

GOVT S-1732. War Crimes, Genocide, and Justice (CRN: 31212)

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This course examines the legal regulation of warfare from medieval times to the present, including the historical evolution of the law of war; war crimes and crimes against humanity, and their punishment; the Geneva conventions, and the concept of genocide in the twentieth century. We will examine the trial of Nazi war criminals at Nuremberg, the 1968 massacre at My Lai in Vietnam, the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, the International Criminal Court, and issues raised by the events of September 11, 2001. The focus is on broad concepts of law and justice in warfare and genocide. No prior knowledge of legal or military systems is required.