The period after the Second World War saw the Nuremberg Trials, the establishment of the United Nations, and the creation of new institutions and legislation dedicated to the idea of international human rights. Politicians, lawyers, and citizens from all over the world discussed and debated the meaning of terms such as "genocide," "crimes against humanity," "liberty," "democracy," and "aggressive war." In this course we will explore the history of the idea of human rights—and examine how human rights ideas and institutions were established, used, and in some cases abused during the long years of the Cold War. The course will have an international focus. Students will have the opportunity to choose case studies of their choice for their research papers.

**Format**: Reading and discussion. Students are expected to show up for class prepared and ready to participate. Students will have the opportunity to lead discussion twice during the semester.

**Response Papers**: Over the course of the semester students will write ten short (one-page) "response papers" related to the weekly readings.

**Research Papers**: Students will work on original 15-page research papers on topics related to the course theme. Students are required to use a range of primary sources and to become well acquainted with the secondary literature on their chosen topics. Primary sources might include newspapers, memoirs, government documents, archival documents (in edited volumes or on approved websites), photographs and other visual sources, speeches, letters, and so on. On designated dates (see below), students will submit a research question, a revised research question, a research proposal, a revised research proposal, and a short bibliography of primary and secondary sources. Research papers are due on Monday May 12 by 5 pm.

**Readings**: Readings with an * next to them are available for purchase at the University Store and on reserve at College Library. The course Packet is available for purchase at StudentPrint on East Campus Mall and is also on reserve at College Library.

**Course grades will be based on the following distribution**: Participation (including presentations) 35%, response papers 20%, research-related assignments (including participation in two mandatory library sessions) 15%, final research paper 30%.
**Library Sessions**: All students are required to attend one session of the Introduction to Historical Research Workshop, taught in Memorial Library Room 231 from 6-7:30 on February 3, 5, and 13. In addition, all students are required to attend our class section at Memorial Library during class time on February 28.

**Part One: World War II and the Problem of Genocide**

**Week 1, 1/24: Introduction**

**Week 2, 1/31: The Holocaust**

**Readings:**

**Assignment:**
Response Paper One

**Week 3, 2/7: Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing**

**Readings:**

**Assignment:**
Response Paper Two

**Week 4, 2/14: The Nuremberg Moment**

**Readings:**
2. Robert H. Jackson, "Opening Statement Before the International Military Tribunal." (Packet)
3. Skim the three counts of the "Indictment Act of the International Military Tribunal" at: [http://avalon.law.yale.edu/imt/imtconst.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/imt/imtconst.asp)
   Pay attention to the use of the terms "genocide" and "crimes against humanity."

**Assignments:**
Response Paper Three
**Research Question Due in Class**
Part Two: Postwar Definitions and Legal Interventions

Week Five, 2/21: Raphael Lemkin and the Genocide Convention

Readings:

Assignment:
Response Paper Four

Week Six, 2/28: Research Topics and Strategies

Meet at Memorial Library for a meeting with Bibliographer Lisa Saywell

Assignment:
**Revised Research Question Due in Class**

Week Seven, 3/7: Genocide and the Problem of State Sovereignty

Readings:

Assignment:
Response Paper Five
**One-Page Research Proposal Due in Class**

Week 8, 3/14: The International Criminal Court

Readings:
   Pay attention to the use of the terms "genocide" and "crimes against humanity."

Assignment:
Response Paper Six:
Part Three: Cases

Week 9, 3/21: Spring Break

Week 10, 3/28: Cambodia
Readings:
Assignment:
Response Paper Seven

Week 11, 4/4: Rwanda
Readings:
Assignments:
Response Paper Eight
**Revised One-Page Research Proposal Due in Class

Week 12, 4/11: Bosnia
Readings:
Assignments:
Response Paper Nine
**Bibliography of Primary and Secondary Sources Due in Class

Week 13, 4/18: Darfur
Readings:

**Assignment:**
Response Paper Ten

**Part Four: Research**

**Week 14, 4/25: Primary Source Presentations**

**Week 15, 5/2: Research and Consultations**

**Week 16, 5/9: Wrap-Up Discussion**

**FINAL RESEARCH PAPERS ARE DUE ON MONDAY MAY 12 BY 5 PM**