

## **AEB4282 - International Humanitarian Assistance**

Spring 2025

Class Number: 10158

M,W,F | Period 5 (11:45 AM - 12:35 PM)

MCCA G186

**Instructor:** Dr. Caleb Stair

**Office:** 1179 McCarty A Wing

**Office Hours:** MWF 10:30am-11:30am & 1:00pm-2:30pm; Thursday 10:30am-12:00pm (or by appointment)

**Phone:** 352-294-7687

**Email:** [cstair@ufl.edu](mailto:cstair@ufl.edu)

### **Communications:**

I will communicate with you about news, assignments, emergencies, cancellations etc., through the announcements in Canvas. **PLEASE CHECK OUR CANVAS PAGE FREQUENTLY.** If you are struggling in the class, please let me know. My office hours are listed above. Those are times that you can definitely reach me. This does not mean that those are the only times you can meet with me. If those times do not work for you, we will schedule a separate time.

### **Other Communication:**

**Undergraduate Advisor:** Trey Gifford; 1170B McCarty Hall A; (352)294-7640;  
E-mail: [FRE-advising@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:FRE-advising@ifas.ufl.edu)

**Undergraduate Coordinator:** Dr. Misti Sharp; 1189 McCarty Hall A; (352)294-7632;  
E-mail: [mistisharp@ufl.edu](mailto:mistisharp@ufl.edu)

**FRE Technology Assistance:** Dave Depatie; 1197 McCarty Hall A; (352)394-7641;  
E-mail: [ddepatie@ufl.edu](mailto:ddepatie@ufl.edu)

### **General Education Designation**

**Primary General Education Designation:** Social Sciences (S)

**Secondary General Education Designation:** International (N)

*This course meets the General Education Student Learning Outcomes for the Social Science (S) and International (N) designation. A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit. Courses intended to satisfy the general education requirement cannot be taken S-U*

### **Course Description:**

The course examines the need for emergency assistance in other countries to minimize losses and affect recovery from various circumstances. The topics includes the legal/ethical basis for humanitarian efforts; program designs promoting recovery, rather than dependence; cultural issues, including gender; and technical aspects. Students will identify, describe, and explain social institutions, structures or processes that have direct implications for international humanitarian assistance. They will also

develop global and intercultural awareness about practices and efforts surrounding humanitarian assistance.

**Expected Student Learning Outcomes:**<sup>1</sup>

This course is part of the Social and Behavioral Sciences and International General Education subject areas. After the successful completion of AEB 4282, a typical student should be able to:

- 1) Construct opinions through research and articulate these opinions to others concerning humanitarian issues. (S)
- 2) Evaluate current and past humanitarian crises, their purported causes, and possible solutions. (S, N)
- 3) Analyze the macro issues regarding the systems in place to provide humanitarian assistance: How do the individual “pieces” like governmental organizations, private entities and citizens, the political landscape, cultural values and norms, economic systems, etc., fit together in the larger scheme of things? (S, N)
- 4) Create philosophical / ethical concepts and positions that can be convincing to others about actions, practices, and policies which you would like to see implemented. (S, N)

**Required Texts:**

There is no textbook required for this class. Instead, I will pull notes from several different sources and occasionally assign readings for class. All readings are located in the CANVAS class files for the course. Even lacking a “book” or set of books, however, THERE IS A LOT OF REQUIRED READING FOR THIS COURSE. In our modules look for items that say **READ**. These are required readings for the course.

**Grades:**

Assignment	Points	Percentage
Exam	200	20%
Humanitarian Interview	50	5%
Crisis PowerPoint	150	15%
Humanitarian Fact Sheet	150	15%
UN Taskforce	200	20%
Humanitarian Negotiations Simulation	150	15%
Participation	100	10%

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<sup>1</sup>See the following link for the General Education Objectives for this subject area.  
<https://undergrad.aa.ufl.edu/general-education/gen-ed-program/subject-area-objectives/>

<u>Total</u>	<u>1000</u>	
<i>Extra Credit: Contemporary Issue Discussions</i>	40	

1. *Exam (200pts)*
  - *The exam is comprehensive and includes multiple choice and short answer questions that will cover the lectures as well as the readings.*
  
2. *Humanitarian Interview (50pts)*
  - *Conduct an interview with an organization that directly or indirectly addresses a humanitarian issue. Details provided in canvas.*
  
