Human Rights Education: 
Rights, Responsibility, Obligations 
Spring 2013     Gabriel Moran

Course Purposes:
1. To trace the evolution of international ethics, especially during the second half of the twentieth century.

2. To consider the language of human rights as the currency of international ethics

3. To understand responsibility as the link between rights and obligations

4. To relate human rights to gender and age, and to issues of peace, environment, religion and culture

5. To examine recent and contemporary examples of international ethical conflicts, especially the violation of human rights.

Course Outline:
1. Jan. 30: Introduction to Course

2. Feb. 6: International Ethics (Moran; Welsh; Nardin)

3. Feb. 13: Historical Background (Sands, Rorty)


5. Feb. 27: Basic Rights (Shue, Moran)

6. March 6: Responsibility: Rights and Obligations (Moran)

7. March 13: International Responsibility (Shue)

8. March 27: War and Peace (Bok; Moran)

9. Apr. 3: Women and Rights (Tickner; Bunch; Whitworth; UN Convention)
10. Apr. 10: Rights of Children, Aged, Dying (Moran; Lewis; Beah; UN)

11. Apr. 17: Religions: Obstacle or Help? (Orentlicher; Shakir)

12. Apr. 24: The Environment in Tension with Human Rights (Stern; White)

13. May 1: The Culture and Cultures of the Humans (Sen; Moran)

14. May 8: Truth Commissions (Moran, Graybill)

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Reading:**

Readings and excerpts provided in photocopy or online either at [www.nyu.edu/classes/gmoran](http://www.nyu.edu/classes/gmoran) or Blackboard

**Writing:**

1. Each class will begin by your responding in writing to a question about the reading. I will comment on what you write (without a grade) and return it the following class. Keep these 14 written exercises on file. The final exam will be taken largely from them.

2. Project:

   a. An individually written paper on one international conflict. A list of possible cases is provided below

   b. Content: The paper should cover: some history of the specific problem; the present situation; political and ethical actions that have been taken in response to the problem; your evaluation

   c. Length: It can be any length; about 10-12 pages would seem needed

   d. First draft due: March 13
      It will be returned with comments and suggestions: March 27
      Final Draft due: May 1
We will have some discussion of them on May 8

Final Examination

Course Evaluation:

Approximately one-third for oral contributions
  one-third for written paper
  one-third for final examination

I am available for discussion of the paper or other matters. Before class or after class are usually good times for me. Other times can be arranged.
E-mail: gm3@nyu.edu

For the Written Paper, choose one of the following situations; or another of your choosing. Check with me if you have an alternative

___ Haiti, 1994
___ Sierra Leone, 1995
___ East Timor, 1999
___ Kosovo, 1999
___ El Salvador, 1982
___ Somalia, 1992
___ Iraq, 1990
___ Kashmir, 2001
___ Israel, 2001
___ Venezuela, 2002
___ Pakistan 2008
___ North Korea, 2009
___ Sudan 2009
___ Iran 2011