



Course Syllabus
2018-2019 Academic Year
POLI 470 Lo1 — Genocide
Department of Political Science
Faculty of Arts
Fall Term 2018

Instructor: Dr. Maureen S. Hiebert

Office Telephone:

403 220-5633

Office Hours:

Mondays 2:30pm – 3:30pm, Thursdays 11:00am – 12:00noon

Social Sciences, Room 722

or by appointment

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Website: <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca>

Class Time and Location

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00am – 10:50am SB146

Prerequisites

POLI 359 or POLI 381 or LWSO 201 or by consent of the Department

Course Description

Part I of the course will cover the evolution of genocide studies from mostly single case-studies, to the “normalization” of the Holocaust and the advent of multi-disciplinary qualitative and quantitative state-focused comparative analyses, to the more recent introduction of critical and post-colonial theories and system-level explanations. We will then turn to the many, often vociferous, debates found in the literature over the legal and conceptual definition of genocide and which cases can/should be labelled

“genocide” and then finish the section with an exploration of individual-level actor-oriented, state/group-level, and system-level structural theoretical explanations of the causes and processes of genocide. Part II will examine selected cases of genocidal destruction beginning with indigenous genocides in the Americas and Australia with a particular focus on the reserve and residential school systems in Canada. This will be followed by select twentieth century cases: the Armenian and anti-Christian genocide under the late Ottoman Empire, the Nazi Holocaust, the Cambodian genocide, and the Rwandan genocide. These cases represent different forms of, and motivations for, the genocidal destruction of specific groups of people. We will conclude with an examination, first, of so-called contested cases of genocide in which the lines between armed conflict and genocide are often blurred and, finally, future genocidal dynamics such as the exacerbating effects of climate change on conflict and mass atrocities.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

This course is designed to expose students to the issues and debates surrounding the definition, causes, and changing forms and dynamics of genocidal. At the end of the course students will be familiar with: how genocide is defined in the academic literature as a concept and as a crime under international criminal law; traditional and critical theories concerning the causes and processes of genocidal violence and how genocide is explained using multiple levels of analysis (individual, group/state, and system); the principal collective actors in genocide; knowledge of the causes, processes, and actors involved in widely recognized twentieth century cases of genocide and the debates surrounding post-1945 contested cases; and insights into possible future threats to vulnerable groups.

Required Texts

There is **one required textbook** for this course. It is available for purchase at the University of Calgary Bookstore. **Please be sure to purchase the correct edition of the textbooks.** Additional readings not in the textbooks are available either as persistent links on the course D2L website or in the stacks or as an ebook at the Taylor Family Digital Library.

Adam Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction* (Third Edition) (Routledge, 2017)

Class Preparation and D2L Website

Lectures focus on the material presented in the textbook and general discussion relating to the topic(s) outlined in the lecture schedule. Students are expected to read the assigned text chapters and readings before class, and be prepared for class discussion. Important information for POLI 470 L01 is posted on D2L. Students should regularly check the “News” section of D2L for ongoing notices.

Contacting Your Instructor

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to me during class or during their office hours. Should you wish to meet with me outside of office hours, please send me an email to make an appointment.

Proper Use of Email

Students may contact me via email as well as meeting in person. I would prefer that students email me during business hours. Emails on evenings and weekends in case of emergency are, however, certainly possible. Non-emergency emails received on evenings and weekends will be answered the next business day.

Course Requirements and Grades:

Students will be evaluated on: two written assignments and a final exam in the exam period. Please see the Table below for details.

Summary of Course Requirements

When	What	Worth	Length	Information	Late Penalty
October 9, 2018 (week 6)	First Assignment	25%	6 pages (double spaced)	A short analytical paper. An assessment of writing style (grammar, spelling, punctuation etc.) will be included in the grade for this assignment. More information to be provided on a separate Assignment Sheet.	- 5% per day including weekends
November 30, 2018 (week 12)	Second Assignment	40%	approx. 12 pages (double spaced)	A research paper on a case of genocide in which the student focuses on either the causes, process, or aftermath of genocidal violence (students choose one of these three options). An assessment of writing style (grammar, spelling, punctuation etc.) will be included in the grade for this assignment. More information to be provided on a separate Assignment Sheet.	-5% per day including weekends
Exam Period December 10-20, 2018	Final Exam	35%	2 hours	short and long answer essay questions (closed book; no aids allowed); writing style will not be part of assessment	Not Applicable

Grading Scheme:

A+	95-100	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	57-59
A	85-94	B	73-76	C	63-66	D	50-56
A-	80-84	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	F	0-49

Course Outline: Time permitting the following topics and readings will be covered during the course. Readings may be subject to change.