3. *Crisis PowerPoint Presentation (150pts)*
  - *Choose a humanitarian crisis (can be an ongoing one, a historic one, one discussed in class, or one that we do not discuss). Create a PowerPoint presentation (with voiceover) of approximately 15 slides that address the overall issue, current and past attempts to remedy the situation, and what you would suggest as future steps (a detailed rubric will be provided).*
  
4. *Humanitarian Fact Sheet (150pts)*
  - *Research and develop a Global Humanitarian Fact Sheet that provides an overview of current global humanitarian crises, key statistics, affected regions, and organizations involved in humanitarian assistance (a detailed rubric will be provided).*
  
5. *UN Taskforce (200pts)*
  - *Early in the semester you will be assigned to a country which is part of a UN taskforce. There are two taskforce groups concerning different areas that relate to humanitarian issues. You will then be tasked with representing your country as part of that taskforce meeting. Components of this activity include an opening statement, evaluation of other representatives, and an instructor evaluation. Details will be provided through Canvas. **These taskforce meetings will be held the last week of class.***
  
6. *Humanitarian Negotiation - Simulation - (150pts)*
  - *During the humanitarian negotiations' unit, you will be sorted into a team and tasked with crafting an AI prompt to be used in a simulation of negotiations with a country experiencing a civil war. **The assignment graded based on your attendance during the module, the negotiations simulation, and a reflection. It is due on the date of our final exam.***
  
7. *Participation - (20 @ 6.25pts)*

- Throughout the semester we will have twenty in-class participation activities. **Your four lowest scores will be dropped.**
- *Extra Credit (40pts) – Contemporary Issue Discussions*
  - Throughout the semester we will have three discussions regarding contemporary issues in humanitarian assistance. **You may participate in up to two of these for extra credit.** You will receive the dates in advance and these will be held outside of class hours.

### **Course grades:**

A = 93 – 100 points  
 A- = 90 – 92.9 points  
 B + = 87 – 89.9 points  
 B = 83 – 86.9 points  
 B- = 80 – 82.9 points  
 C+ = 77– 79.9 points  
 C = 73 – 76.9 points  
 C- = 70 – 72.9 points  
 D+ = 67 – 69.9 points  
 D = 63 – 66.9 points  
 D- = 60 – 62.9 points  
 F = below 59.9 points

*Note: A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit.*

### **Course Policies:**

- I expect you to abide by standards of civility and professionalism in this course. It has a large discussion-based component and several of the topics may elicit passionate debate about the subject at hand. Debates can be passionate; however, a lack of civility or professionalism is unacceptable.
- Plagiarism is unacceptable in this class. I will use the plagiarism database Turnitin.com to check submitted work. While I will cover some aspects of plagiarism and how to avoid it in class UF also has resources that can provide assistance in avoiding plagiarism in your writing and citing styles at <http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/c.php?g=147797&p=967443>
- For the most part, notes will be provided via Canvas along with short videos concerning the subjects. I will post these to our CANVAS website as the semester progresses. If you read the Canvas notes and are still confused, please contact me and we can discuss any issues.
- If for some reason you need to submit an assignment via email, make sure that in the subject line please you state the course number and assignment title. Also, please save your documents as AEB4282\_ *AssignmentTitle\_YourNameHere*
- Late Policy

- Late assignments will only be accepted up to two days after the due date. If an assignment is issued on Thursday and is due in a week it must be submitted by 11:59pm the following Thursday. Assignments submitted at 12:00am Friday are considered one day late.
- Without an extension late assignments will receive only half credit and assignments that are not submitted or that are submitted more than two days after the deadline will receive a zero.
- Any assignment submitted after the last day of class will receive a zero.
- **Illness**
  - We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course.
  - Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
  - If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect-2/frequently-asked-questions/covid-19-exposure-and-symptoms-who-do-i-call-if/>
  - **Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. Find more information in the university attendance policies below.**

#### **Attendance and Make-Up Work:**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>. In general, you are expected to be in class each day and submit all work on time on e-Learning.

#### **Academic Honesty and the UF Honor Code**

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>

*Examples of cheating:* copying the homework of a peer, copying and pasting from a source without quotations and source attribution, paying someone else to do your homework/project/exam, dividing work amongst you and your peers and then all submitting the same document, giving or receiving material from peer. Using generative AI to entirely complete a class project.

### **In-Class Recording**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled.

The only allowable purposes are: (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

### **Software Use:**

All faculty, staff, and students at the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

### **Student Privacy:**

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the Notification to Students of FERPA Rights.

