INTERNATIONAL LAW / HUMAN RIGHTS

This is a sampling of courses on International Human Rights issues.

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LAW 1394 v00 Business and Human Rights (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201394%20v00) (Fieldwork Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 4 credit hours

This course will provide an overview of the field of Business and Human Rights, while affording students an opportunity to work in organizations that are addressing issues in the field in various ways. This is a rapidly emerging field characterized by viewing the adverse impacts of business operations through the lens of human rights principles. There is no single form of regulation or regulatory authority, and only a handful of potentially enforceable legal obligations. Instead, there are a variety of different types of initiatives and programs that depend upon the type of rights at issue, the business sector involved, and the nature and location of the business activities that cause adverse impacts. This means that there are significant opportunities for creative approaches to produce meaningful change.

We will examine how the modern global corporation is organized around extensive supply chains, the ways in which its formal legal structure can enable it to avoid responsibility for the full range of impacts that it creates, and the successes and limitations of attempts to address this problem through litigation. We will then turn to the emergence of the concept of human rights as a key conceptual tool in the effort to surmount the limits of conventional litigation and regulatory strategies. This will involve discussion of incidents that served as the impetus for this development, and the human rights instruments that provide the basis for human rights claims.

We will then examine in depth some of the types of impacts that can constitute rights violations, relating to concerns such as forced labor, human trafficking, unsafe working conditions and wage theft, physical abuse, forcible displacement, environmental degradation, child labor, sex discrimination, freedom of expression, privacy, and climate change. We will also examine ways in which women in the global economy may be especially vulnerable to such harms.

This will provide an opportunity to examine the range of responses to these abuses and their effectiveness, such as voluntary industry standards; mandatory human rights due diligence; guidelines established by international organizations such as the United Nations and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the International Labor Organization; mandatory and voluntary disclosure provisions; international finance standards; international trade law, and other measures.

Students will also learn about issues that are distinctive to particular economic sectors, such as apparel, energy exploration, mining, financial services, and information and communications technology industries. Finally, we will focus on how businesses can incorporate human rights concerns into their operations in order to comply with the duty of respect articulated by the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

With respect to learning objectives, the seminar portion of the practicum is intended to acquaint you with:

(1) some of the most significant types of adverse impacts that business operations can impose;

(2) the debate over the extent to which changes in corporate production processes and liberalized trade law have contributed to such impacts;

(3) the major sources of human rights protections for persons who suffer such impacts; and

(4) the range of initiatives that are emerging to protect against and respond to business violations of human rights.

FIELDWORK: Students will be placed with organizations in the economic sectors that they choose, or where they are placed through the office of the Assistant Dean. These placements will vary in type and focus. For example, students may:

(a) work as a judicial or administrative assistant within a court or other diverse organization;

(b) perform the duties of a legal clerk, paralegal, or other legal staff member;

(c) analyze cases at a legal aid office, a public defender's office, or another organization;

(d) perform the duties of a legal intern at the State or Federal bureau of labor standards; or

(e) work in a law firm responsible for representing human rights organizations in complex human rights litigation.

In all cases, students will attempt to work on matters that are relevant to their interests and will have the opportunity to participate in a number of different practice settings. Students may also be assigned to participate in projects that are of interest to them. Students will be provided with the opportunity to work on a wide variety of projects, including, but not limited to:

(a) representing human rights organizations in complex human rights litigation;

(b) conducting research and analysis of legal issues relevant to human rights;

(c) participating in the drafting of legal briefs and reports;

(d) participating in the drafting of legal briefs and reports;

(e) participating in the drafting of legal briefs and reports; and

(f) participating in the drafting of legal briefs and reports.

Students will be expected to maintain regular and punctual attendance at all practicum seminars and fieldwork placements. Students will be required to keep a log of their activities, and to submit a final report at the end of the practicum.
Among the questions the course will examine are:

- Which human rights standards are most relevant to business?
- What are the appropriate linkages between business policies and practices and the promotion of human rights?
- Which business and human rights approaches are emerging as “best practices” and perhaps even as recognized norms?
- What tools to support those are being used by governments and corporations?
- Who are the principal stakeholders and what are their roles and objectives?

Regardless of being industry, sector specific or multi stakeholder in nature, the regulation, de-regulation, policy, practice and ever growing litigation in this new field of practice is multifaceted, dynamic, interactive, complex and challenges business leaders, markets and even lawyers to think outside the box in order to address a challenging relationship between businesses, markets and society. This is where business strategy meets risks. Or instead, this is where risks eat a business strategy. As a result, business leaders, shareholders and their advisors are now required to integrate a 3D internal and external view and assessment on how to address, prevent, mitigate and remediate the social and environmental impacts (risks) of private sector operations in complex environments and with a collaborative and systems thinking approach.

Fast-forward 2020. The global COVID-19 pandemic has suddenly entered this space. It has done so highlighting the vulnerabilities and opportunities in the relationship between business, governments and society across the globe. Furthermore, the global pandemic is challenging all stakeholders not only to become relevant but to re-think, re-imagine and re-envision new models that seek engagement, resilience, addressing grievances, investment, economic recovery and accountability frameworks.

In practice, these global and ever growing litigation trends are also catalyzing traditional company-led corporate social responsibility (CSR) and ethics programs that have been associated with both philanthropic, corporate citizenship and company-sponsored activities that give back to societies. While many of these programs have achieved several levels of success, for many sectors in society they remain as corporate public relations or green wash exercises and demand more transparent, accountable and remediation responses. The stakes are high.

LAW 370 v02 Business and Human Rights in the Global Economy

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours
Corporations today have a global scale as well as an impact that matches or sometimes exceeds that of governments. Their activities -- from sourcing of raw materials, to processing and production of intermediate or finished goods, to distribution and sale -- have major consequences not only for the human rights of their employees but also for the rights of the individuals and communities impacted by their operations. In many countries, government regulation and oversight are either absent or largely ineffective. Companies in turn struggle to define their responsibilities in the face of these “governance gaps” -- particularly where requirements under national law fall short of international standards in areas such as hours of work and safety and healthy.

