



## **Human Rights Concentration Argentine Universities Program**

The human rights concentration is a specialized concentration created exclusively for students on the IFSA-Butler Argentine Universities Program. This innovative approach to the topic, which combines program classes, university courses and fieldwork experience with a local civil society institution, will give you the opportunity to study and research human rights issues at prestigious institutions throughout Buenos Aires while interacting with leading faculty and experts in the field. The concentration offers the best of both worlds - the Argentine university experience and, through the field experience and research investigation, the opportunity to make contacts within Argentine culture and society not available to students on the general program.

### **Academic Structure:**

This concentration is structured around the following components for a total of 15 to 16 U.S. semester credit hours:

- Advanced Spanish and Argentine Culture program class with emphasis on the social sciences (3 U.S. semester credit hours)
- Human Rights in Argentina and Latin America program class (3 U.S. semester credit hours)
- Field experience with seminar and final paper (3 U.S. semester credit hours)
- One or two university classes (at UTDT, USAL, UCA or UBA) related to your topic of research within the concentration or your field of study in the United States
- Specialized tutorial system

While participants will have access to the services of the main program office, this concentration will truly be an individualized program within the larger Argentine Universities Program. The Spanish class, specialized program class, seminar and tutoring sessions will be based at the Fundación Simón Rodríguez rather than the main program office.

### **Field Experience Opportunities:**

Possible organizations with which you could conduct a field experience could include (but are not limited to) the following organizations. These are the most important human rights organizations in Argentina.

- Madres de la Plaza de Mayo
- Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS)
- Servicio de Paz y Justicia (SERPAJ)
- Memoria Abierta
- Asamblea Permanente por los Derechos Humanos
- Instituto de Estudios Comparados en Ciencias Penales y Sociales (INECIP)
- Fundación Poder Ciudadano
- Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA)
- Comisión de Apoyo al Refugiado (CAREF)
- Centro de Estudios sobre el Genocidio (Universidad Tres de Febrero)
- Asociación por los Derechos Civiles (ADC)
- Fundación Mujeres en Igualdad (MEI)

- Arte y Esperanza

The seminar and field experience will last four months. Placements will be made following individual meetings with the concentration coordinators after you arrive in Argentina. You will meet every two weeks with the concentration coordinators and specialized tutors to discuss the progress of your research and fieldwork experience. The seminar will meet weekly.



**Mandatory Course for Human Rights  
Concentration: Human Rights in Argentina  
Argentine Universities Program**

**Course Description:**

The course is divided into three units and comprises theoretical contents of genocide studies. The first unit covers racist thought and its modern articulation, historization of genocidal social practices, analysis of juridical and sociological human rights and genocide definitions. The second unit is focused on the historical experience of Argentina and the genealogy of the Argentine genocide experience, the 1976 military coup, the transition to democracy, the military junta trials, impunity laws, amnesty and the fight against impunity. Finally, the current human rights situation in Argentina is analyzed in the last unit by looking at the heritage of the fight against impunity, economic and social rights, police violence, the situation in prisons and the anti-discriminatory fight. This course is worth 3 U.S. semester credit hours.

**Preliminary Requirements:**

Good command of oral and written Spanish: comprehension and production.

**General Goals and Expected Results:**

- To build a conceptual framework to analyze genocide social practices as a specific way of configurating social relations;
- To problematize alterity construction modern forms, as social control, negativization, and symbolical and material elimination of the other's figure
- To attempt a critical revision on the 20th century genocide experiences, with particular focus on Latin American experiences and the Argentine case, the repressive process during the 70's and its genocide effects
- To understand and critically analyze the "symbolic performance" ways of genocide social practices, as a way of perceiving memory as a social construction and a space for confrontation, with both material and symbolic effects, in the constitution of collective identities
- To analyze the current situation as regards Human Rights in Argentina

**Bibliography:**

Unit 1: "Genocide as a social practice: Towards a sociological analysis of human rights violations."

Eric Markusen; "What is the genocide? Looking for a common framework for legal and sociological definitions" ("*¿Qué es el genocidio? Hacia una búsqueda de un terreno común para las definiciones legales y sociológicas*"), in Daniel Feierstein (editor); *Genocide, Death Administration in Modern Times (Genocidio, la administración de la muerte en la modernidad)*, EDUNTREF, Buenos Aires, 2005.

