Clark University HIST 268  
Fall 2013  

*Gender, Mass Atrocities and the Struggle for Justice and Accountability*

**Professor:** Dyan Mazurana, PhD, Cathy Cohen Lasry Visiting Associate Professor of Comparative Genocide Studies, Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Clark University and Associate Research Professor, Fletcher School, Research Director, Feinstein International Center Tufts University

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**Course Meeting Times & Location:** Monday 2:50-5:50pm Rose Library in the Cohen Lasry House

**Office Hours:** Monday 12:00-2:00

**Assignments for Course:** 5% student generated questions, 10% short paper assignments, 20% conference presentation, 65% final paper.

**Type of Course:** Seminar

**Course Description:** This seminar uses gender analyses to examine mass violence during situations of armed conflict and under authoritarian regimes and the struggle for remedy by victims and their advocates. Topics covered include the development of international humanitarian, human rights and criminal law as relates to the course topics; feminist critiques of, and influences, on the evolution of war crimes, crimes against humanity and crimes of genocide; gendered analysis of the targeting of civilians; how resulting harms are experienced in gendered ways; victims’ rights to remedy and reparation; and a variety of transitional justice mechanisms. Serious crimes analyzed in the course include enforced disappearance, sexual and gender based violence, torture, targeting of civilians for attack, forced movement and displacement, mass killing (i.e. systematic and widespread but not meeting the elements of genocide), and genocide. The seminar also includes material on contemporary investigation and documentation of these crimes, and the efforts of collective action to seek remedy for victims. The course is comparative and will draw on both historical and contemporary cases from around the world.

**Pre-requisites:** None. Open to all graduate and undergraduate students from Clark and other area schools who can cross-register. No auditors without professors’ permission.
**Syllabus**

**Part I. Introduction to Gender and Mass Atrocities**

**Class 1 (August 26) Introduction to the Course**

Mazurana will introduce the course and we will watch a film that introduces many of the issues we will be exploring throughout the course.

**Film: Pray the Devil Back to Hell**

**September 2: NO CLASS**

Please work on the readings for next week which are extensive and cover a lot of material

**Class 2 (September 9) Gender and Mass Atrocities**

(In these readings pay attention to the range of ideologies on limiting warfare, how they evolved, and why. Pay attention to how people are motivated to seriously harm and kill others, think about the gender dimensions. Also pay attention to how and why people suffer and die during armed conflict, and how that suffering and death intersects with gender.)


**Part II. Legal Standards and Frameworks**

**Class 3 (September 16): Legal Standards to Prevent and Address Serious Crimes during Armed Conflict**

(In these readings pay attention to and familiarize yourself with what is and is not permitted during armed conflict, and how it matters if the conflict is international or non-international in character. Pay attention to how women and girls are viewed and protected within IHL. Think carefully about how genocide is gendered and what this means for the future of understanding, preventing and reacting to genocide.)


**Class 4 (September 23): Legal Standards to Prevent and Address Serious Crimes (cont.)**


**Part III: Studies of Mass Atrocities**

**Class 5 (September 30): Sexual Violence**


Khrisother Carlson, and Dyan Mazurana. 2008. *Forced Marriage within the Lord’s Resistance Army, Uganda*. Feinstein International Center, Tufts University, USA.

**Class 6 (October 7): Guatemala**


What Happened at Dos Erres *(please listen to this as we will discuss it in class, it is abut 45 long)* [http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/465/what-happened-at-dos-erres](http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/465/what-happened-at-dos-erres)

**October 14 Fall Break NO CLASS**

**Class 7 (October 21): Rwanda**

*Dr. Bridget Conley, World Peace Foundation, guest lecture*

Readings TBA
Class 8 (October 28): Former Yugoslavia

Conference/Final Paper topic submitted electronically to Mazurana


Class 9 (November 4): Enforced Disappearance

Review the crime of Enforced Disappearance under the Rome Statute, referring to the Elements of Crime from your earlier readings.


Then, search on line on the disappeared in many other countries (Bosnia, Columbia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Kashmir, etc.) to familiarize yourself with how widespread and long-lasting this crime is.

Class 11 (November 18): The Right to and Struggle for Remedy and Reparation

Final paper bibliography due via electronic submission to Mazurana.