A robust and often contentious debate over these issues culminated in the development of the U.N. Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (the “UNGPs”) under the leadership of Special Representative John Ruggie. These Principles establish a framework for considering the respective roles of governments and corporations and outline core concepts of human rights due diligence and effective remedy. In doing so, the UNGPs also inform and to some extent refocus efforts that have emerged over the past 20 years to address these governance gaps and have brought together stakeholders from business, labor, civil society, the investment community, and academia.

At the same time, in recent years there has been an increased push from civil society groups and certain governments to go beyond these "voluntary" efforts and develop a binding business and human rights treaty mechanism; this has met with strong opposition from business and many other governments, including the United States.

Even as “non-regulatory” approaches remain the predominant means of addressing various business and human rights challenges, there also has been a growing focus in recent years on tools through which national governments and international institutions could exercise greater leverage. This includes advocacy for stronger labor and other human rights language in trade agreements, one-way trade preference programs, procurement standards, and the rules and guidelines applied by international financial institutions -- coupled with more aggressive enforcement of those criteria. Expanded efforts to advance that "regulatory" approach in trade policy and elsewhere in some cases has been met with resistance from governments and business, but there also have been examples of emerging consensus among a diverse range of stakeholders.

This course introduces students to this quickly-evolving business and human rights landscape, including the diverse set of multi-stakeholder initiatives -- some, but not all, of which include government participation. We will discuss the guidance provided by the UNGPs and other instruments, the range of stakeholders and how they engage with one another, tools utilized by governments and corporations to implement human rights standards, and how all of these interact in the context of both sector-specific and cross-cutting legal and policy challenges.

Among the questions the course will examine are:

- Which human rights standards are most relevant to business?
- What are the appropriate linkages between business policies and practices and the promotion of human rights?
- Which business and human rights approaches are emerging as "best practices" and perhaps even as recognized norms?
- What tools to support those are being used by governments and corporations?
- Who are the principal stakeholders and what are their roles and objectives?

Regardless of being industry, sector specific or multi stakeholder in nature, the regulation, de-regulation, policy, practice and ever growing litigation in this new field of practice is multifaceted, dynamic, interactive, complex and challenges business leaders, markets and even lawyers to think outside the box in order to address a challenging relationship between business, markets and society. This is where business strategy meets risks. Or instead, this is where risks eat a business strategy. As a result, business leaders, shareholders and their advisors are now required to integrate a 3D internal and external view and assessment on how to address, prevent, mitigate and remediate the social and environmental impacts (risks) of private sector operations in complex environments and with a collaborative and systems thinking approach.

Bar Associations in America and abroad have begun issuing specific guidance on how corporate lawyers should advise their clients incorporating human rights and sustainability standards. For instance, in a Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) transaction, corporate lawyers are most likely to encounter questions dealing with social, environmental, human rights and environmental concerns. Those advocating on behalf of environmental and human rights organizations will find their work directly intersects with company law, securities law, investment law, governance, compliance, company law and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to name a few sub areas.

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LAW 3600 v00 Business, Human Rights and Sustainability
For registration-specific supplemental materials, please see the Center for Applied Legal Studies PDF (https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/356eelica4dv2bwv9wg20m8b1d6lo5st).

For information about clinic registration generally, please see the Clinic Registration Handbook (https://georgetown.box.com/s/y9f8wg3jyqcuynɔnivor3ytyrf6nj9pnyv6).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

LAW 1673 v00 Effective Human Rights Advocacy in Polarized Environments Seminar (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201673%20v00)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours
Human rights advocacy can be an uphill battle, even in the best of times. And these are not the best of times. Progress is possible, but the problems we tackle need serious, hard-nosed strategies and activists with the skills to execute them. In this course we will explore and analyze key elements of successful human rights advocacy campaigns—goal-setting, messaging/communications, coalition-building, resource allocation—and develop the practical skills advocates need, especially in today's politically polarized environment, to win.

The course will be grounded in real-world examples. We will explore and evaluate different theories of social change and study how those work (or don't) in practice. Each week we will do a deep dive into a different element of successful advocacy campaign strategy.

Student Learning Goals: As a result of completing this course, students will be able to draft a strategic campaign plan for an issue or policy campaign. Students will learn how to evaluate advocacy strategies and how to choose which advocacy techniques are likely to succeed in which contexts. Students will be exposed to leading experts in human rights advocacy, including staff from human rights organizations, congressional offices, messaging and communications experts, litigators and veteran human rights campaigners. Students will develop the analytical and practical skills necessary to build a successful campaign strategy.

In addition, students will be alerted to opportunities for participating in human rights activities and events outside of class. Students interested in a career in human rights will gain a richer understanding of the theories of change and the portfolio of advocacy tactics used successfully by practitioners in the field.

LAW 611 v01 Extradition Simulation: International Law, Human Rights, and Effective Advocacy (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20611%20v01)
J.D. Seminar | 1 credit hour
This course is designed to complement the rest of the 1L curriculum in several ways. First, it will expose you to selected elements of international and foreign law, beyond the usual concentration on the U.S. domestic law system. Second, our focus will be principally upon treaty texts, rather than judicial decisions, within a system that does not rely upon binding precedents in the same ways you have already encountered. Third, we hope to nurture your sensitivity to facts, as much as to law, as key elements in legal practice. Finally, through a series of collaborative simulation exercises, we intend to engage you in active, experiential learning in a direct, powerful way.

The four-day simulation is based upon a hypothetical attempt by the United States to secure the extradition of two accused terrorists, who have been indicted in federal court for participating in terrorist acts on U.S. soil, but who are currently resident in Russia and in France. The leaders in those countries appear willing to return the two suspects to the United States, but the effort may be blocked by those countries' membership in the European Convention on Human Rights, which may bar extradition in cases where the accused would face the prospect of capital punishment or indefinite detention in harsh conditions.