Daniel Feierstein; "An open discussion: Political violence in Latin America and its genocide peculiarity" ("*Una discusión abierta: la violencia política en América Latina y su peculiaridad*")

*genocida*") in Daniel Feierstein and Guillermo Levy (editors), "Till death do us part. Power and Genocide Social Practices in Latin America" ("*Hasta que la muerte nos separe. Poder y prácticas sociales genocidas en América Latina*"), "Al Margen" Publishing House, La Plata, 2004.

Michel Foucault: "From the power of sovereignty to the power over life" ("*Del poder de soberanía al poder sobre la vida*"), in Racism Genealogy ("*Genealogía del racismo*"), Altamira Editors, Buenos Aires-Montevideo, 1983.

Daniel Feierstein: "Modernity contradictions and their resolution: equality, sovereignty, autonomy and genocide social practices" ("*Las contradicciones de la modernidad y su resolución: igualdad, soberanía, autonomía y prácticas sociales genocidas*"), in Daniel Feierstein (editor); "Genocide, death administration in Modern Times" ("*Genocidio, la administración de la muerte en la modernidad*"), EDUNTREF, Buenos Aires, 2005.

Daniel Feierstein; "Towards a typology of genocide social practices" ("*Hacia una tipología de las prácticas sociales genocidas*"), in Daniel Feierstein; "Genocide as a social practice (between Nazism and the Argentine genocide)" ("*Genocidio como práctica social (entre el nazismo y el genocidio argentino)*"), provisional title, FCE, Buenos Aires, in the press.

Daniel Feierstein; "Genocide and reformulation of social relations" ("*Genocidio y reformulación de relaciones sociales*"), in Daniel Feierstein; "Genocide as a social practice (between nazism and the Argentine genocide)" ("*Genocidio como práctica social (entre el nazismo y genocidio argentino)*"), provisional title, FCE, Buenos Aires, in the press.

#### Unit 1: Optional Bibliography:

Hannah Arendt; "Racial Thought before Racism" ("*El pensamiento racial antes del racismo*"), in "The Origins of Totalitarianism" ("*Los orígenes del totalitarismo*"), Taurus, Madrid, 1998.

Zygmunt Bauman; "Holocaust and Modernity" ("*Holocausto y Modernidad*"), Sequitur, Toledo, 1997, Introduction.

Giorgio Agamben; "Sovereign power and nude life" ("*El poder soberano y la nuda vida*"); Pre-Textos, Valencia, 1998.

Daniel Feierstein; "Equality, autonomy identity: 'the others' construction modern forms" ("*Igualdad, autonomía, identidad: las formas sociales de construcción de 'los otros'*") in Noufour, Feierstein, Rivas y Prado; "Darkness in the meeting point: Essays on symbolic and spatial representations of 'the other' notion in Argentina" ("*Tinieblas del crisol de razas: ensayos sobre las representaciones simbólicas y espaciales de la noción del 'otro' en Argentina*"), Cálamo, Buenos Aires, 1999.

Leo Kuper; *Genocide. Its political use in the Twentieth Century*, Yale University Press, USA, 1982, Chapters 2 and 3.

Alan Rosenbaum (ed.); "Is the Holocaust Unique? Perspectives on Comparative Genocide", Westview Press, Colorado, 1998.

Tzvetan Todorov; "We and the others" ("*Nosotros y los otros*"), Siglo XXI, México, 1991.

Jean Piaget; "Cooperation and the development of the Justice notion" ("*La cooperación y el desarrollo de la noción de justicia*"), in "The moral criterion in children" ("*El criterio moral en el niño*"), Martínez Roca, Barcelona, 1984.

Yves Ternon; "The Criminal State. Genocides in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century" ("*El Estado criminal. Los genocidios en el siglo XX*"), Península, Barcelona, 1995.

Oded Balaban and Amos Megged; "Impunity and Human Rights in Latin America" ("*Impunidad y Derechos Humanos en América Latina*", "al Margen" Publishing House, La Plata, 2003.

Unit 2: "Human rights violations experience in Argentina, 1974-1983, and its categorization forms."

Mirta Mántaras; "Genocide in Argentina" ("*Genocidio en Argentina*"), edited by the author, Buenos Aires, 2005 (Chilavert Printing House).

