

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
Advanced Topics in Deviance and Criminology
Sociology 421.05 Genocide and Terrorism--Fall, 2008
Course Outline

Instructor: Dr. Augustine Brannigan

Time: TR 9:30-10:15

Room: SS 549

Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~criminal>

Office: SS1060

Office Hours: After Class

Course Objectives

Sociology 421 is intended for senior students in the final year of the Criminology and Deviance Concentration. This course will operate as a workshop based on the assigned readings. This is not a course in which lectures are offered tangentially to the readings. Our preoccupation in every class throughout the course will be with the assigned works. The schedule below details the authors and chapters that we shall discuss and dates when this will be happen. The format of the course will be relatively informal. This format presupposes that you will attend classes already having read the materials. If you cannot read the materials beforehand on a regular basis, you are advised to enroll in another course. In addition, you will be asked in class to comment on materials that have been assigned, sometimes informally and sometimes formally. You will be encouraged to raise questions in class on points arising from the readings. As a result, everyone is encouraged to bring the relevant reading to every class. Indeed, for examinations, the readings are mandatory.

This year we will examine the phenomenon of genocide and to a lesser extent, the phenomenon of terrorism, particularly state terrorism. There are three readings. Power's book outlines the origins of the UN Convention on Genocide and traces its application (or failure to apply) to the key contemporary cases of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. Moghalu tackles the issues related to legal responses to such crimes in the context of international criminal law that transcends individual sovereign states. The set of internet readings explore these issues further in a series of particular cases that push the boundaries of the concept of genocide to include acts of political and commercial crimes associated with mass murder.

Required Readings:

1. Samantha Power. *A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide*, New York: Harper Perennial, 2007.
2. Kingsley C. Moghalu, *Global Justice: The Politics of War Crimes Trials*, Stanford CA: Stanford University Press, 2008.
3. Internet Readings. Twelve cases in six pairs of readings:

(a) Christopher Browning, "One Day in Josefov: Initiation to Mass Murder," from *The Path to Genocide: Essays on Launching the Final Solution*, Cambridge University Press, 1995. Versus Jean Hatzfeld, "How it was organized," *The Machete Season: The Killers in Rwanda Speak*, New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006.

(b) Iris Chang, "Six Weeks of Horror," *The Rape of Nanking*," Penguin Books, 1997; versus A.C. Grayling, "The Case Against the Bombing," *Among the Dead Cities: Legacy of WWII Bombing of Civilians in Germany and Japan*, Walker : New York, 2007.

(c) Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *The Gulag Archipelago 1918-1956* selections, Perennial Classics, 2007. Versus Jung Chang and Jon Halliday, *Mao: Unauthorized Biography*, selections

(d) Christopher Hitchens, *The Trial of Henry Kissinger*, London: Verso Books, 2001; versus Michael Mandel, *How America Gets Away with Murder* selections, London: Pluto Press, 2007.

(e) Mahmood Mamdani, "Afghanistan: the high point in the Cold War," from *Good Muslims, Bad Muslims*, New York: Pantheon Books, 2005; versus Robert Fisk, "Why?[September 11]" from *The Great War for Civilization: The Conquest of the Middle East*, New York: Vantage, 2004.

(f) Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror and Heroism in Colonial Africa*, Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1999; versus Edwin Black, *IBM and the Holocaust* selections, New York: Crown Publishers, 2001.

The Internet Readings will be posted as pdf files on www.ucalgary.ca/~criminal in a protected folder available to anyone with a University of Calgary IT account. These are key selections from the original sources. For the final assignment, students may wish to consult the entire original source and/or other related sources.

Objectives: (a) to learn about the crime of genocide, its definition, its prevalence, and causes (b) to learn about the evolving legal frameworks designed to abate mass murder in the context of genocide, terrorism, crimes against humanity and war crimes, and (c) to learn how to apply these lessons in specific cases.

Grading:

There are 2 examinations in the course. They are not cumulative. They are mixed multiple choice and short answer. They are worth 35% each and are scheduled for (i) October 9th (based on the Power book) and (ii) November 13th (based on the Moghalu book). Both exams will be open book.

There are two further and related requirements: an oral presentation (10%) and a short paper based on it (20%). The paper is due on Monday, December 15th. These assignments will be organized around mock trials arising from the reports contained in the Internet Readings identified above. The last six classes will be devoted exclusively to these trials. A panel of six to seven students will spend up to 10 minutes each per period to lay out a legal case consisting of

reports from (i) a police investigator (summarizing evidence of criminal activities based on the readings), (ii) a prosecutor (spelling out an indictment under specific international law(s), identifying which court has competence to hear the case—based on information in the two previous books), (iii) a defense counsel (identifying whatever lawful excuses might apply, or challenging the impartiality of the prosecution, or issues of victor’s justice) and (iv) a verdict from the remaining members of the panel acting as judges (spelling out guilt or innocence and justifying a specific penalty based on their interpretation of the evidence and the law). The final paper will be submitted individually and should be in the range of 2500-3000 words. It should spell out your final interpretation and conclusion about the specific case on which they worked.

The instructor will work closely with students to ensure effective preparations before the presentations. A sign-up list will be made available to permit students to identify the case in which they plan to participate. The dates of the cases are identified in the following schedule.

PROPOSED READING SCHEDULE

week	date	topic	reading
1	September 9-11	The Holocaust and the Genocide Convention	Power ch 1-2-3-4, pp. 1-60
2	September 16-18	Cambodia	Power ch 5-6-7; pp. 61-169
3	September 23-25	Iraq and Bosnia	Power ch 8-9; pp. 171-327
4	September 30- Oct 2	Rwanda and Srebrenica	Power 10-11 (drop 12) pp. 329-441
5	October 7	Legal Legacy	Power 13-14; 475-515
5	October 9	Quiz 1 (35%)	
6	October 14-16	Politics vs Law; Prosecute vs Pardon	Moghalu ch 1-2
7	October 21-23	Milosovic and “universal jurisdiction”	Moghalu ch 3-4
8	October 28-30	Sierra Leone and Prosecutorial Politics	Moghalu ch 5-6
9	November 4-6	Hussein and Cosmopolitan Law	Moghalu ch 7-8
10	November 11	No class on Remembrance Day	Catch-up
	November 13	Quiz 2 (35%)	
11	November 18	Two illustrations of ‘Voluntarism’ in collective genocidal killings The case against Major Trapp and his Policemen; and the case against Pancrace et al	Browning vs Hatzfeld
	November 20	War Crimes: ‘theirs’ vs ‘ours’ The Case Against Bomber Harris and General Matsui Iwane	Chang vs Grayling
12	November 25	Political Crimes in USSR and PRC The case against Stalin and Mao	Solzhenitsyn vs Jang
	November 27	Political Crime and US Superpower	Hitchens vs Mandel

		The case against Kissinger and Pinochet	
13	December 2	Two views on Muslim Terror The case against the 9/11 Terrorists	Mamdani vs Fisk
	December 4	Companies and Mass Murder The case against King Leopold and Thomas Watson, Founder of IBM	Hochschild vs Black

Exam Policies: You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

Ethics Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Academic Misconduct: cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor’s office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk: The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

<u>Academic Accommodation</u>

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. **It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.**