Students will be assigned the role of counsel for one of the defendants or one of the governments, and will work in small teams on two primary tasks. The first exercise is to prepare for and conduct a fact-gathering interview of one of the clients. The second exercise is to plan, practice, and conduct a simulated hearing before the European Court of Human Rights. Throughout, students will be guided by the instructor and by a team of teaching fellows in the development of essential lawyering skills, including fact development and analysis, problem solving, strategic planning, and effective oral advocacy.

Note: NOTE: In the Spring 2022 semester, this course will take place online via Zoom (https://georgetown.box.com/s/s4nylf5n3g92usmgaj9guq5n2cjpw7f).

FIRST-YEAR WEEK ONE COURSE: This course will meet on the following days: Monday, January 10, 2022, through Thursday, January 13, 2022. This course is mandatory pass/fail, and does NOT count against the 7-credit pass/fail limit for J.D. students. This optional, elective course is for first-year J.D. students only, who will roll via the Live Registration process. ATTENDANCE AT ALL CLASS SESSIONS IS MANDATORY. All enrolled and waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to be eligible for a seat in the class and must attend each class session in its entirety. For more information, please see the Week One website (https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/simulations/first-year-week-one-simulations). Due to the intensive nature of the course, the small-group, team, and individual work that is involved, and the preparation that is necessary to ensure a positive student experience, students who wish to drop the course after they have accepted a seat must drop by Monday, November 29, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. After that point, students must receive permission from both the course professor and Assistant Dean for Experiential Education to drop the course. Permission will only be granted when remaining enrolled in the course would cause significant hardship for the student. Students who are enrolled but do not attend the first class session will be withdrawn from the course.
LAW 034 v10 Human Rights Advocacy in Action Practicum (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20034%20v10)(Project-Based Practicum)
J.D. Practicum | 7 credit hours

Course Overview

How can lawyers advocate effectively for solutions to pressing human rights challenges?

This project-based practicum enlists students in tackling real-world human rights challenges and creates a learning environment that equips students to analyze a problem, assess the legal and policy situation, and propose and execute strategies for change.

Students in this practicum receive intensive instruction from law professors and subject matter experts on both the relevant human rights law as well as effective strategies and tactics for human rights advocacy. Professor Massimino has a distinguished record of human rights advocacy and led Human Rights First, one of the nation’s leading human rights advocacy organizations, as president and CEO before coming to Georgetown Law. Michelle Liu is an adjunct professor and has supported partner NGOs in several countries to promote women's human rights through litigation and legislative reform. Catherine Cooper is the Dash-Muse Senior Teaching Fellow and Supervising Attorney. She has supported civil society organizations in Myanmar, Iraq, and East Africa on issues including transitional justice and the rights of ethnic and religious minorities. Together with their professors and fellow classmates, students collaborate on a project that supports the mission and objectives of a chosen partner NGO of the Human Rights Institute ("HRI"). This collaboration gives students a unique opportunity to conduct legal and factual research, craft legal solutions, and develop an advocacy campaign with real-world impact.

For the 2022-2023 academic year, the practicum will focus on justice and accountability of the Islamic State for their crimes of genocide and sexual violence against the Yazidi ethnic group in Iraq. HRI’s partner is Nadia’s Initiative, a Washington, DC-based NGO founded by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Nadia Murad.

The practicum is a year-long course and comprises three mandatory components: a two-hour weekly seminar, project-related teamwork performed in and outside of class, and a week-long field investigation (likely involving international travel) during Week One in January 2023.

Seminar

The seminar portion of the practicum will cover the substantive law and legal framework as it pertains to a particular human rights issue. For the upcoming year, students will learn about the international criminal law on genocide and sexual and gender-based violence, as well as the international and domestic legal avenues for justice, accountability, and claiming reparations. Students will also use seminar time to propose and assess what legal remedies may be appropriate and viable to address the human rights violation. Guest speakers with subject matter expertise may be invited to seminars to hold workshops and offer critique of student work. Finally, the seminar will also be the training ground for students to develop their critical thinking, public speaking, and persuasive writing skills through the formulation of a human rights advocacy campaign.

Project Work

Students will work in teams to complete a human rights project that furthers the mission of HRI’s partner organization. Depending on the particulars of the project, students may engage in any or all of the following:

- conduct fact-based research on a human rights issue,
- learn about the international human rights framework pertaining to
- develop a multimodal strategic campaign for human rights advocacy

LAW 1777 v00 Human Rights Advocacy: Lessons from the Campaign to End the Death Penalty and other Human Rights Campaigns (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201777%20v00)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

While the public tends to think about capital punishment in relation to a high court’s ruling to prevent or allow an execution to go forward, the broader campaign to expose the flaws in the practice of capital punishment and to end the death penalty involves a complex interplay of strategies—federal and state legislative advocacy, strategic communications, and community organizing and litigation. Indeed, nearly every human rights challenge requires a combination strategy, with many moving parts that have different targets, different tactics, and require different skills. How does an advocate know which strategies are appropriate for which challenges? How can you best prepare for some of the thorniest, most entrenched challenges to human rights? What tools are available to you? And what if the combination of strategies creates ethical or other tensions? This course will explore the various ways in which litigation and policy advocacy can work together to bring about transformative change on complex and difficult human rights concerns. The discussion will be grounded in the long-term effort to end capital punishment in the United States and it will draw on lessons learned from other human rights campaigns.

This seminar will 1) introduce students to multidisciplinary campaigns for human rights and 2) explore how litigation and policy advocacy can be combined and leveraged to create opportunities to advance human rights. Students will explore the range of strategies and tactics available and learn when and how to deploy them.

At the end of the seminar, each student or team of students will have led fellow students through a logic model exercise, prepared a high level multidisciplinary strategy memorandum and led a mock coalition meeting to achieve alignment and engagement on their plan.

There is no textbook for the seminar. Readings will include legal, academic, and general articles and materials on the subjects being covered.

