

MASTER OF ARTS IN HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES

ONLINE GENOCIDE PREVENTION CERTIFICATE (GPC)

PROPOSAL

The graduate Genocide Prevention Certificate has been developed with the help of the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) in New York City to meet the need for specialized training among professionals in government, the military, and non-governmental organizations. It will be the first program of its kind both in the USA and globally and will be offered fully online.

The Genocide Prevention Certificate Program will offer students specialization in genocide prevention, a new professional credential that is in increasing demand as governments, armed forces and non-governmental organizations focus more intensely on the problem of mass atrocities. Our curriculum will aim to offer students and practitioners two skills: 1) a keen understanding of the genocidal process and 2) specific expertise in the practical tools available to policy makers to prevent genocide in its early stages. Students completing the certificate program therefore will have intensive training unlike anything that is available to students in any other program worldwide. As a consequence they will be able to demonstrate expertise that will serve them in their chosen careers. MAHG students who choose to get a Certificate in the course of their master's studies will be able to demonstrate practical training and knowledge of use to employers in the government, non-profit, security, and international humanitarian fields.

The Certificate will be granted through the Master of Art of Holocaust and Genocide Studies Program at Stockton University and will be coordinated by the MAHG director. The current elective courses will be taught by three "Consortium Faculty" who have served as instructors at the Auschwitz Institute's Lemkin Seminars on Genocide Prevention, all of whom are international experts in genocide prevention, as well as by Stockton faculty who have participated in a Lemkin Seminar. This connection of all GCP faculty to the Lemkin Seminars will guarantee consistency across the curriculum. Stockton faculty interested in proposing a course in the genocide prevention certificate program will be able to attend Lemkin Seminars at cost (\$3500), which is a reduction of over 50% of the Seminar fee and covers the cost of room, board and local transportation in Poland, where the Lemkin Seminars are held. Efforts will be made by the Dean of General Studies and the MAHG director to secure funding to cover travel and the seminar fee. (Note: the MAHG Program director has been an instructor at two Lemkin Seminars.)

The Consortium Faculty will be paid as adjuncts through the General Studies Program and will be asked to offer courses as needed, usually on a 12 to 15-month schedule. Courses will be scheduled so that students can complete the certificate within a twelve-month (three semester) period. Initial, one-time course development grants of \$2,000 were paid to each of the three current Consortium Faculty members to create these new courses online. With the help of the Office of E-Learning, the MAHG director developed a "shell course" on

Blackboard over the summer of 2015 that will be used by Consortium Faculty to deliver their course content.

Students enrolled in the MAHG program may take courses in the Genocide Prevention Certificate for credit towards their MAHG degree. MAHG students interested in pursuing careers in human rights, international humanitarianism, conflict resolution, the security sector and peace work may also choose to obtain a certificate while completing the requirements for the master's degree in order to demonstrate practical knowledge of genocide and mass atrocity prevention. GPC students may apply to the MAHG program once they have completed their certificate, which will count for 15 credits towards their master's degree.

Certificate Requirements (15 credits)*

Course descriptions and a course timetable can be found at the end of this proposal. Consortium faculty members have developed courses especially for this certificate program and will continue to teach the courses once every 12 months. New courses, primarily taught by Stockton faculty, will be added after the first year of the program, with the goal of offering 30 credits online (10 courses) by 2020. This will enable the MAHG program to offer students the possibility of obtaining a MA entirely online by taking courses originally developed for the GPC.

Backup faculty for these courses include Elisa von Joeden-Forgey, whose academic expertise is in genocide prevention and who has served as an instructor at two separate Lemkin Seminars; the new MAHG hire in Holocaust Studies, one of whose specific job responsibilities will be teaching online; and other instructors at the Lemkin Seminars, who could be brought on as adjunct "Consortium Faculty."

The following courses will be required for the certificate:

- One of the two required online MAHG courses: MAHG 5000 History of the Holocaust **or** MAHG 5001 History of Genocide (3 credits)
- Three (3) Genocide Prevention electives (9 credits), which currently include:
 - **MAHG 5037** Perpetrator Behavior: Implications for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (James Waller, Spring 2016)
 - **MAHG 5038** Early Prevention of Mass Atrocities (Tibi Galis, Spring 2016)
 - MAHG XXXX Aftermath: Transitional Justice and Collective Memory in the Wake of Genocide (Kerry Whigham, Summer 2016)
- Genocide Prevention Research Seminar (3 credits)
This seminar will be taught every three semesters by Elisa von Joeden-Forgey (or another MAHG faculty member as the Genocide Prevention Certificate grows). The course will use the UN *Framework for Atrocity Prevention* to guide student research

and students will be consulting with staff at the UN Office. A full course description is included with the others below.

** Enrolled GPC students who have already participated in a Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention will be granted three credits towards the Certificate, which can be used to cover one of the three electives.*

Costs

Courses will be priced at the online rate of \$650 per credit hour. Total cost per course will be \$1950. The total cost of the Certificate will be \$9750. Arrangements will be made so that participant employers, whether governments, businesses or non-profits, can pay for the entire Certificate upfront.

Admissions Criteria

The admissions criteria for the GPC will be the same as for the MAHG Program. Students entering after completing the Auschwitz Institute's Lemkin Seminar may be able to "waive in" using the admissions criteria of the Lemkin Seminars themselves, which are academically rigorous and on par with MAHG entrance requirements. This will help streamline the process, as the AIPR covers the costs for the approval process for foreign degrees. Such a streamlined process can also act as a strong recruitment tool.