Rosalind Shaw, Rethinking TRCs, Special Report 130 USIP 2005

Class 12 (November 25): Serious Crimes and Prosecution AND Proper Treatment of the Dead

Reread the Elements of Crimes of the Rome Statute


Class 13 (December 2): Gender, Reparation (for Who?), and Memorialization

Everyone reads:


THEN DECIDE ON EITHER: 1 or 2


And then everyone reads:


Class 14 December 9: Conference (2:30 to 6:30 pm) – NOTE SLIGHT TIME EXPANSION OF CLASS THIS DAY, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE FULL CONFERENCE.

As a student in the course you are required to take part in a conference where you will present your paper. You should prepare and dress for this as a professional conference. This conference will be open to students and faculty at Clark.

You will be put into panels based on similar topics. Every presenter will be given 12 min to present her or his paper. You will be cut off at 12 min, so please have practiced numerous times so that you can deliver your presentation in a timely manner. There will then be 15-20 min of question and answer by the class to panel members, so ensure you keep your answers concise and to the point.

All power point presentations should be brought on a flash drive so Mazurana can load them prior to the start of the conference. Those with PPP should arrive 15 min early to the conference to ensure their presentations are loaded.

December 13: Final papers due via electronic submission Professor Mazurana

Core Texts: Please purchase (all are available via Amazon or Powells Books on line)


Recommend Texts: We will read significant portions of the following texts so you may wish to buy them:


**Online and Internet Work**
A number of the texts we will be reading will be posted online for you to download. Others are available on the internet and their location is cited in the syllabus.

**Class Format**
The seminar format is designed to encourage student inquiry and discussion of the multi-layered and multi-faceted aspects of gender, culture, and armed conflict. The emphasis will be upon student development of ideas through self and interpersonal exploration through class assignments and participation.

Taking part in a seminar requires an even greater sense of responsibility to one's class colleagues than one should feel in an ordinary class.

**Attendance and Participation**
Class attendance and participation are expected behaviors. In practice this sense of personal responsibility will take the form of regular class attendance (one absence per term in a seminar is understandable; more than one absence should be seen as extraordinary) and being fully prepared to take an active part in discussions having read all the assignments for that day. This means you do not have to have all your thoughts worked out or be certain about your conclusions, but you have to be ready to help all of us unravel the puzzles together.

**Learning Experiences**
Audiovisuals, discussion, lectures, guest speakers, and out-of-class activities, such as attending lectures in the area, will be utilized. Students should also monitor current news, other media, and public events about issues related to the course.

**Class Assignments**

1. **Student Generated Questions**. At the beginning of each class meeting you will hand us a question that came up for you during the readings. **Please put your name on the top of each question so I can give you credit.** The question will help shape an understanding of where students’ are in understanding the readings, and may at times shape the class discussions and therefore should reflect both thoughtful and in-depth readings. These questions count for 5% of your grade.

2. **Short Response Papers**. At times I will ask for you to prepare short response papers to a topic we are discussing. At the time I assign these papers, I will give you the information regarding their completion. These papers count for 10% of your grade.

3. **Conference Presentation**. You will prepare and deliver a conference paper on a topic of your choice relevant to issues of gender and armed conflict. This presentation will count for 20% of your grade
   - October 28: Topic for paper/conference topic submitted
   - November 11: Abstract submitted
• November 18: Bibliography submitted
• December 9: Paper presented at class conference
• December 10: Final paper due submitted electronically to Mazurana

4. **Final Paper**: Based on your conference presentation, graduate students will one 25 page paper and undergraduates a 15-20 page paper on a current topic relating to gender, mass atrocity and remedy. The paper will either directly address an issue of gender or will apply a strong gendered analysis to a broader topic (i.e., genocide, crimes against humanity, witness protection, etc.). The analysis must be informed by and refer to the current and most relevant scholarship. The paper should provide an analysis of the topic, identify the main developments and positions on this topic, assess the state of response on this topic (if relevant), and provide substantive intellectual analyses. **The final paper will be due on December 13**. Questions count and quick response papers for 10% of the grade, the conference presentation counts for 30% and final paper count for 60% of your grade.

**Your final grade** will be on the basis of total accumulated points:
90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; Below 60 = F