Learning Objectives: The primary objective of this course is for students to understand the range of disciplines and tools available to them to implement a successful campaign and to identify synergies that can be achieved between litigation; policy advocacy, strategic communications and organizing. Students completing the course will understand which strategies to use when and how to navigate the potential conflicts between them.
LAW 034 v09 Human Rights Fact-Finding (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20034%20v09) (Project-Based Practicum)
J.D. Practicum | 7 credit hours
This project-based practicum course will give students the unique opportunity to participate in the Human Rights Institute (HRI) Fact-Finding Project. Through this course, students will gain the substantive background and skills needed to carry out a human rights investigation from beginning to end. Each year, the HRI Fact-Finding Project has focused on a policy-relevant human rights issue, including migrants’ rights, children’s rights, LGBT rights, and the role of human rights in the global economy. In the fall, students will participate in a two-hour weekly seminar and carry out at least 5 hours per week of project work. Over Week One students will carry out a virtual fact-finding investigation. In the spring, students will participate in a two-hour seminar every other week and carry out an average of 10 hours of project work per week. Students work closely with the Professor and Dash-Muse Teaching Fellow in conceptualizing and implementing each step of the Project.

SEMINAR: In the fall, the seminar will cover the substantive law and policy relating to health and human rights of migrant and refugee populations, as well as human rights fact-finding skills and methodology. In the spring, seminar classes will meet every other week and focus on the production of a human rights fact-finding report. Seminar sessions will be designed to guide students through each step of the human rights fact-finding process, including project design, interviewing, and reporting writing.

PROJECT WORK: Students will research a human rights problem in depth, conduct extensive outreach and interviews on the subject, and draft a comprehensive report on their findings. In January 2021, during “Week One,” the group will conduct interviews with potential victims of human rights abuses and relevant stakeholders. The fact-finding investigation during the 2020-2021 academic year will be conducted virtually and take place from Monday, January 11 through Thursday, January 14, 2021 with a mandatory orientation on Friday, January 8, 2021. Students will be expected to work both independently and in teams.

Prerequisite: Prior or concurrent enrollment in International Law I: Introduction to International Law or International Human Rights Law no later than the Fall 2020 semester.

J.D. students must complete the required first-year program prior to enrolling in this course (part-time and interdivisional transfer students may enroll prior to completing Criminal Justice, Property, or their first-year elective).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum course and a clinic or another practicum course. Students may concurrently enroll in this practicum course and an externship.

Note: This course is open to both J.D. and LL.M students.

This practicum course may be suitable for evening students with flexible work schedules. Interested evening students should contact current Dash-Muse Fellow Melissa Stewart (Melissa.Stewart@georgetown.edu) to discuss their particular situation. THIS COURSE REQUIRES HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE PERMISSION TO ENROLL. J.D. student applications (comprised of a statement of interest, a resume, and a writing sample) are due by noon on Thursday, April 16, 2020. Admitted J.D. students will be informed of HRI’s decision on their application before they are required to make a clinic decision on April 20, 2020. Selected students will be required to accept or decline an offer to join the project by COB on Monday, May 4, 2020. J.D. students who have missed this deadline should contact Dash-Muse Fellow Melissa Stewart (Melissa.Stewart@georgetown.edu) to inquire whether seats are still available. Selection criteria include but are not limited to: a demonstrated

LAW 1286 v00 Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in the 21st Century: Legal Perspectives (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201286%20v00)  
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours
Slavery has been a phenomenon that has existed since before written history, yet it is only in the last 200 years that efforts to abolish it have gained traction. Today, increasing mobility, global supply chains, and continued social discrimination have created the environment for ongoing human exploitation, even though the formal practice of chattel slavery, or the legal ownership of one human being by another, is illegal virtually everywhere. Indeed, some estimate that there are more slaves today than at any other time in human history. Most recently, efforts to eliminate severe forms of human exploitation are being made under the banner of ending human trafficking (or more formally, trafficking in persons).

This course will provide students an overview of the multiple legal perspectives on combating human trafficking and modern slavery. This will include the definitional tensions between different perspectives, alternative approaches to addressing severe human exploitation, and an overview of the current U.S. legal framework for eradicating human trafficking and modern slavery and its weaknesses. Attention will be paid to commonly recognized principles in human rights, criminal and labor law, but also in such areas as corporate responsibility and international humanitarian law. The class will use a range of materials, including international treaties, decisions of international and foreign tribunals, and more familiar U.S. statutory materials and legislative history (such as committee reports).

Learning Objectives:
At the conclusion of the class, students should be able to

• recognize many of the forms of and pervasive nature of human trafficking and modern slavery;
• identify risks of human trafficking and modern slavery in most areas of practice they may choose in the future; and
• have familiarity with emerging issues in the area of human trafficking and modern slavery.

Recommended: A prior course in public international law or international human rights.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this seminar and Human Trafficking in International and Transnational Law.
**LL.M Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours**

This seminar will examine the role of law and policy in addressing modifiable risk factors that contribute to the rising prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Risk factors to be addressed include: tobacco use, unhealthy diets, and the harmful use of alcohol. Materials and discussions will probe questions such as: What are the best regulatory practices to deal with NCDs risk factors? How do transnational corporations contribute to the spread of non-communicable diseases? How different international legal regimes come into play in addressing risk factors? What are the opportunities and challenges of using law & policy to address NCDs’ commercial risk factors? Throughout this course we will have opportunities to consider how law and policy shape contemporary legal discussions related to NCDs, such as tobacco plain packaging, alcohol sponsorship, childhood obesity, commercial speech and food labelling, and targeted marketing strategies.

The course will take a global approach grounded in constitutional law and different international legal regimes (WTO, Human Rights Systems – Regional & Universal—, among others). The course will explore how the rise in NCDs prevalence in both developed and developing countries is mainly driven by transnational corporations, globalization and foreign direct investment. Additionally, case studies will explore a variety of examples from jurisdictions spanning the United Kingdom, South Africa, and Latin American countries, including taxes to discourage consumption of unhealthy products, laws restricting advertising and promotion, and laws and policies to promote access to information to consumers.