Ariel Armony; "Argentina, the United States and the Anti-Communist Crusade in Central America, 1977-1984" ("*La Argentina, los Estados Unidos y la cruzada anticomunista en América Central, 1977-1984*"), National University of Quilmes, Buenos Aires, 1999.

Baltasar Garzón; "Juridical Foundations" ("*Fundamentos Jurídicos*"), of the "Resolution on the Trial of Argentine Military Men accused of genocide and terrorism" ("*Resolución sobre el Juicio a los militares argentinos por genocidio y terrorismo*"), Hearing at Room V, Madrid, November, 1999.

Pilar Calveiro; "Power and Disappearance: Concentration Camps in Argentina" ("*Poder y desaparición: los campos de concentración en Argentina*"), Colihue, Buenos Aires, 1998.

Interview to Graciela Daleo in Norma Fernández, "Twenty years after the 1976 coup" ("*A 20 años del golpe de 1976*"), CTA, Buenos Aires.

Daniel Feierstein; "The causality issue in the explanation of the genocide developed in Argentina": ("*La cuestión de la causalidad en la explicación del genocidio desarrollado en la Argentina*", in Daniel Feierstein; Genocide as a social practice (between Nazism and the Argentine genocide) ("*Genocidio como práctica social (entre el nazismo y genocidio argentino)*"), provisional title, FCE, Buenos Aires, in the press.

Eduardo Luis Duhalde; "The Argentine Terrorist State. Fifteen Years Later" ("*El Estado Terrorista argentino. Quince años después*"), EUDEBA, Buenos Aires, 1999. (Selected fragments).

Guillermo O'Donnell; "Counterpoints. Selected essays on authoritarianism and democratization" ("*Contrapuntos. Ensayos escogidos sobre autoritarismo y democratización*"), Paidós, Buenos Aires, 1997. (Selected articles).

Horacio Verbitsky; "Civilians and Military Men. Secret memory of the transition" ("*Civiles y militares. Memoria secreta de la transición*"), Sudamericana, Buenos Aires, 2003.

Unit 2: Optional Bibliography:

Héctor Germán Oesterheld; "The Eternaut" (*"El Eternauta"*), I and II.

Stella Maris Ageitos; "History of Impunity. From Videla's Resolutions to Menem's Amnesty" (*"Historia de la impunidad. De las Actas de Videla a los indultos de Menem"*), Adriana Hidalgo, Buenos Aires, 2002.

### Unit 3: "Main human rights problems in contemporary Argentina"

Annual Human Rights Reports in Argentina, by the Legal and Social Studies Center (CELS - *Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales*), year 2002 to date.

Waldo Villalpando, Daniel Feierstein, Norma Fernández, Ana González, Horacio Ravenna and María Sonderéguer; "Discrimination in Argentina. Diagnoses and Proposals" (*"La discriminación en Argentina. Diagnósticos y propuestas"*), Eudeba Publishing House, Buenos Aires, 2006.

### Course Rules:

Student's minimum attendance required is 75%. Papers or assignments delivered after the deadline will only be accepted in the event of illness.

### Course Evaluation:

Class evaluation will be made as follows:

Mid-term practical paper	25%
Lecture in Spanish	25%
Final paper	50%

### Calendar of Activities:

#### Classes 1 through 5

Unit 1: "Genocide as a social practice: Towards a sociological analysis of human rights violations."

- The contractualist thought and its crisis. Modern racism as a possibility to resolve the contractualism crisis. The racist thought and its modern articulation: bio-political solution and technology of power. Towards the historization of genocide social practices. Towards an analysis of juridical and sociological definitions of human rights and genocide.

#### Classes 6 through 11

Unit 2: "Human rights violations experience in Argentina, 1974-1983, and its categorization forms."

- Genealogy of the Argentine genocide experience: The Triple A ("AAA") actions and the "Independencia" Operations. The 1976 military coup. Perspective analysis of the Argentine experience. Genealogies, convergences and divergences with the previous military experiences. The democratic transition. The Trial of the Military Juntas. Amnesty. The fight against impunity.

#### Classes 12 through 14

Unit 3: "Main human rights problems in contemporary Argentina"

- The inheritance of the fight against impunity. Economic and Social Rights. Police violence and situation in prisons. The anti-discrimination struggle.