### **Students Requiring Accommodations:**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester. Please do not wait until an assignment is due to request accommodations. Further information can be found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>.

### **Student Counseling and Support:**

#### ***Health and Wellness***

*U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

*Counseling and Wellness Center:* [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

*Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

*University Police Department:* [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

#### ***Academic Resources***

*E-learning technical support:* Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

*Career Connections Center:* Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

*Library Support:* Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

*Teaching Center:* Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

*Writing Studio:* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

*Student Complaints On-Campus:* [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information](#).

*On-Line Students Complaints:* [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

## **Online Course Evaluation Process**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students are notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email, they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## **Lauren's Promise: I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening you.**

Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year-old honors student athlete, was murdered on October 22, 2018, by a man she briefly dated on the University of Utah Campus. We must all take actions to ensure this never happens again. Any form of sexual harassment or violence will not be excused or tolerated at the University of Florida.

If you are experiencing sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking, you can take the following actions:

- If you are in immediate danger, call 911.
- Report it to me, and I will connect you to resources.
- Seek confidential sources of support and help:
  - [UFPD Office of Victim Services](#): 51 Museum Road, 352-392-5648
  - [Sexual Assault Recovery Services \(SARS\)](#): Infirmary Building, 352-392-1161
  - Alachua County Rape Crisis Center (confidential): 352-264-6760

## **COURSE TOPICS**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Topic Overview</b>
Why International?	Justification for why humanitarian aid should be international
The Ethics of International Humanitarian Assistance	Delves into the intricate ethical considerations that guide the principles, practices, and challenges within the realm of humanitarian assistance.

Sources of Aid	Explores the diverse origins, mechanisms, and implications of funding and support within the realm of humanitarian aid. Students will critically analyze the multifaceted landscape of aid sources, assessing their impact, dynamics, and ethical considerations in addressing global crises and disasters.
Human Rights	Explores the intersection of human rights principles with humanitarian aid, emphasizing the essential role of upholding and protecting human rights in crisis response and relief efforts and a rights-based approach to humanitarian aid.
Humanitarian Law	Provides an overview of the legal frameworks governing humanitarian assistance in times of crisis. This explores the principles, treaties, and conventions that regulate the conduct of parties involved in these issues and their implications for humanitarian aid operations.
The Economics of Humanitarian Crisis	Examines the economic dimensions of humanitarian emergencies, exploring challenges and strategies involved in responding to and recovering from crises. This aims to provide an overview understanding of the economic aspects of humanitarian aid, addressing resource allocation, funding mechanisms, and long-term recovery strategies.
Types of Humanitarian Crisis	Provides an exploration of various humanitarian emergencies, encompassing a range of crises including natural disasters, conflicts, pandemics, and complex emergencies. This addresses the diverse nature, characteristics, and unique challenges associated with different types of humanitarian crises.
Humanitarian v. Development Aid	Explores the distinctive approaches, objectives, and methodologies of humanitarian assistance and development aid. This course aims to elucidate the contrasts, overlaps, and synergies between these two sectors while exploring the challenges and opportunities in integrating both for sustainable and effective outcomes.

Humanitarian Negotiations	Humanitarian negotiations aim to facilitate operational access to reach populations in need. This unit serves to help to provide a framework for humanitarian workers to successfully negotiate to protect humanitarian space and contribute to broader initiatives, such as humanitarian corridors and ceasefires. These negotiations are conducted in a principled manner with purely humanitarian objectives: they should not legitimize or show support to any actor.
Effective v. Ineffective Aid	Explores the unintended consequences inherent in humanitarian aid. We examine the pitfalls and potential negative impacts of aid interventions and identify the characteristics, strategies, and impacts that differentiate successful and unsuccessful humanitarian interventions.
The Future of Aid	The future of humanitarian aid is an evolving landscape. There are innovative approaches, technological advancements, and shifting paradigms that will influence the practice and effectiveness of humanitarian aid in the future.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Date	Day	AEB 4282	
1/13/2025	Monday	Syl. Day	
1/14/2025	Tuesday		
1/15/2025	Wednesday	Why International Aid?	
1/16/2025	Thursday		
1/17/2025	Friday	The Ethics of Aid	
1/18/2025	Saturday		
1/19/2025	Sunday		
1/20/2025	Monday		
1/21/2025	Tuesday		
1/22/2025	Wednesday	The Ethics of Aid	
1/23/2025	Thursday		
1/24/2025	Friday	Sources of Aid	Countries Assigned
1/25/2025	Saturday		
1/26/2025	Sunday		
1/27/2025	Monday	Sources of Aid	
1/28/2025	Tuesday		
1/29/2025	Wednesday	Sources of Aid	
1/30/2025	Thursday		
1/31/2025	Friday	Sources of Aid	