Students will be equipped with an understanding of specific issues, such as the role of law compared with policy, the strengths and weaknesses of different regulatory strategies and the role and responsibilities of the relevant industries in promoting the right to health. After exploring a series of foundational themes and issues through the first half of the course, the remainder will focus on in-depth case studies and experiences in regulating the risk factors from a comparative perspective and future challenges.

This seminar requires attendance and participation in seminar discussions, preparation for class, writing response posts, and the submission of a final paper.

**Course goals:**

- Understanding of the various risk factors contributing to non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
- Understanding of various models of regulation of NCDs risk factors.
- Understanding of complex risk factors regulatory issues across various constitutional systems and international legal regimes.
- Understanding the interaction between regulation of NCDs risk factors and issues like gender and freedom of speech.
- Understanding the role of transnational corporations in the increased prevalence of NCDs.
LAW 3132 v00 International Development, Humanitarian Assistance and Global Health

LL.M Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours
The course provides an overview of the international and domestic legal and policy framework applicable to the delivery of foreign assistance and global health for the following: bilateral development partners, international/multilateral institutions, and recipient countries; non-governmental and civil society organizations; and private sector actors.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and interpret the key relevant documents that define whether and how to provide different types of foreign assistance (including foreign assistance statutes and regulations, annual appropriations, bilateral treaties, and international treaties).
- Predict and explain policy decisions based on knowledge of areas of government discretion and restrictions.
- Identify and outline potential options to implement foreign assistance, global health and other projects based on knowledge of cross-cutting, generally applicable rules.
- Identify what you would need to know and the resources an organization will need in order to implement a project in response to a newly identified humanitarian aid or global health crisis or foreign assistance challenge.
- Differentiate between ideals and goals that are achievable under the relevant legal and regulatory framework from activities that are restricted or prohibited.
- Express the values or rationales that most influence or shape your interest in this field and how they inform your ability to assess the likelihood of success of an assistance activity.

LAW 227 v04 International Human Rights

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours
This course examines the law, institutions, and advocacy strategies designed to protect international human rights. We will analyze civil and political rights and economic and social rights, as well as international humanitarian law, and explore key enforcement mechanisms at the national, regional, and international levels. The evolving role of NGOs and civil society actors in advancing human rights, and the responsibility of corporations, will also be examined. Both progress and enduring challenges in making human rights real “on the ground” will be a focus of this course, together with the need for effective enactment of legal standards, enforcement of those standards, and empowerment of affected communities. Current legal issues and strategies concerning climate change and human rights will also be highlighted.

Recommended: International Law I: Introduction to International Law.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and International Human Rights Law, or the J.D. course, International Human Rights.
**LAW 814 v02 International Human Rights Law**

This course provides an intensive survey of modern international human rights law. Tracing the historical evolution of human rights norms, we will first explore look at how and they became a dominant feature of the post-World War II, post-colonial, and post-Cold War international orders. We will cover the doctrinal and institutional mechanisms of the modern human rights system, including the core treaties and international and regional bodies, with a particular focus on how courts, both international and domestic, can give human rights the force of law— or deprive them of it. We will examine how international human rights law defines specific rights (e.g., the right to life, the prohibition of torture, freedom of expression), struggles to overcome structural and historical biases (e.g., discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, or race), and adapts to different contexts (e.g., climate change, armed conflict, social media and surveillance). Throughout the course, we will study why states and businesses respect human rights, why they don't, and how lawyers, NGOs, and other actors can work to ensure that most human rights norms are honored most of the time. Our readings will draw from case law, treaties, academic works, legal briefs, and other sources that offer a real-world sense of how 21st Century human rights law is articulated, litigated, and adjudicated.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Strengthen legal research, writing, and editing.
- Draft brief and bench memorandum.
- Deliver oral argument.

**Recommended:** Prior enrollment in International Law I: Introduction to International Law (or equivalent).

At a minimum, students who have not previously studied public international law should read at least one treatise on the subject before the first week of class, e.g., Public International Law in a Nutshell 6th Ed, by Thomas Buergenthal and Sean Murphy.

**Mutually Excluded Courses:** Students may not receive credit for both this course and International Human Rights Law and Practice.

**Note:** Students may not withdraw from this class after the add/drop period ends without the permission of the professor.

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**LAW 1755 v00 International Human Rights: History, Theory, Promise and Critique**

This course will examine the philosophical and historical underpinnings of international human rights law. Students will encounter early conceptions human rights protection, alternative visions for the modern human rights framework, the development of international human rights law, and critical perspectives on the evolution and implementation of human rights.

Students will be encouraged to critically examine the successes and failures of the normative framework for the protection of human rights, whether we have achieved the universal realization of human rights, and ways in which the system might be reimagined or strengthened. Particular attention will be paid to the legal framework applicable to the protection of the rights of non-citizens, including migrants, refugees, and stateless persons. Contemporary case studies will be used to illustrate the challenges in resolving protracted situations of statelessness or displacement, and how gaps in international legal protection may exacerbate looming human rights crises, including those related to global climate change.

There are no required prerequisites for this course. However, students may find it beneficial to have taken International Law I: Introduction to International Law and/or the introductory course to International Human Rights.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Students will gain an understanding of some of the historical movements in the creation of human rights and political forces driving outcomes.
- Students will learn how to assess the strengths of the international human rights regime and identify key areas and methods of critique.
- Students will gain the ability to think critically about our assumptions about the structure of international law and human rights in order to imagine ways in which international human rights can be strengthened towards the universal realization of rights.
- Students will strengthen their written and verbal communication skills through written reflections, papers, and classroom discussion.
- Students completing a paper for the writing requirement will gain mastery over their chosen topic related to international human rights law, enhance the clarity and precision of their writing, and sharpen their skills in conveying their understanding through an oral presentation.

