COURSE NAME:

Lecture Hours and classroom number

Instructor information

TA Information

1) Description:

Recent scholarship is beginning to establish instances of what we would consider modern humanitarian action much earlier than previously thought. It is from this standpoint that the course will begin by first disentangling humanitarian relief and aid from humanitarian intervention. The course will progress as a series of weekly themes that include -

-the religious origins of humanitarianism and later connections slavery, Christian missions and colonialism.

-the history of humanitarian organizations and how they transect issues of militarization, patriotism, gender and the role of non-Euro-American cultures in relief and aid.

-internationalism, philanthropy and connections to the state.

-how class and early feminism featured in humanitarian organizations.

-postwar relief, health and development projects and the entwinement of NGOs with international and sovereign governments.

-transnational NGOs and the business of relief and development.

-themes of neutrality, corruption and NGO dilemmas, both moral and political.

-how public opinion is manipulated and the influences of media.

-aid agencies and their connection to celebrity, citizenship and youth.

-Canada’s humanitarian record.

-military operations and the implications for both the NGOs and the people they are attempting aid.

The course will cover a period from the seventeenth century to the present encompassing international as well a Canadian humanitarian agencies.

2) Texts for the course

The main text for the course will be Michael Barnett, *Empire of Humanity: A History of Humanitarianism*, Ithaca, Cornell University Press, 2011. A copy will be placed on hold at the library but students are encouraged to purchase a copy from a retailer of their choice. The readings from this text for the first two weeks will be provided in the course pack that will contain the remainder of the readings for the course. The course pack will be available at the campus book store.

3) Class schedule

January 4 (Wed) **Class introduction and overview**

January 9 (Mon) **Humanitarianism – questions and theory**

Michael Barnett, *Empire of Humanity: A History of Humanitarianism,* Ithaca, Cornell University Press, 2011, “The Crooked Timber of Humanitarianism” pp. 1-18 and “Co-Dependence”, pp. 19-46.

January 11 (Wed) Simms, Brendan and D.J.B. Trim, *Humanitarian Intervention: A History*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2011, “Towards a history of humanitarian intervention”, pp. 1-24.

January 16 (Mon) **Origins of Modern Humanitarianism**

Barnett, “The Humanitarian Big Bang” and “Saving Slaves, Sinners, Savages, and Societies”, pp. 49-64.

January 18 (Wed) Andrew Porter, “Trusteeship, Anti-Slavery and Humanitarianism”, in Andrew Porter ed. *The Oxford Dictionary of the British Empire, vol. II, The Nineteenth Century*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1999, pp. 198-221.

January 23 (Mon) **Christian Missions**

Barnett, “Missionary Humanitarianism”, pp. 64-75.

January 25 (Wed) Ruth Compton-Brouwer, “The Triumph of "Standards" over "Sisterhood": Florence Murray's Approach to the Practice and Teaching of Western Medicine in Korea, 1921-69” in, *Modern Women Modernizing Men: The Changing Missions of Three Professional Women in Asia and Africa, 1902-69*, pp. 66-95 and endnotes pp. 155-164.

January 30 (Mon) **The Red Cross**

Barnett, “Saving Soldiers and Civilians during War”, pp. 76-82.

and John F. Hutchinson, “Organizing for War” in, *Champions of Charity: War and the Rise of the Red Cross*, Boulder, Westview Press, 1996, pp. 202-236.

February 1 (Wed) John F. Hutchinson, “Organizing for War” in, *Champions of Charity: War and the Rise of the Red Cross*, Boulder, Westview Press, 1996, pp. 236-276.

February 6 (Mon) **The League of Nations and the Interwar period**

Barnett, “Saving Civilians”, pp. 82-94 and Paul Weindling, “Introduction: constructing international health between the wars” in Paul Weindling ed. *International Health Organizations and Movements 1918-1939*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995, pp. 1-16 also, John F. Hutchinson, “’Custodians of the Sacred fire’: the ICRC and the postwar reorganization of the International Red Cross” in *International Health Organizations and Movements 1918-1939,* pp. 17-35

February 8 (Wed) Bertrand M. Patenaude, *The Big Show in Bololand: The American Relief Expedition to Soviet Russia in the Famine of 1921*, Stanford, Stanford University Press, 2002, pp.1-27

February 13 (Mon) **Save the Children**

Linda Mahood and Vic Satzewich, "The Save the Children Fund and the Russian Famine of 1921–23: Claims and Counter-Claims about Feeding “Bolshevik” Children," Journal of Historical Sociology, 22,1 (2009), 55–83 and Linda Mahood, *Feminism and Voluntary Action: Eglantyne Jebb and Save the Children, 1876-1928*, New York, Palgrave Macmillan, 2009, pp. 1-12 and 206-216 with end notes.

**\*Critical Review Paper Due**

February 15 (Wed) Dominique Marshall, "Children’s Rights and Children’s Action in International Relief and Domestic Welfare: the Work of Herbert Hoover between 1914 and 1950", Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth, Vol 1.3 (Fall 2008), 351-388.

February 20-24 (Reading Week – No Classes)

February 27 (Mon) **The United Nations**

Barnett, “The New International”, pp. 97-118 and Maggie Black, *The Children and the Nations, Growing up together in the postwar world*, Australia, Macmillan, 1987, pp. 1-17 and 126-141.

