

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS  
Th 6:30-9:30 pm  
Winter 2018

Professor Alison Brysk  
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This course will analyze theories, patterns, and cases of human rights violations throughout the world. What are international human rights standards? What social and political conditions seem to cause widespread human rights violations? What remedies are available, at the international, national, and individual levels?

### General Policies

No late assignments will be accepted without documentation of a medical or family emergency. I have a “zero tolerance” policy for academic dishonesty, which includes giving or receiving information or notes during an examination, improperly claiming credit for the work of another author on a paper, or failing to document the source of information used in your papers.

### Requirements

Assignments include a presentation, final essay, three short papers, and class participation. The final will be a 5-page comprehensive essay designing a campaign for a current human rights problem. Participation includes section attendance (one point per section), class presence, and any additional activities such as office hours.

Presentation	20%
Final essay	40%
Short papers (10 points each)	30%
Elective participation	10%

The short papers include:

- "why human rights"?
- debate: "The Dilemma of the Ticking Terrorist"
- a report on a human rights-related event

Presentations consist of a 15-minute briefing on a contemporary human rights problem including the context, problem pattern, causes, policy options, and recommendation (Weeks 3-9).

### Readings

Michael Goodhart (ed.), *Human Rights: Politics and Practice*, Oxford, 2015.

Alison Brysk, *Speaking Rights to Power*, Oxford, 2013.

Brysk, *The Struggle for Freedom from Fear: Contesting Violence Against Women*-Oxford, 2018.

Week 1:	Th	1/10	Introduction History of Human Rights	Goodhart Langlois Brysk, Ch. 2
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Week 2:	Th	1/17	What Are Rights? Causes and Patterns of Abuse	Landman Cardenas
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*\*"Why human rights?" due*

Week 3:	Th	1/24	Problem: Torture Solution: International Law	Schulz Smith
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Week 4:	Th	1/31	Problem: War Crimes Solution: Transitional Justice	Quinn
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*\*"The Dilemma of the Ticking Terrorist" due*

Week 5:	Th	2/7	Problem: Genocide Solution: Intervention?	Straus Kuperman
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Week 6:	Th	2/14	Problem: Political Prisoners Solution: Foreign Policy	Dunne
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Week 7:	Th	2/21	Problem: Globalization	Richards
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*\*Campus/community event paper due*

Week 8:	Th	2/28	Private Wrongs: Gender violence	Brysk—FFF, Ch.1,7
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Week 9:	Th	3/7	Solution: Campaigns	Brysk (2013)-3, 4, 5
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Week 10:	Th	3/14	Speaking Rights	Brysk (2013)-6, 7, 8
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FINAL:	Tuesday, Mar 17th [take-home final due in drop-box]			
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