Course Overview:
What is humanitarian intervention? What are the responsibilities of those who intervene in crises around the globe? How are responses to crises planned and carried out? And what political considerations govern how humanitarian workers interact with those they seek to help? This course offers an exploration of these and other questions related to humanitarianism and humanitarian intervention. Students will explore the history of international relief, the logics of intervention in various crises, and key challenges and debates around issues such as sovereignty, neutrality, victimhood, and empowerment.
Bucknell University Honor Code:
As a student and citizen of the Bucknell University community:

1. I will not lie, cheat or steal in my academic endeavors.

2. I will forthrightly oppose each and every instance of academic dishonesty.

3. I will communicate directly and promptly with any person or persons I believe to have been dishonest in academic work.

4. I will let my conscience guide my decision on reporting breaches of academic integrity to the appropriate faculty or deans.

Bucknell University expectations for academic engagement:
"Courses at Bucknell that receive one unit of academic credit have a minimum expectation of 12 hours per week of student academic engagement. Student academic engagement includes both the hours of direct faculty instruction (or its equivalent) and the hours spent on out of class student work. Half and quarter unit courses at Bucknell should have proportionate expectations for student engagement."

Academic Responsibility:
Please, review Bucknell's policies regarding:

Academic Integrity: http://www.bucknell.edu/x1340.xml

Avoiding Plagiarism: http://www.bucknell.edu/x1341.xml

Unauthorized Collaboration: http://www.bucknell.edu/x1344.xml

Bucknell Resources for Research & Writing: http://www.bucknell.edu/x1342.xml

Course Format:
This is largely a discussion-based course, although I will provide framing lectures and will generally start off and close each class with some remarks that help to contextualized course topics and readings. We will occasionally work in small groups to explore specific cases. We will cover a range of different materials including academic writings, policy documents, case studies, and films. I expect your full, active, and professional participation in class.

Email Policy:
Please, feel free to contact me. However, please also keep in mind that I am as busy as you. Make sure you consult the course syllabus, other handouts, and the course Moodle site BEFORE sending an e-mail. Note that e-mail should NOT be seen as an alternative to meeting with me during office hours. Nor should e-mail be used as a mechanism to receive private tutorials or to explain material that was covered in classes you missed (those are your responsibility to obtain from your peers). I will endeavor to respond within 24 hours.

Moodle and Required Texts:
Most of the readings for this course will be posted on Moodle. This is also where you will submit papers, reading responses, etc. Additionally, students should purchase copies of:


Copies are available in the campus bookstore and at various online sites.
**Learning Objectives/Goals Unique to this course:** Upon completion, students will be able to:

- Explain the various historical and contemporary politics of humanitarian intervention
- Identify and explain contemporary debates over humanitarian practice and ethics (around issues such as sovereignty, neutrality, etc.)
- Use a series of key theoretical and analytical concepts related to humanitarianism (sovereignty, victimhood, witnessing, etc.)
- Analyze the challenges and complexities of humanitarian intervention from a range of different standpoints (theoretical, policy, etc.)

**Learning Objectives/Goals overlapping with the Learning Goals of the IR Department:**

- Understand the major concepts of international relations
- Understand and critically evaluate the theories and approaches to international relations
- Identify the key actors in international relations
- Demonstrate a knowledge of the key dimensions, events and processes of international relations within their historic context
- Demonstrate knowledge of the multi-disciplinary nature of international relations
- Demonstrate skills of critical analysis and written and oral communication

**Assignments:**

- **Class Participation:** 20%  
  (active and respectful participation, informed understandings of readings, leadership in class, etc.)
- **Mid-Term Take-home Essay:** 25%  
  (5-8 page prompt-based paper)
- **Reading Responses (10):** 15%  
  (2 Page discussions of readings complete with a discussion question.)
- **Final Paper:** 40%  
  (16-20 page research paper).

**This is a Global Connections Course:**

We live in a world in which globalization is reshaping politics and economics as well as social and cultural relations. Global Connections courses expose students to those questions of difference that have evolved over time, between peoples and social systems across the global community, as well as the interdependence that underscores the very nature of such studies.

Global Connections courses, including some study abroad experiences, provide students with the necessary tools to identify and explore different cultural perspectives and the interrelationships between and across cultures. Global Connections courses provide students with the requisite knowledge to understand and analyze problems, policies and issues from their interdependent points of view.

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will use concepts and tools of inquiry to examine the beliefs, history, social experiences, social structures, artistic or literary expressions, and/or traditions of one or more cultures or societies located outside the United States.

OR

2. Students will use appropriate tools of inquiry to understand the interdependent nature of the global system and the consequences this interdependence has for political, economic and social problems.
Introduction: Humanitarian Intervention as Power and Practice

Wednesday, January 16--Course Introduction

Histories and Presents of Humanitarianism
Friday, January 18: Humanitarian Intentions

Recommended:

Wednesday, January 23: Humanitarian Crisis? 1

Friday, January 25: Humanitarian Crisis? 2

Wednesday, January 30: Humanitarianism: What is it (Good) For?

Friday, February 1: Humanitarian Pasts

Recommended:

The Humanitarian Everyday: Shaping Humanitarian Interventions

Wednesday, February 6: Humanitarianism and/or Human Rights?

Friday, February 8: The Gift of Aid

Wednesday, February 13: Donor Imperatives

Recommended:

Friday, February 15: Humanitarianism and Everyday Politics

The Logic of Intervention: Neutrality as/or Politics

Wednesday, February 20: The Dilemmas of Neutrality

Recommended:

Friday, February 22: Ethiopia and Humanitarian Crisis

Recommended:

Wednesday, February 27: Neutrality and Reckoning

Recommended:

Humanitarianism and Sovereignty

Friday, March 1: Sovereign States or Sovereign Interventions?

Wednesday, March 6: Sovereign States or Sovereign Interventions 2?

Recommended:

MID-TERM PAPERS DUE THURSDAY, MARCH 7

Wednesday, March 20: Humanitarian Spaces

Friday, March 22: Questioning Humanitarian Sovereignty

Humanitarian Compassion: Witnessing and Suffering

Wednesday, March 27: Social Suffering?

Friday, March 29: What is a Victim?

Wednesday, April 3: The Consumption of Suffering
- Sontag, S. 2004. excerpts from Regarding the Pain of Others.

**Humanitarianism and the Techno-Politics of Implementation**

Friday, April 5: Theories and Practices
**Guest Lecture by Erin Lentz, Research Support Specialist, Department of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University**

Wednesday, April 10: Strategies of Deployment

Friday, April 13: Planned Interventions or Adhocracy?
**Guest Lecture by Elizabeth Dunn, Department of Geography, University of Colorado, Boulder**

**Militarization and Humanitarianism**

Wednesday, April 17: Managing Risk

*Recommended:*

Friday, April 19: Three Cups of Tea and The Ethics of Intervention
- Mortenson, G. and D. Relin. 2006. Selections from Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time.

Wednesday, April 24: Friday, April 19: On the Ground Militarism
**Guest Lecture by Joe Bryan, Department of Geography, University of Colorado, Boulder**
-Bryan, J. Mimeo. TBD

*Recommended:*

Friday, April 26--Course Conclusion

**Tuesday, May 7: Final Paper Due at 2:45**