



## Syllabus of Human Security

### I. Instructor

Lecturer: Ngo Thi Hong Ngoc, M.A  
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### II. General Information

Course credit: 02  
Course duration: 6 weeks

Course Language: English  
Level of students: Year 3

### III. Course Description and Objective

United Nations Development Programme introduced the concept of "human security" into the global lexicon in its 1994 Human Development Report. Often referred to as "people-centered security", human security places human beings at the center of security considerations, challenging traditional views which embrace the roles of states as the only providers and protectors of security. This course introduces students to the international relations sub-field of human security, providing an overview of human security, their history, implications, and the various debates that surround human security discourse. Students will also examine human security as a concept, as an alternative security agenda, and as an analytical framework and a human-centered approach for policymakers and practitioners.

Additionally, students will explore each of these areas to identify threats to human security, analyze attempts to mitigate these threats and describe the roles played by various state and non-state actors in the area of human security. Various human security topics to be covered will revolve around the security paradigm, human development, human rights, and humanitarianism issues. Students assess the viability of human security as a paradigm shift from traditional notions of security. Students will also be guided to have a thorough understanding of how those human-centric outlooks are intertwined and complement each other in the international relations context.

### IV. Course Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

| a. Knowledge                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Generalize</i> the fundamental concepts of security and critiques revolving around them.</li><li>▪ <i>Interpret</i> key dimensions of human security.</li><li>▪ <i>Identify and analyze</i> the implications of human security in policy-making and academic arenas.</li></ul> |  |
| b. Skills                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Develop and better with confidence</i> critical and logic skills.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |

- *Improve with efficiency* the ability of structuring and protecting your own argument.
- *Adapt* all the differences and all diversity.

**c. Attitude:**

- *Pay attention to* issues of human security and *increase* the awareness of human security.
- *Assume* responsibility with the community by the knowledge of human security.
- *Share* public common values.

## V. Prerequisites and Background

Students are expected to have completed the following courses:

- Theories of International Relations
- International Organizations
- Globalization
- Global Issues

## VI. Reading Materials and Reading Assignment

Check each week on the course schedule for your weekly reading portion.

## VII. Grading Policy and Evaluation

During the semester, students will have to attend at least 80% of the lectures and be required to write two group reports and make one group presentation. Grading assessment will include your participation, group-work reports and presentations, and final term paper or term exam.

| Grading Weights                       | Percentage    |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Four Critical Reports or Commentaries | 20% (5% each) |
| Group Presentation                    | 30%           |
| Final Term Paper                      | 50%           |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>100%</b>   |

## VIII. Student's Assignments and Requirements:

The class is divided into 07 groups to prepare for both group-work reports and presentations.

*For group reports/commentaries:*

- Each group will have to write 04 critical reports about designated reading materials.
- The reports should identify the main arguments of the various authors and your own opinion/critique regarding these arguments.
- Each report should be between 1500 and 2000 words in typewriting, using 11-point Times New Roman or Arial font, double-spaced line, and justified text alignment
- Do not forget to write your member names, group number, assigned materials titles date, and to number your pages.

*For group presentations:*

- Each group will be appointed to have a presentation to be expectedly taken place in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the course.
- Check the weekly schedule for the required materials. Students will have to read more other materials

for your own research and presentation to be done well.

- Presentation time should be around 15 minutes, followed by a discussion in class.

*General requirements:*

- All of the reports along with presentation slides and discussion questions should be emailed to the lecturer and uploaded to the google classroom at least 02 days before the class meeting so your fellow students would be able to read them.
- Any late submission will not be accepted.
- Before class, students are expected to complete the lecturer's reading materials provided in the reading brick and the presenters' materials posted on google classroom.
- During class, students are responsible to actively engage in-class discussion.
- Submission requirements for final papers, if any, will rigidly comply with the aforementioned guidelines of the group reports.

## IX. Week Course Schedule

Time allocation: 25 periods (05 weeks for Lecture) and 05 periods (01 week for Practice)

| Class 1: Introduction to Human Security |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| <b>Key contents</b>                     | <b>(1) The origin and evolution of the concept of Human Security</b><br><b>(2) Definitions and key dimensions of the concept</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Required readings</b>                | 1.1. Liotta, P.H. & Owen, Taylor (2006). "Why Human Security?". <i>The Whitehead Journal of Diplomacy and International Relations</i> . Seton Hall University, Winter/Spring, pp. 37-54 (18 pgs)<br>1.2. ⚠MacFarlane & Khong (2006). "The Prehistory of Human Security." <i>Human Security and the UN: A Critical History</i> . Indiana University Press, Bloomington, ch. 1, pp. 23-60 (38 pgs).<br>1.3. ⚠Tadjbakhsh, S. & Chenoy, A. (2007). "Rationale and political usage." <i>Human Security, Concepts and Implication</i> . London Routledge: Routledge Advances in International Relations and Global Politics Series, ch. 1, pp. 9-38 (30pgs).<br>1.4. UNDP (1994). "New Dimensions of Human Security." <i>Human Development Report 1994</i> . New York: Oxford University Press, ch. 2, pp. 22-46 (25 pgs).<br>1.5. Commission on Human Security (2003). "Human Security now". <i>Human Security now</i> . New York 2003, ch. 1, pp. 2-19 (18 pgs). |

| Class 2: Key critiques/debates of Human Security |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <b>Key contents</b>                              | <b>(1) Scope and dimensions:</b> broad vs. narrow<br><b>(2) Political implications:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ people-centered security vs. state-centered security</li> <li>▪ human security vs. human development and human rights</li> </ul> <b>(3) Academic implications:</b> a paradigm shift<br><b>(4) Moral implications:</b> North vs. South perspective |