February 29 (Wed) Black, *The Children and the Nations, Growing up together in the postwar world*, pp. 177-193.

March 5 (Mon) **Oxfam, CARE and the transnational NGO**

Barnett, “The New Alchemists Go Global”, pp. 118-131 and Maggie Black, *A Cause for Our Times, Oxam the first 50 Years*,Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1992, pp 1-21.

March 7 (Wed) Michael Jennings, *Surrogates of the State, NGOs, Development, and Ujamaa in Tanzania,* Bloomfield CT, Kumarian Press, 2008, pp. 1-30.

March 12 (Mon) **Medecins Sans Frontieres and the new NGOs**

Barnett, “Humanitarianism During Wartime”, pp. 132-158 and Tom Buchanan, “The Truth Will Set You Free: The Making of Amnesty International”, *Journal of Contemporary History,* 37 (4) (2002): 575-597

March 14 (Wed) Viewing of excerpts from *Triage: Dr. James Orbinski’s Humanitarian Dilemma*, National Film Board, 2007. A discussion of the film and the readings for this week will follow.

March 19 (Mon) **Humanitarian Intervention**

Barnett, “It’s a Humanitarian’s World” and “Armed for Humanity”, pp. 161-194.

March 21 (Wed) Sophie Quinn-Judge, “Fraternal aid, self-defense or self-interest? Vietnam’s intervention in Cambodia, 1978-1989” in Brendan Simms, and D.J.B. Trim eds., *Humanitarian Intervention: A History*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2011, pp. 343-362, and Noam Chomsky “Humanitarian Intervention” online at http://www.chomsky.info/articles/199401--02.htm

March 26 (Mon) **Film, Music, Celebrity, Youth and Humanitarianism**

Peter Gatrell, *Free World? The Campaign to Save the World’s Refugees 1956-1963*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2011, pp. 1-9, and 141-178.

**\*Research Paper Due**

March 28 (Wed) Viewing of excerpts from *The Concert for Bangladesh Revisited with George Harrison and Friends*, The Beatles, 2005 as well as excerpts from Live 8 and Band Aid concerts and interviews. A discussion of the films and the readings for this week will follow the viewings.

April 2 (Mon) **Canada’s foreign policy and foreign aid**

Brian W.Tomlin, Fen Osler Hampson, Norman Hillmer, *Canada's International Policies: Agendas, Alternatives, and Politics*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2007, pp. TBA

April 4 (Wed) A discussion of the readings for this week followed by conclusions and notes on exam preparation.

April 11-24 Exam Period

4) Course Requirements

On Mondays the class will be organized as a lecture. On Wednesdays the class will be split into a lecture for the first half followed by a group discussion of the readings for each week. All assignments are to be submitted in paper and electronic from through Web CT. Use Times New Roman double spaced and include footnotes and bibliography for your work as per the History Department guidelines available on the department website. Please note the university and department guidelines on plagiarism attached to back of this syllabus.

Weekly synopsis – 10%

At the beginning on each class on Wednesdays students are required to hand in a very brief synopsis of each reading. This will consist of approximately three sentences for each reading outlining the main arguments or points that each text conveys. It is suggested that the first sentence describes the main argument or point and begins with, *The author argues that…* or, *The author’s main point is…*These will be graded on a pass / fail basis.

Attendance and participation – 10%

On Wednesdays the class will break into groups to discuss the readings for the week, a special topic or a film presentation. Attendance as well as active and informed participation in these sessions is an important part of the final grade for the course.

Critical review paper – 15% (Due February 13)

A list of articles will be provided and students will choose one text to analyze. Students are expected to write a very brief summary of the article, determine the main and supporting arguments and critically examine the piece. Students are expected to research their papers and back their criticisms from a number of academic sources. Advice on how to proceed with this type of exercise will be provided in class. The length of the paper will be 5-7 pages, not including a cover page or bibliography.

Research paper – 30% (Due March 26)

For this paper examine one of the weekly themes listed in the class schedule. Other essay topics will be considered in consultation with the instructor. A list of academic sources will be posted on Web CT in January. This list will be a starting point for your research and you are expected to expand and draw from a number of academic sources. Like all the other assignments in this course emphasis is on critical analysis, not simply description or narration. Advice will be given in class on how to proceed with this assignment. Please discuss your choice well in advance with your TA and or the instructor if you have any questions. This paper will be 12-15 pages in length not including a cover page or bibliography.

Final exam – 35% (Date TBA)

Essay questions and short answer questions on key terms.

All requirements must be completed in order to receive a passing grade for the course.

For essay writing and research please see the History Department website for help and information. Your TA and your instructor are here to help. Visit or email them if you are experiencing difficulties.

Two books available in most libraries that will help you with writing and your university career are –

Joseph M. Williams, *Style, The Basics of Clarity and Grace*, New York, Pearson Longman, 2009, (any edition will help)

Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb and Joseph M. Williams, *The Craft of Research*, Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 2008 (any edition will help, see chapters 3 and 4 especially)

Field Trip:

An optional field trip to Library and Archives Canada on Wellington Street will be organized for the end of January. This is considered an extra curricular trip and is not mandatory for the course. However, those students who are interested in examining or including primary resources for their essay would benefit by attending this informal workshop. Details will be released on Web CT.