INTS 325 01 – SPRING 2006

GENOCIDE: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE
Name of Instructor: Adam Jones (adam.jones@yale.edu)
Days and Times of Meetings: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30-10:20 a.m.
Room: Luce Hall 101 (auditorium)
Day, Time, and Place of Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-12 noon, or by appointment
Office: Rm. 147, African Studies, YCIAS (Ground Floor)

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE AND COURSE GOALS

Genocide is one of humanity’s greatest and most enduring scourges. In the contemporary age, it provokes intense public interest and policy debate. However, the subject of genocide is also attended by considerable complexity, controversy, and ambiguity. This course aims to provide students with a conceptual and historical overview of genocide from a broad interdisciplinary perspective. It is designed for intermediate to advanced-level students.

Part One of the course provides an introduction to the subject and to genocide’s relationship with imperialism, war, and social revolution. A range of empirical case studies is then considered in Part Two, along with some of the historical and philosophical debates they have sparked.

In Part Three, the course moves to analyze social-scientific contributions to genocide studies. These include contributions from psychology, sociology, anthropology, and gender studies. Particular attention will be paid to political science and international relations.

The final section of the course, Part Four, analyzes themes of memory and denial; mechanisms of justice and redress, including the evolving international law of genocide; and strategies of prevention and intervention.

It is anticipated that the student will emerge with a deeper and more nuanced understanding of genocide in the modern age. S/he should also be equipped to approach contemporary cases and debates with diverse analytical tools, and from a range of interdisciplinary perspectives.

TEXTS AND READINGS

The textbook is Adam Jones, Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction (Routledge/Taylor & Francis, in press). The book is available as a course packet. In addition to the textbook, students should purchase Robert Gellately and Ben Kiernan, eds., The Specter of Genocide: Mass Murder in Historical Perspective (Cambridge University Press, 2003), for the required readings it contains and as a useful supplementary source. A course packet with additional required readings will also be made available.

There are three books available for optional purchase in the Yale bookstore: Alex Alvarez, Governments, Citizens, and Genocide; Frank Chalk and Kurt Jonassohn, The History and Sociology of Genocide; and Adam Jones, ed., Genocide, War Crimes & the West. Students
interested in reading beyond the course material may consult the suggestions for “Further Reading” at the end of each chapter of *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, particularly those for Chapter 1.

**COURSE EVALUATION PROCEDURES**

The major assignments for the course consist of two papers (each 10-12 pages double-spaced, worth 30% of the final grade) and a final exam (worth 40%).

In the first term paper assignment, students will explore a thematic/theoretical aspect of genocide (for example: definitions of genocide; the drafting of the UN Genocide Convention; the question of genocidal intent; the role of the Jewish Holocaust in genocide studies and/or the issue of Holocaust “uniqueness”; the relationship between genocide and war; a particular social-scientific perspective on genocide). The second term paper should compare and contrast at least two cases of genocide, drawn from those examined in the course or from the student’s own interests. Papers should be argumentative – i.e., with a thesis clearly defined and explored – not merely descriptive. A handout will be provided with more details about the term paper assignments early in the course.

**NOTE:** Plagiarism is unacceptable, and will result in papers being rejected and given a zero grade. Students should ensure they are aware of Yale regulations surrounding plagiarism: see http://www.yale.edu/yalecollege/publications/uregs/appendixes/cheating.html.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

**Part One: Genocide in Historical Context**

**Week 1 – January 10 & 12, 2006**

The Origins of Genocide

Required readings:


**Week 2 – January 17 & 19, 2006**

The Origins of Genocide (cont’d.); Imperialism, War, and Social Revolution

Required readings:


**Part Two: Cases of Genocide**

**Week 3 – January 24 & 26, 2006**
*Genocides of Indigenous Peoples; Tibet under Chinese Rule*

Required readings:
(1) *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, chapter 3, box text 3a

**Week 4 – January 31 & February 2, 2006**
*The Armenian Genocide, 1915-17; The Anfal Campaign against the Kurds; Stalin’s Terror; Chechnya*

Required readings:
(1) *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, chapter 4 & 5, box texts 4a and 5a

**Week 5 – February 7 & 9, 2006**
*The Jewish Holocaust*

Required readings:
(1) *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, chapter 6

**Week 6 – February 14 & 16, 2006**
*The Nazis’ Other Victims; The Question of Holocaust “Uniqueness”*

Required readings:
(1) *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*, box text 6a
Week 7 – February 21 & 23, 2006
Cambodia and the Khmer Rouge; East Timor; Bosnia & Kosovo; Bangladesh
Required readings:
(1) Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction, chapters 7 & 8, box texts 7a & 8a

Week 8 – February 28 & March 2, 2006
Rwanda; Congo & Darfur
Required readings:
(1) Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction, chapter 9, box text 9a

First paper due at beginning of March 2 class

SPRING RECESS

Part Three: Social Science Perspectives

Week 9 – March 21 & 23, 2006
Psychological Perspectives; The Sociology and Anthropology of Genocide
Required readings:

Week 10 – March 28 & 30, 2006
Political Science and International Relations
Required readings:

Week 11 – April 4 & 6, 2006
Gender and Genocide; Memory, Forgetting, and Denial
Required readings:

Part Four – The Future of Genocide

Week 12 – April 11 & 13, 2006
Justice, Truth, and Redress
Required readings:

Week 13 – April 18 & 20, 2006
Genocide Intervention and Prevention

(Second term paper due at beginning of April 20 class; course evaluations; final exam to follow)