**Note:** This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The 3 credit section is open to J.D. students only and non-degree students may not enroll.
LAW 761 v03 International Law, Human Rights & Fighting Impunity
(http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20761%20v03)
LL.M Seminar (cross-listed) | 1 credit hour
This course will explore the global fight against impunity – specifically, as it pertains to curbing war crimes, human rights violations, grand corruption and looted antiquities – through class discussions, lectures and guest speakers with personal experience in fighting the impunity that is so often associated with war crimes and economic crimes. It is based on the premise that those that are willing to slaughter thousands of innocents, are also willing to steal millions of dollars and loot our collective cultural heritage – and that the fight against impunity includes both war crimes and economic crimes (and often, the international trend to focus on the former, ignores the domestic interest in prosecuting the latter). Over the semester, students in a seminar-size class will be exposed to the basics of international criminal law, international human rights law and international economic crimes, as well how the fight against impunity impacts national security and foreign policy issues.
The class will focus on issues related to war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide, as well as the recent global efforts to fight grand corruption and recover looted assets and antiquities, including UN Convention Against Corruption and the new UN-World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative. Students will be allowed to write a paper of their choice regarding international law and the fight against impunity. Class grades will be a combination between class participation (40%) and a seminar paper (60%). Required readings (cases, statutes, articles, book excerpts, on-line treaties, etc.) will be illuminated by lecture and discussion from a professor with first-hand experience in the global fight against impunity through his personal experience with the Slobodan Milosevic, Saddam Hussein and Omar al-Bashir matters, as well his background with the UN war crimes tribunal, the White House, the Pentagon, and the World Bank’s StAR Initiative, and helping recover stolen assets on behalf of various governments. In order to take advantage of Georgetown’s unique position in the intersection of law, politics, and international affairs, the course will feature high-profile guest speakers who will highlight their own personal efforts to fight impunity and how such international efforts impact national security and foreign policy matters.

Prerequisite: International Law I or equivalent.

Note: ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL CLASS SESSIONS. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety may result in a withdrawal.

Enrolled students will have until the beginning of the second class session to request a drop by contacting the Office of the Registrar; a student who no longer wishes to remain enrolled after the second class session begins will not be permitted to drop the class but may request a withdrawal from an academic advisor in the Office of Academic Affairs. Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course.

LAW 1323 v00 International Law, National Security, and Human Rights
(http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201323%20v00)
J.D. Course | 3 credit hours
This course teaches international law by focusing on two bodies of law and how they protect the right to life and the right to liberty. These are international human rights law and international law governing the use of military force.

Governments provide protection against threats to human rights, but also themselves may pose such threats. Law therefore must both enable states to protect human rights and prevent states from violating them. Relevant to our course, states have an obligation under human rights law to protect individuals from violation of their rights to life and liberty by other individuals and groups. Human rights law also, however, limits how far government may go in infringing rights to life and liberty when fulfilling this obligation.

States also have a responsibility under human rights law to protect their populations from serious threats to life and liberty by other states, and by large nonstate organized armed groups. What we think of as national security law regulates when and how countries may use military force to infringe these rights when fulfilling this obligation. The domestic law component of this body of law regulates when the government has authority under its own laws to invoke national security power when using force. The international law of war governs when the state has authority to use military force under international law, and how a state may use such force when it does so.

As this course will illustrate, the international regulatory framework for protecting life and liberty was designed for a world in which threats to life and liberty arose from either private individuals or small groups on the one hand, or other countries on the other. In this world, police provide protection against the first threat, and international human rights law governs how far they may infringe on life and liberty to do so. The military provides protection against the second threat, and the international law of war governs how far it may infringe on life and liberty in meeting this obligation.

In recent years, however, most serious hostilities have been between countries and large nonstate organized armed groups. When a threat by private persons should be addressed under human rights law and when it becomes so significant that it should be addressed under the law of war therefore has become a source of significant controversy. This course will provide you with a foundation in the basic principles of international law, international human rights law, and the domestic and international law governing the use of military force, with the goal of equipping you to analyze this pressing modern challenge.

Learning objectives for the course are for you to become familiar with:

(1) basic concepts in international law, especially relating to treaties, customary law, and how international law interacts with domestic law in the United States;

(2) basic concepts in international human rights law, United Nations and European Conventions on basic human rights, and their impacts on domestic law;

(3) basic provisions of domestic and international law that deal with when states may use military force, and international law governing how such force may be used in armed conflict; and

(4) based on your understanding of the subjects described above, for you to appreciate how many contemporary national security concerns present challenges that do not fall squarely within either international human rights law or the international law governing military force – which means that you must be able to think creatively about modern challenges
This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

**LAW 520 v00 International Women's Human Rights Clinic**

J.D. Clinic | 10 credit hours
Please see the International Women's Human Rights Clinic website (https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/international-womens-human-rights-clinic) for more detailed information about the program.

For registration-specific supplemental materials, please see the International Women's Human Rights Clinic PDF (https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/0q9mhjd1jrp8a5bvhcvzjgc8iv7t).

For information about clinic registration generally, please see the Clinic Registration Handbook (https://georgetown.box.com/s/y9f8wg3yqyceuynvi3ytyrl6njgpyv).

**Mutually Excluded Courses:** Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

**LAW 1334 v00 Justice and Accountability for International Atrocity Crimes: Bridging Theory and Practice Seminar**

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours
This seminar examines both progress and ongoing challenges in seeking meaningful justice and accountability for serious international crimes, including crimes against humanity, genocide, and war crimes. We'll begin with an overview of the challenges of effective atrocity prevention and an examination of fundamental developments over the last few decades establishing international and hybrid criminal tribunals and other mechanisms of transitional justice, including truth and reconciliation commissions. Building on this foundation, and drawing upon legal scholarship, social science research, and country case studies, we will then explore a range of responses to key justice challenges recurring in a number of countries emerging from conflict. These challenges include: (1) the often complicated relationship between peace processes and justice initiatives; (2) the question of whose justice goals are being pursued and how national, regional, and international stakeholders interact in such efforts; and (3) the complexities of building enduring justice on the ground through meaningful domestic rule of law reform, outreach, cultural engagement, and other means. Students will write a substantial seminar paper within the subject matter scope of the seminar.

