Fall 2013

New Dimensions in Human Security

Brian K. Muzas Dr.

Seton Hall University

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New Dimensions in Human Security

DIPL 3150 AA
M 11am-1:30pm
DH 80

Fall 2013

DIPL 3150 AB
M 2pm-4:30pm
DH 80

Instructor: Rev. Brian K. Muzás, Ph.D.
Office hours: M 9:15am-10:45am
T 5:45pm-6:15pm
Other times by appointment
Office: 101D McQuaid Hall
McQuaid Tel.: (973) 313-6022
Boland Tel.: (973) 761-9137 (please do not call before 9am or after 9pm)
E-mail brian.muzas@shu.edu

Course Description and Content
The goal of this course is to introduce students to the concepts and issues that are part of the developing field of human security. Human security is a relatively new academic discipline, but it has been practiced for thousands of years. The term “human security” predates the end of the Cold War but began to penetrate academic and policy discourse only after its formulation and comprehensive elaboration in the UNDP’s 1994 Human Development Report. Some states have incorporated the concept of human security into their foreign policies. Interestingly, none seem to have incorporated it into their domestic policies. The human security idea remains controversial and we will explore these controversies. Start by thinking about the following questions:

Security for whom?
Security from what?
Security by what means?

Students should be prepared to do a significant amount of reading each class and to discuss it constructively. Courses work well only when everyone comes prepared for a critical and informed conversation.

Students are encouraged to link the readings to contemporary events and so are urged to read newspapers which provide thorough coverage of international news (for example, The New York Times, Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal). Read foreign newspapers if possible. Television news sources such as the BBC, CNN International, CCTV9 (from China), Deutsche Welle, and Russia Today provide insight into current events as well.
Assignments and Grading
Class participation and attendance, 25% of course grade.
All students are expected to do the reading in advance and to take part in the discussion. The quality of class sessions is greatly enhanced when students are prepared to engage the course material in a constructive fashion. Participation will be noted and credited to your grade. Poor attendance (over two absences) will result in a reduction of your grade. Each absence, beyond the two excused, will reduce your final grade by 2%.

Journal, 12 entries, 25% of course grade
Students will keep a journal covering their reactions to the readings throughout the course. The due date for each journal entry is indicated in the list of topics below and should be turned in at the beginning of class that day. Each entry should be two double-spaced typed pages long (no longer). Journals will not be graded on a letter scale like the papers; instead, journals will receive a check, check plus, or check minus depending on how well the entries engage the assigned readings.

Students should at a minimum seek to create short, one-paragraph summaries of each author’s main points. Summaries will help you keep the readings straight for the memo, final exam, and future reference. In order to get a check plus on the journal entries, students must go beyond simple summary. Journal entries provide the opportunity to analyze the assumptions and key factors present in each author’s approach, to compare and contrast different schools of thought as the semester progresses, to apply different principles to real world events, and to pose discussion questions for class.

Take-home final exam, 25% of course grade.
The final exam will take the form of 8 to 10 page paper, due at the time of the final exam as determined by Academic Services. The exam, using two articles as a starting point, will require students to integrate and evaluate human security perspectives from across the semester. This exam will give you a chance to locate where you yourself stand among the literature explored throughout the term. The exam should be formatted according to the Chicago style guide and citations must follow the Chicago rules for citations (either footnotes or parenthetical).

Group activity – Policy memo and presentation, 25% of course grade.
The class will divide itself into groups of three. Each group will write a 10 page policy memo and present their findings. The presentation must include about 10 Power Point slides to support a 15 minute presentation.

Your research can include both library and internet resources, but students need to judge thoughtfully the quality of each source they find. (This caveat is especially true for internet sources.) The memos must explicitly and specifically draw upon the course readings. The paper should be formatted according to the Chicago style guide and citations must follow the Chicago rules for citations (either footnotes or parenthetical).

Topics must be approved by the instructor. By September 16 you must form your groups and submit a tentative topic title. By September 23 each group must submit a one page
paper proposal. I will not grade the proposal, but if it is not clear you will have to rewrite it until I am satisfied with its content and clarity. Save the proposal and attach it to your policy memo for the last day of class.

The primary purpose of the policy memo is to engage the senior management in your institution of choice (a governmental institution, an NGO, an INGO, or a MNC) in taking on a new human security issue. Start by identifying the human security issue and describing your institution of choice. Does the institution accept the human security approach? If it does, what is its record? After identifying the concrete human security issue, you will have to situate it within the larger human security context. Also, explain the emergence of the issue, provide an overview of the key actors (governmental and non-governmental) and their relative influence. Explain whether any coalitions emerged. Make sure to identify the opponents of the issue and their influence. Finally, you should also suggest specific recommendations in advancing the human security issue you are promoting and the expected outcomes. The paper must include a cover page which identifies the relevant issue and summarizes the main recommendations contained within the memo.

Course Materials
Readings provided via Blackboard.

Academic and Professional Integrity
All forms of dishonesty, whether by act or omission, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and knowingly furnishing false information, are prohibited. Work submitted in the course must be the product of the efforts of the student presenting the work. Contributions of others to the finished work must be appropriately acknowledged.

Disability Services
If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for accommodations, in academic classes, the residence halls, food services areas, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To receive accommodations or assistance, please self-identify at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67. The staff at DSS will help you to develop a plan for accommodations. For more information contact DSS at (973) 313-6003.
Topics and Readings

August 26

Introduction
Class participant introductions, course outline, expectations for class assignments, questions.

September 2

Labor Day – No Class

September 9

Rationale for human security & traditional approaches to security: Definitions, concepts, and policy implications
Tadjbakhsh and Chenoy, chapters 1-3

Questions: What is the ethical, analytical, policy and operational difference between the “narrower” and the “broader” definition of human security? What approach do you embrace? Why? Offer examples that illustrate the advantages of your position. Can you offer a more comprehensive definition?

Journal Entry #1 due.

September 16

Critical security studies, realism, and state responsibilities
Tadjbakhsh and Chenoy, chapter 7

Group Assignment #1 – Create groups; submit a tentative topic title.
Journal Entry #2 due.

September 23

Human security and the responsibility of the international community
Tadjbakhsh and Chenoy, chapter 8

Group Assignment #2 – Submit a one page paper proposal.
Journal Entry #3 due.
September 30
Read Beebe and Kaldor chapters 1-5

Journal Entry #4 due.

October 7
Read Beebe and Kaldor chapters 6-9

Journal Entry #5 due.

October 14
Fall Break – No Class

October 21
*Human development, underdevelopment, and conflict*
Tadjbakhsh and Chenoy, chapters 4 and 6
Dodds and Pippard, chapter 2

Journal Entry #6 due.

October 28
*Human security and trade*
Dodds and Pippard, chapter 7 (Trade)

Documentary film
“Life and Debt”

Journal Entry #7 due.

November 4
*Food security, food sovereignty, and health*
Dodds and Pippard, chapter 12 (Food)
Dodds and Pippard, chapter 10 (Health)

Journal Entry #8 due.

November 11
*(Im)migration and human rights*
Dodds and Pippard, chapter 9 (Migration)

Tadjbakhsh and Chenoy, chapter 5


**Journal Entry #9 due.**

November 18

*Notions of human rights, human security, and gender equality*


Dodds and Pippard, chapter 5


**Journal Entry #10 due.**

November 25

*Global governance and human security*

Dodds and Pippard, chapter 15-19

**Journal Entry #11 due.**

December 2

*Closing the security circle*


**Group Presentations**

**Journal Entry #12 due.**

December 9

**Group Presentations**

Policy memos due

Take-Home Final Examination: TBD