mapping the World, and Comparing Worlds Past and Present.

This course can be used to fulfill the [INDICATE THE REQUIREMENT(S) FULFILLED BY THE COURSE] requirement and as such has the following learning outcomes:

[INDICATE THE GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES]

Course Outline

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Week One Introduction – Gender, conflict resolution and international law

9/11-14

Part One: International Affairs - Gender, conflict and theoretical frameworks

Part Two: International Law Tools - UN Security Council Resolution 1325

reading: Part One in Gender Matters (Zalewski, Hansen, Shepherd) + UN

Resolution 1325

optional reading: Schabas, Chapter 1; Charter of the United Nations (1945)

Preamble, arts. 1 & 2; Universal Declaration of Human Rights, arts. 10 & 11;

Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Rome Statute), arts. 6-8

PLEASE NOTE: King of Beast will be screened in C104 at 6:30pm. Attendance is required.

Week Two Transnational women's networks: combatting violence and inequality

9/18-21

Part One: History of transnational advocacy, Beijing Conference + CEDAW

Part Two: Strategic Choices - France's 2016 CEDAW report(s)

reading: Keck and Sikkink, with special attention to chapter one + Ch. 27 in Gender Matters (Moghadam)

optional reading: Beijing Action Plan + CEDAW + CEDAW combined seventh and eighth periodic reports of France

Oral presentation: How to align domestic law (country of your choice) with international customary law and treaty obligations concerning the prohibition of domestic violence?

Week Three Bordered identities: asylum seekers versus migrants

9/25-28

Part One: Convention on Refugees (1951) - female refugees and refoulement

Part Two: Convention on Migrant Workers (2004) – gendered perceptions of male migrants (EU)

reading: 1951 Convention + 2004 Migration Treaty + Shah case (UK House of Lords) + Chapters 23 (Pettman) & 26 (Horn) in Gender Matters.

Oral presentation: Argument for against a distinction between asylum seekers and migrants, with legal examples drawn from either a treaty, customary law or domestic or int'l jurisprudence to support your argument.

Week Four Trafficking in Women and Children

10/2-5

Part One: International law versus illegal business networks

Part Two: Impact of environmental degradation on women and girls

reading: Ch. 8 (Sullivan) in Gender Matters + Blackboard documents

Oral presentation: Would an International Convention on Prohibition of Trafficking be viable or effective?

Week Five Women and International Criminal Justice

10/9-12

Part One: Women and international humanitarian law

Part Two: Srebrenica: killing men, deporting women as genocide

reading: Ch. 20 (Grey) in Gender Matters + ICTY achievements

Oral presentation: How has international humanitarian law advanced protection of men's and women's rights in terms of justice?

Week Six Honor Killings

10/16-19

Part One: Rethinking Honor Codes + Young Men Initiative (CARE)

reading: Appiah chapter + Blackboard documents

Oral presentation: How can women's bodies be released from honor codes (country of your choice)?

October 23 workshop with Constance de Paris on using the Visual History Archive.

Week Seven War crimes and children in conflict

10/26

Part One: the impact of war on girls and boys

reading: Convention on Rights of the Child + First Protocol + Perry (2010) + Ch. 9 (Parashar) & 10 (Cockburn) in Gender Matters

Oral presentation: How could the language of the Optional (First) Protocol have been made more binding for State parties?

Fall break – one week

Week Eight Women as Subjects of International Law

11/6-9 Part One: does the possibility of bringing perpetrators to justice have any impact on levels of violence in a conflict zone?

assignment: prepare VHA midterm assignment, due November 9.

Week Nine Female Genital Cutting

11/13-16

Part One: European Law

Part One: Tostan and the building of an HR culture

reading: Eye to Eye chapter + Hernlund et al. (2014)

optional reading: Appiah chapter on FGC

Oral presentation: Should international human rights law should take precedence

over tradition and custom? If not, then why not; and, if so, under which circumstances?

Week Ten Gender-based violence and war crimes – the case of Syria

11/20-23

Part One: Int'l law versus impunity in Syria

Part Two – NGO initiative to collect evidence on Syria

reading: Ch 14 (Pankhurst) in Gender Matters + Schabas chapters on Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes + Akayesu case (ICTR).

Oral presentation: How can the ICC improve its investigation of sexual crimes in the case of Syria?

Week Eleven Gender and Environmental Hazards

11/27-30

Part One: Reproductive rights and big business

Part Two: The case of cosmetics, Males en peril

reading: Ch 6 (Foster) in Gender Matters + EU chemical legislation REACH

Oral presentation: What is the best strategy to link environmental hazards, (either or both) gender(s) and human rights law in a particular instance.

Week Twelve Gendered Technological Impacts

12/4-7

Part One: Equal access to technology

Part Two: Is online activism gendered?

reading: Part 7 (Steans) in Gender Matters (pp. 347-401)

assignment: fine-tuning your final paper

Week 13 Gendered Conflict in France

12/11 Slide by slide discussion of all class topics as they pertain to France - innovation, progress and lost ground (note: sexual harassment instead of domestic violence)

Exam period Putting Theory into Practice

Student oral presentations of research topics for final paper; in-class critique.

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
International	Moeckli / Shah /	Oxford U Press	9780198767237	Yes

Attendance Policy

Barring death, hospitalization, or a note from the Dean, one absence per semester will be permitted.

Further full or half class absences will be penalized by 2 percentage points per absence. For example, if a student is absent twice during the semester, a final grade of 80 (B-) will be reduced to 78 (C+).

Chronic lateness will be penalized at the professor's discretion.

Required attendance for assigned evening lectures.

Plagiarism:

Presenting someone else's ideas as your own is unacceptable under any circumstances.

Special anti-plagiarism measures have been introduced into this course to encourage all students to do their own work.

Classroom comportment: As a courtesy to all, no eating (especially no bananas); no soft drinks; no cellphones, no email, Twitter or Facebook consultation in class.

The use of computers and other wifi-ed electronic equipment is NOT encouraged, since student concentration suffers.

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if

absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

In addition to the required reading, students will be expected to prepare (for) the following:

- In-class discussion + presentations (30%). In addition to participation in class discussions, students will have the opportunity, alone or with a partner, to present a 10 to 20-minute synopsis of assigned reading on particular topic, engaging in-class discussion.
- Visual History Archives Analysis (30%). Each student will select one testimony from the VHA and prepare an analysis of core crimes from the assigned worksheet.
- Final research paper (40%). This final 15-page paper will demonstrate in-depth research on a particular issue concerning women's rights in a selected country, and include footnotes (3-4 per page) and a 15-source bibliography. Due on December 11th, the last day of class - no exceptions.

Other