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| <b>Required readings</b> | <p>2.1. ★Tadjbakhsh, S., Chenoy, A. (2007). "Definitions, critiques and counter-critiques." <i>Human Security, Concepts and Implication</i>, ch. 2, pp. 39-71 (33pgs).</p> <p>2.2. ★Tadjbakhsh, S., Chenoy, A. (2007). "A paradigm shift in security studies?" <i>Human Security, Concepts and Implication</i>, ch. 3, pp. 72-97 (26pgs).</p> <p>2.3. ★King, Gary &amp; Christopher J.L. Murray. (2002). Rethinking Human Security. <i>Political Science Quarterly</i>, v.116, n.4: 585-610 (45 pgs).</p> <p>2.4. Muguruza, C. C. (2017). <i>Human Security as a policy framework: Critics and Challenges</i>. Deusto Journal of Human Rights, (4), pp. 15-35 (21 pgs).</p> <p>2.5. Paris, Roland. (2001). "Human Security: Paradigm Shift or Hot Air?" <i>International Security</i>, v.26, n.2: 87-102: (16 pgs).</p> |
| <b>Extra readings</b>    | 2.6. MacFarlane & Khong (2006). "Human Security and the UN: A Critique." <i>Human Security and the UN: A Critical History</i> . Indiana University Press, Bloomington, ch. 7, pp. 225-259 (34 pgs).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

| <b>Class 3: Human Security and its Issue Areas</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <b>Key contents</b>                                | <p>(1) <b>Discussion on some key Issue Areas of Human Security</b></p> <p>(2) <b>Practice:</b> Student Presentations on Issue Areas of Human Security in practice, particularly case studies in East Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>detailed topic and structure of the presentations to be informed in the 1<sup>st</sup> week</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Required readings</b>                           | <p>3.1. Axworthy, Lloyd. (2001). "Human Security and Global Governance: Putting People First." <i>Global Governance- A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations</i>, Vol. 7, No. 1, pp. 19–23 (5pgs).</p> <p>3.2. Fukushima, Akiko &amp; Tow, William. (2009). "Human security and global governance". <i>Security Politics in the Asia-Pacific: A Regional-Global Nexus?</i> Cambridge University Press, ch. 9, pp. 167-187 (21pgs)</p> <p>3.3. ★Ako Muto (2020). "Human Security Norms in East Asia: Towards Conceptual and Operational Innovation." <i>Journal of Conflict Transformation &amp; Security</i>, Vol. 8, No. 1, pp. 68-84 (17pgs).</p> <p>3.4. ★Pham, L. Dung, Nguyen, N. Lan (2015). "The Concept of Human Security in Vietnam." <i>Human Security in Practice East Asian Experiences</i>. JICA Research Institute. (35pgs)</p> |
| <b>Extra readings</b>                              | <p>3.5. Mine, Y., Gómez, O. A., &amp; Muto, A. (2018). <i>Human Security Norms in East Asia (Security, Development and Human Rights in East Asia)</i>. Palgrave Macmillan.</p> <p>3.6. Howe, Brendan. (2013). <i>The Protection and Promotion of Human Security in East Asia</i>. Palgrave Macmillan.</p> <p>3.7. Lee, Shin-wha (2004). <i>Promoting human security ethical, normative and educational frameworks in East Asia</i>. Korean National Commission for UNESCO</p> <p>3.8. Acharya, Amitav. (2021). <i>Promoting human security ethical, normative and educational frameworks in South-East Asia</i>. UNESCO.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