**Note:** This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

**LAW 1207 v00 Negotiating a Joint Venture in China**

J.D. Seminar | 1 credit hour
Through a simulation oriented course, students will be exposed to recent economic history of the People's Republic of China, foreign direct investment law of China, and negotiating norms of US and Chinese investors. These various knowledge sets will be brought together as each participant takes on the role of either a Chinese investor or a US investor, negotiating the terms of a China-based joint venture and ultimately reporting back to their respective board of directors. In addition to the negotiations exercises, the course requires a brief quality-driven paper on any number of topics relating to China as an economic actor on the world stage.

**Note:** ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL CLASS SESSIONS. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety may result in a withdrawal.

Enrolled students will have until the beginning of the second class session to request a drop by contacting the Office of the Registrar; a student who no longer wishes to remain enrolled after the second class session begins will not be permitted to drop the class but may request a withdrawal from an academic advisor in the Office of Academic Affairs. Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course.

**LAW 440 v04 Refugee Law and Policy**

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours
This course examines domestic refugee law and policy, with particular focus on asylum and other refugee-related claims for protection that arise in the U.S. legal system. Students will become familiar with the key actors in the asylum and refugee law arena, including the U.S. Congress, the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, the federal courts, and international entities.

The course objectives are: (1) to equip students with an understanding of the principles of refugee policy, asylum law, and the United States' procedures for refugee protection, and (2) to provide students with a practical appreciation for how refugee policy is formed and a working knowledge of asylum law, which will serve as a foundation for academic research, clinical study, employment, pro bono work, and/or internship opportunities within the U.S. government and the NGO community.

In addition to focusing on the refugee definition as interpreted by U.S. courts, we will examine the processes for adjudicating asylum claims -- where the system works and where it fails. We will also seek to understand the limits of asylum law and explore the toughest issues facing asylum adjudicators and policy makers today.
LAW 1071 v00 Reproductive Health and International Human Rights Law
(http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW %201071%20v00) (Project-Based Practicum)
J.D. Practicum | 4 credit hours
In a project-based practicum course, students participate in a weekly seminar and work on a project under the supervision of their professor. This project-based practicum course will focus on the interaction between international human rights law and reproductive health and rights. Students will participate in a two hour/week seminar and carry out 10 hours/week of project work under the direction of the course professor.

SEMINAR: The seminar will begin by providing an overview of international human rights law as it pertains to reproductive rights. The course will then focus on access to reproductive health from an international perspective, examining States’ obligations on a variety of issues, such as maternal mortality and coerced sterilization. Analyzing recent decisions emerging from regional and international human rights bodies, such as the European Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission and Court on Human Rights and the CEDAW Committee (UN Committee on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women), the seminar component will provide a solid legal foundation for students to develop their experiential/field placement projects.

PROJECT WORK: Students will work with external partners on legal and policy projects related to reproductive health. Some of the projects may include drafting amicus briefs for cases currently pending before international bodies, and drafting briefs assessing a particular State’s compliance with human rights law regarding sexual and reproductive rights to be filed in front of UN bodies (shadow reports). Through these projects, students will learn how to conduct an analysis of existing legal and regulatory frameworks for sexual and reproductive health from a human rights perspective. Students will also learn how to use epidemiological data to support and craft compelling human rights law arguments for advancing public policy on, for example, maternal mortality and sexual violence prevention and eradication. By working with external civil society organizations, the course will give students the opportunity to develop practical projects using international human rights law to advocate for the advancement of reproductive health rights. In the past, external partners have included organizations working on women’s rights issues, such as: the Center for Reproductive Rights, Women’s Link Worldwide, Human Rights Watch (Women’s Rights Division), IPAS, and Southern Africa Litigation Centre, among others.

Prerequisite: J.D. students must complete the required first-year program prior to enrolling in this course (part-time and interdivisional transfer students may enroll prior to completing Criminal Justice, Property, or their first-year elective).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum course and a clinic or another practicum course. Students may concurrently enroll in this practicum course and an externship.

Note: This practicum course is open to LL.M. students, space permitting. Interested LL.M. students should email the Office of the Registrar (lawreg@georgetown.edu) to request admission.

Evening students who work during the day are encouraged to reach out to the professor to discuss whether this practicum course would be compatible with their schedules. This is a four credit course. Two credits will be awarded for the two-hour weekly seminar and two credits will be awarded for approximately 10 hours of supervised project work per week, for a minimum of 11 weeks. Both the seminar and the project work will be graded. Students who enroll in this course will be automatically enrolled in both the seminar and project components and may not take either component separately. After Add/Drop, a student who wishes...
LAW 1353 v00 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Sex Characteristics and International Human Rights Law (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201353%20v00) (Project-Based Practicum)
J.D. Practicum | 4 credit hours

In a project-based practicum course, students participate in a weekly seminar and work on a project under the supervision of the professor. This project-based practicum course will focus on issues of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics from an international human rights law perspective. Students will participate in a two hour/week seminar and carry out 10 hours/week of project work under the direction of the course professor.

Background: Every day, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQI) people are victims of multiple human rights violations, which are directly linked to the lack of acceptance (by society and the State) of their non-normative sexualities, gender identities or gender expressions. Some of the most common human rights violations of LGBTQI people include killings, torture, ill-treatment, “corrective” or punishing rape, “conversion therapy,” discrimination in schools, in the workplace and in accessing health services, among many others. Intersex persons face human rights violations because of the general lack of acceptance of their bodies that differ from the socially accepted standards of “female” and “male” bodies. Because of their sex characteristics, intersex people often face human rights violations including irreversible non-consented and non-medically necessary genital surgery at the early stages of infancy and throughout childhood, as well as forced sterilization, among others.

SEMINAR: The course will take a close look at some of the human rights violations faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer and intersex (LGBTQI) people, or other people perceived as such, as well as the corresponding States’ obligations under international human rights law. The students will analyze landmark and recent decisions emerging from regional and international human rights monitoring bodies, which have developed standards around these categories. This analysis will provide a solid legal foundation for students to develop their projects for external partners.