PART I - DEFINING AND EXPLAINING GENOCIDE

WEEK 1 Introduction to the Course

September 7

No Readings:

WEEK 2 Defining Genocide: Legal and Academic Debates

September 10, 12, 14

Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part I, chapter 1(pp. 3-51 only)

WEEK 3 Comparative Genocide Theory I: Causes and Processes of Genocide

September 17, 19, 21

Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part 3, chapters 10, 11 (pp. 527-596)

WEEK 4 Comparative Genocide Theory II: Causes and Processes (continued); Actors

September 24, 26, 28

Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part 3, chapters 12, 13 (pp. 602-650)

PART II - CASES

WEEK 5 Indigenous Genocide

October 1, 3, 5

Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part 2, chapter 3 (pp. 145-173 only)

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada*, (pp. 135-152 only)

http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Honouring_the_Truth_Reconciling_for_the_Future_July_23_2015.pdf

WEEK 6 The Ottoman Genocide of Christian Minorities**October 8 (Thanksgiving Day – no class)****OCTOBER 9 (TUESDAY) 1st ASSIGNMENT DUE TO D2L NO LATER THAN 11:59PM**

October 10, 12

Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part 2, chapter 4 (pp. 200-239 only)

The Armenian Genocide Museum Institute, Survivor Stories (optional)

<http://www.genocide-museum.am/eng/news-08.01.2018-Aharonyan.php>

WEEK 7 The Holocaust I

October 15, 17, 19

Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part 2, chapter 6 (pp. 318-top 349 only)

The Holocaust Survivor Program, *Before All Memory is Lost: Women's Voices from the Holocaust* (optional)

<http://memoirs.azrielifoundation.org/anthologies>

WEEK 8 Holocaust II

October 22, 24, 26

Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part 2, chapter 6 (pp. 349-391 only)

The Holocaust Survivor Program, *Four Stories of the Warsaw Ghetto* (optional)

<http://memoirs.azrielifoundation.org/>

WEEK 9 Cambodian Genocide

October 29, 31, November 2

Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part 2, chapter 7 (pp. 392-415)

only)

The Digital Archive of Cambodian Holocaust Survivors, Survivors Stories (optional)

<http://www.cybercambodia.com/dachs/stories.html>

WEEK 10 Rwandan Genocide

November 5, 7, 9

Required Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part 2, chapter 9 (pp. 470-502

only)

Rwandan Stories (optional)

<http://www.rwandanstories.org/genocide.html>

TERM BREAK

November 11-17 (no classes)

WEEK 11 Post-1945 Internal Armed Conflicts, Insurgency/Counter-insurgency and Genocide

November 19, 21,23

Readings:

Jones, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, Part 2 pp. 419-431; pp. 457-469; pp. 187-199; pp. 511- 523; pp. 250-257

WEEK 12 The Future of Genocide

November 26, 28, 30

NOVEMBER 30 (WEDNESDAY) 2nd ASSIGNMENT DUE TO D2L NO LATER THAN 11:59PM

Readings:

Alex Alvarez, "Borderlands, Climate Change, and the Genocidal Impulse," *Genocide Studies International*, Vol. 10, No. 1 Spring 2016 (available online through the University of Calgary Library)

WEEK 13 Catch up and Review

December 3, 5, 7

No Readings:

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons (e.g. illness with the appropriate documentation) are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

Deferral of a Final Examination:

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Appeals:

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

University Regulations:

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Evacuation Assembly Points:

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Important Contact Information:

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca

URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Campus Mental Health Resources:

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>