#### **Class 4: Human Security and its relations with Rights and Development**

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| <b>Key contents</b>      | <b>(1) Understanding Human Rights and Human Development</b><br><b>(2) A nexus between Human Security, Human Rights and Human Development</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Required readings</b> | <p>4.1. 🌟 MacFarlane &amp; Khong (2006). "The UN and Human Security: The Development Dimension." <i>Human Security and the UN: A Critical History</i>. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, ch. 4, pp. 143-163 (21 pgs).</p> <p>4.2. 🌟 Tadjbakhsh, S., Chenoy, A. (2007). "Human security and human development: shadow or threshold?" <i>Human Security, Concepts and Implication</i>, ch. 4, pp. 98-122 (25pgs).</p> <p>4.3. 🌟 Tadjbakhsh, S., Chenoy, A. (2007). "Debating dignity: Human security and human rights" <i>Human Security, Concepts and Implication</i>, ch. 5, pp. 123-139 (17pgs).</p> <p>4.4. Howard-Hassmann, Rhoda E. (2012). <i>Human Security Undermining Human Rights</i> <i>Human Rights Quarterly</i>, Vol. 34, pp. 88-112 (25pgs).</p> <p>4.5. Klein Goldewijk, B. (2008). "Why human? The interlinkages between security, rights and development." <i>Security and Human Rights</i>, 19(1), 24–36 (13pgs).</p> <p>4.6. Atack, Iain (2005). <i>Human Security, Human Rights and Human Development. The Ethics of Peace and War</i>. Edinburgh University Press, ch. 8, pp. 111-124 (14pgs).</p> |
| <b>Extra readings</b>    | <p>4.7. Nguyen, H Hai. (2007). <i>Assessing the inter-relationships of human development, human security and human rights in poverty reduction in Vietnam</i> (26pgs).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

| <b>Class 5: Protecting Human Security: Humanitarian Aid and Development Assistance</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| <b>Key contents</b>                                                                    | <b>(1) Understanding Humanitarian Aid and Development Assistance</b><br><b>(2) Practice: Debate over a Case Study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Myanmar (Rohingya)'s human security crises of all types, calling for humanitarian aid and development assistance</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Required readings</b>                                                               | <p>5.1. 🌟 Tadjbakhsh, S., Chenoy, A. (2007). "Externalities of human security: The role of international aid." <i>Human Security, Concepts and Implication</i>, ch. 9, pp. 208-234 (27pgs).</p> <p>5.2. Tadjbakhsh, Shahrbanou (2005.) "Rethinking Development Assistance." <i>Human Security: Concepts and Implications: with an Application to Post-Intervention Challenges in Afghanistan</i>, pp. 39-46 (8pgs)</p> <p>5.3. 🌟 Miglinaitė, Raimonda. (2015). "Global Civil Society as a Humanitarian Actor: Constituting a Right of Humanitarian Assistance." <i>The humanitarian challenge: 20 years European network on humanitarian action (NOHA)</i>, ch. 6, pp. 71-87 (17pgs).</p> <p>5.4. Jolly, Richard. (2013). "Security and Development: Context Specific Approaches to Human Insecurity." <i>Routledge Handbook of Human Security</i>, ch. 10, pp. 139-148 (10pgs).</p> <p>5.5. 🌟 Thuzar, Moe (2019). "Human Security and Development in Myanmar: Issues and Implications." <i>Human Security Norms in East Asia</i>, ch. 7, pp.135-158 (24ps).</p> |
| <b>Extra readings</b>                                                                  | <p>5.6. Mowjee, T., Garrasi, D. &amp; Poole, L. (2015). <i>Coherence in conflict: Bringing humanitarian and development streams together</i>. Danida</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

| Class 6: Protecting Human Security: Humanitarian Intervention and Responsibility to Protect |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| <b>Key contents</b>                                                                         | <p><b>(1) Understanding Humanitarian Intervention and Responsibility to Protect</b></p> <p><b>(2) Practice:</b> Debate over a Case Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Libya (2011), the 1st case where the Security Council authorized a military intervention citing the R2P</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Required readings</b>                                                                    | <p>6.1. ☉Tadjbakhsh, S., Chenoy, A. (2007). "Intervention, engagement and the responsibilities of the international community." <i>Human Security, Concepts and Implication</i>, ch. 8, pp. 185-207 (23pgs).</p> <p>6.2. ☉MacFarlane &amp; Khong (2006). "The UN and Human Security: The Protection Dimension." <i>Human Security and the UN: A Critical History</i>. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, ch. 5, pp. 164-201 (38 pgs).</p> <p>6.3. Evans, Gareth. (2015). From Humanitarian Intervention to the Responsibility to Protect. <i>Political Theory Without Borders</i>, 275–292 (23pgs).</p> <p>6.4. Axworthy, Lloyd. (2013). "Human security in the R2P." <i>Routledge Handbook of Human Security</i>, ch. 11, pp. 149-158 (10pgs).</p> <p>6.5. ☉Herta, Laura. (2019). "Responsibility to Protect and Human Security in UN's Involvement in Libya." <i>Studia Universitatis Babeş-Bolyai Studia Europaea</i>, pp. 221-241 (21pgs)</p> |
| <b>Extra readings</b>                                                                       | <p>6.6. Stefan (formerly Badescu), Cristina. (2012). <i>Humanitarian Intervention and the Responsibility to Protect: Security and Human Rights</i>. Routledge, ch. 1 &amp; 2, pp. 1-47 (47pgs).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

HCM City, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

**Lecturer**  
(full name and signature)

**Head of Department**  
(full name and signature)

**Dean of Faculty**  
(full name and signature)

**Ngo Thi Hong Ngoc, M.A**