2/1/2025	Saturday		
2/2/2025	Sunday		
2/3/2025	Monday		
2/4/2025	Tuesday		
2/5/2025	Wednesday	Human Rights	
2/6/2025	Thursday		
2/7/2025	Friday	Human Rights	Humanitarian Interview Due
2/8/2025	Saturday		
2/9/2025	Sunday		
2/10/2025	Monday	Humanitarian Law	
2/11/2025	Tuesday		
2/12/2025	Wednesday	Humanitarian Law	
2/13/2025	Thursday		
2/14/2025	Friday	Humanitarian Law	
2/15/2025	Saturday		
2/16/2025	Sunday		
2/17/2025	Monday	Types of Humanitarian Crisis	
2/18/2025	Tuesday		
2/19/2025	Wednesday	Types of Humanitarian Crisis	
2/20/2025	Thursday		
2/21/2025	Friday	Types of Humanitarian Crisis	
2/22/2025	Saturday		
2/23/2025	Sunday		
2/24/2025	Monday	Types of Humanitarian Crisis	
2/25/2025	Tuesday		
2/26/2025	Wednesday	Types of Humanitarian Crisis	
2/27/2025	Thursday		
2/28/2025	Friday	Types of Humanitarian Crisis	Humanitarian Fact Sheet Due
3/1/2025	Saturday		
3/2/2025	Sunday		
3/3/2025	Monday	Humanitarian v. Development Aid	
3/4/2025	Tuesday		
3/5/2025	Wednesday	Humanitarian v. Development Aid	
3/6/2025	Thursday		
3/7/2025	Friday	Humanitarian v. Development Aid	
3/8/2025	Saturday		
3/9/2025	Sunday		
3/10/2025	Monday	Humanitarian v. Development Aid	
3/11/2025	Tuesday		
3/12/2025	Wednesday	Aid Traps	
3/13/2025	Thursday		
3/14/2025	Friday	Aid Traps	
3/15/2025	Saturday		
3/16/2025	Sunday		
3/17/2025	Monday		
3/18/2025	Tuesday		

3/19/2025	Wednesday		
3/20/2025	Thursday		
3/21/2025	Friday		
3/22/2025	Saturday		
3/23/2025	Sunday		
3/24/2025	Monday	Humanitarian Negotiations	
3/25/2025	Tuesday		
3/26/2025	Wednesday	Humanitarian Negotiations	
3/27/2025	Thursday		
3/28/2025	Friday	Humanitarian Negotiations	
3/29/2025	Saturday		
3/30/2025	Sunday		
3/31/2025	Monday	Humanitarian Negotiations	Humanitarian Negotiations Prompt Due
4/1/2025	Tuesday		
4/2/2025	Wednesday	Guest Lecture - Climate Refugee	
4/3/2025	Thursday		
4/4/2025	Friday		
4/5/2025	Saturday		
4/6/2025	Sunday		
4/7/2025	Monday	Population	
4/8/2025	Tuesday		
4/9/2025	Wednesday	Population	
4/10/2025	Thursday		
4/11/2025	Friday	The Economics of Humanitarian Crisis	
4/12/2025	Saturday		
4/13/2025	Sunday		
4/14/2025	Monday	The Economics of Humanitarian Crisis	
4/15/2025	Tuesday		
4/16/2025	Wednesday	Exam	Exam
4/17/2025	Thursday		
4/18/2025	Friday	The Future of Humanitarian Aid	Opening Statements Due
4/19/2025	Saturday		
4/20/2025	Sunday		
4/21/2025	Monday	Roundtable #1	
4/22/2025	Tuesday		
4/23/2025	Wednesday	Roundtable #2	
4/24/2025	Thursday		
4/25/2025	Friday		
4/26/2025	Saturday		
4/27/2025	Sunday		
4/28/2025	Monday		
4/29/2025	Tuesday	Final Exam Day	Negotiations Reflection Due

*Note: The instructor reserves the right to change the terms and dates stated in this course syllabus at any time. Any changes will be communicated on e-learning as an*

*announcement. It is solely the student's responsibility to stay informed of any changes.*

*\*\*\*By enrolling in this course, you are agreeing to the terms outlined in this syllabus!!\*\*\**