PROJECT WORK: Students will work, under the direction of the professor, with external partners on legal and policy projects, including conducting legal research and drafting memoranda on specific human rights issues faced by LGBTQI people, preparing shadow reports to present before international human rights bodies, conducting analysis of legislation or a related case, among others. External partners vary every year, and include international and domestic leading human rights organizations working on the promotion and protection of the rights of LGBTQI people at the international level.

Prerequisite: J.D. students must complete the required first-year program prior to enrolling in this course (part-time and interdivisional transfer students may enroll prior to completing Criminal Justice, Property, or their first-year elective).

Recommended: International Human Rights Law. Women’s Rights. Gender and Sexuality and the Law.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum course and a clinic or another practicum course. Students may concurrently enroll in this practicum course and an externship.

Note: This practicum course is open to LL.M. students, space permitting. Interested LL.M. students should email the Office of the Registrar (lawreg@georgetown.edu) to request admission.

Evening students who work during the day are encouraged to reach out to the professor to discuss whether this practicum course would be compatible with their schedules. This is a four credit course. Two credits correspond to the seminar component and two credits correspond to the project component.

LAW 3139 v00 The International Health Law Infrastructure - Building Resilience from the COVID Crisis (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%203139%20v00)
LL.M Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This course will provide an overview of the international and domestic legal and policy frameworks relating to Global Health. It will explore the critical tools used by the international community and donor governments to respond to the COVID crisis. Using the International Health Regulations, Sustainable Development Goals 2030, WTO Doha Declaration, COVAX Agreements, and International and Regional Human Rights Treaties we will provide a foundation of policy deployment at the international level. Against this backdrop we will focus on the challenges and the tension of international organizations to operate in crises and the sovereignty of the country members resulting in a hardening of nationalism and making their citizens a top priority. Cross-border challenges and threats had been a concern before COVID-19; climate change, fragility and conflict, migration and infectious disease are all increasing in frequency. We will address and examine how these tensions impacted the COVID crisis and other global health emergencies.

The course is designed to impart practical skills for students interested in exploring careers focused on these international issues/global health in government, nongovernmental organizations or the private sector, providing a complementary perspective to Preventing, Detecting and Responding to Global Health: The International Health Regulations and the U.S. Government Interagency Process from the international perspective.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and interpret the key relevant authorities and limitations that underpin the global response to the COVID crisis and other global health emergencies in the international community.
- Identify and interpret the key regulations, guidance, and other laws applicable to providing COVID response as well as broader global health assistance by the countries at the national level.
- Draw lessons learned from the international and country-level response to the COVID crisis.
- Predict and explain policy decisions based on knowledge of areas of international organization, donor governments and private actors discretion and restrictions.
- Critically analyze the application of the international global health infrastructure, the IHR and Global Health Security Agenda to COVID and other real life scenarios.
- Identify and recommend changes to the international legal framework for global health to respond more efficiently and effectively to the next global health crisis.
- Differentiate between ideals and goals that are achievable under the relevant legal and regulatory frameworks from activities that are restricted, restrained or prohibited.

Recommended: International Law; Administrative Law; Global Health Law Seminar
LAW 3085 v00 The Nuremberg Trials, the Doctors Trials (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%203085%20v00)

LL.M Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours
The Doctors Trial considered the fate of twenty-three German physicians who either participated in the Nazi program to euthanize persons deemed "unworthy of life" (the mentally ill, mentally retarded, or physically disabled) or who conducted experiments on concentration camp prisoners without consent. The Doctors Trial lasted 140 days. Eighty-five witnesses testified and almost 1,500 documents were introduced. Sixteen of the doctors charged were found guilty. Seven were executed.

The Doctors Trial provides a significant and important example of human rights violations and serves as a lesson in law and bioethics vital to understanding how law evolved from an initial eugenics policy to and including the horrible examples that framed human atrocities during WW II.

This course will highlight examples from Jeanne Guillemin's "Hidden Atrocites, Japanese Germ Warfare and American Obstruction of Justice at the Tokyo Trial", Joel Dimsdale's "Anatomy of Malice" examining the psychological assessments necessary for the trials, and Vivien Spitz's "Doctors from Hell", delving deep into the actual court transcripts from the proceedings. Ben Ferenz's work, one of the actual prosecutors at the trials, will also be included as insight into this tragic period.

Note: In the Spring 2022 semester, this course will take place online via Zoom (https://georgetown.box.com/s/s4nyif5n3g92usmagj9guq5n2cjpw7f).

LAW 1741 v00 The United States and Human Rights Seminar (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201741%20v00)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours
This seminar examines the role of the United States in shaping international human rights law and advancing the realization of these rights both at home and abroad. The US role since World War II is significant but also complicated, marked by leadership but also ambivalence. The US stance toward international human rights has always been deeply shaped by human rights struggles at home -- over racial injustice, gender discrimination, and economic inequality -- and by US ambivalence about participating in various multilateral treaties and institutions. Increasingly, advancing human rights at home and abroad are profoundly interconnected, especially as the United States and the world confront urgent problems of climate change, Covid 19, economic inequality and other threats to human dignity that cross borders and affect us all.

With the United States so deeply divided politically, how can US leaders best move ahead to protect human rights at home and to advance human rights abroad? Do the foundations of international human rights law -- rooted in the universal affirmation of inherent human dignity and equality -- provide new promise going forward, and can greater empathy and common purpose be nurtured across political divides at home and abroad? What tangible mechanisms and strategies can best address the most urgent human rights challenges today? Who will be the key actors in these efforts, and what roles can state and local governments, civil society organizations, individuals and local groups and others play, in addition to the longstanding role of the federal government? Does the US system of federalism offer promising avenues for progress on urgent human rights issues or do deep divisions within the United States today undercut the prospects for consistent US leadership abroad? This seminar will explore these questions systematically. Students will write a substantial seminar paper within the subject matter scope of the seminar.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.