Recruitment

Certificate Program students will be recruited globally through the networks of the Auschwitz Institute, global genocide prevention agencies (such as the UN Office of the Special Advisor for Genocide Prevention), the International Association of Genocide Scholars, and their partners. With the help of the Auschwitz Institute, the MAHG Program director will also build relationships with representatives of governments and international NGOs to generate long-term partnerships with our program.

Assessment

The GPC will use assessment protocols developed by Stockton University and the MAHG program, including IDEA scores, pre- and post-tests for required courses, and Capstone projects. The research seminar will function as a Capstone project for the Certificate Program. In partnership with the UN Office of the Special Advisor for Genocide Prevention, students will prepare country studies based on the UN's "Framework for Atrocity Prevention," which will then be submitted to the Office of the Special Advisor to aid them with their monitoring and genocide prevention work.

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Consortium Faculty

Dr. James Waller is Cohen Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College (NH). In the policymaking arena, Waller is also regularly involved, in his role as Director of Academic Programs with the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR), as the curriculum developer and lead instructor for the Raphael Lemkin Seminars for Genocide Prevention. Waller's book on perpetrators of genocide, *Becoming Evil: How Ordinary People Commit Genocide and Mass Killing* (Oxford University Press, 2002), was praised by Publisher's Weekly for "clearly and effectively synthesizing a wide range of studies to develop an original and persuasive model of the process by which people can become evil."

Dr. Tibi Galis has been the Executive Director of AIPR since 2006. Born and raised in Romania, he earned his B.A. in Law and Political Science from Babes-Bolyai University, in Cluj-Napoca. He received an M.A. in International Politics and Political Development from the University of Manchester, and earned a Ph.D. from the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University, with a focus on transitional justice. Previously Galis worked as an Associate Researcher for the UK Parliament, helping develop the UK position on the UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, and as rapporteur for the Swedish government at the 2004 Stockholm International Forum on the Prevention of Genocide.

Kerry Whigham will receive his doctorate in Performance Studies at New York University in December 2015. He has published articles in the journals *Tourist Studies*, *Material Culture*, and *Museum and Society*, and has written a chapter on the role of civil society in atrocity prevention for the edited volume *Reconstructing Atrocity Prevention*. He is the managing editor of *emisférica*, a biannual, trilingual, peer-reviewed journal on performance and politics in the Americas, published by the Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics. His dissertation—entitled *Affective Echoes: Affect, Resonant Violence, and the Processing of Collective Trauma in Post-Genocidal Societies*—examines an array of memory practices that have emerged in post-conflict societies that respond to and transform this violence in potentially preventive ways, including practices of social activism and the construction of memorials and other sites of memory.

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COURSES – SPRING/SUMMER 2016

MAHG 5037 Perpetrator Behavior: Implications for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (James Waller)

This course will focus on perpetrator behavior and motivation in genocide and mass atrocity. Case studies, also focusing on the judicial consequences, will be drawn from the Holocaust, Cambodia, Latin America, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Rwanda, and child soldiers. In addition to understanding how ordinary people come to commit genocide and mass atrocity, this course will focus on the implications of that understanding for prevention of such extraordinary evil.

MAHG 5038 Early Prevention of Mass Atrocities (Tibi Galis)

This course will offer answers to some crucial questions regarding the prevention of mass atrocities before the risk of atrocities taking place is high: What does atrocity prevention look like before the risk is imminent? What is the role of the UN, the US Government, and other international peacebuilding actors? How does the creation of international norms, such as R2P, impact early prevention efforts? How do governments and civil society within the country at risk ensure that latent tensions do not escalate? Beyond the international frame for prevention, the course will focus in detail on the overlap between human rights policy, educational policy and economic policy and their relationship with the prevention of mass atrocities.

MAHG XXXX Aftermath: Transitional Justice and Collective Memory in the Wake of Genocide (Kerry Whigham)

Every post-genocidal and post-conflict society faces the difficult decision of how it will deal with a violent past in order to promote a more peaceful present and future. Given the susceptibility of past violence to erupt into new hostilities when it goes unaddressed, the way a society understands and responds to its own past can indeed be a force for prevention of future genocide and atrocities. This course will examine the various ways societies can and have dealt with past violence and human rights abuses--a field otherwise known as transitional justice. The course will focus both on traditionally recognized modes of transitional justice (criminal prosecutions, truth commissions, institutional reform, and reparations), but also more novel forms that are not as often discussed (memorialization and the creation of memory sites, cultural outreach, economic reform, and education). We will develop a deeper understanding of "collective memory" and its role in transitional justice and prevention. Finally, the course will place a special emphasis on the (potential) role of civil society and grassroots activism in shaping transitional justice strategies.

MAHG 5000 History of the Holocaust (MAHG Faculty)

This course will examine the historical events and context which led to the rise of Hitler and fascism, the ideology of Nazism, and the political structures of National Socialist rule in Germany, as well as the roots of anti-Semitism, the implementation of the Final Solution, the structure and purpose of the ghettos and death camps, efforts to resist the Nazis, the actions and motivations of perpetrators, victims, and bystanders in various European countries, and efforts to help and rescue Jews and other victims of the Nazis during the Holocaust. Some attention also will be given to the aftermath of the Holocaust and attempts to bring major Nazi criminals to justice. ***This is a required course in the MAHG program and will be taken by MAHG students as well as Certificate students.***

MAHG 5001 History of Genocide (Elisa von Joeden-Forgey)

In this course we will seek to address the challenge of an “early warning system” through the historical study of modern genocide with an emphasis on the historical connections between various cases of genocide. We will also examine causes of genocidal processes, possible preventative measures, and social healing after the fact. Particular focus will be on the Ottoman Armenians, the Holocaust, Rwanda, Cambodia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Argentina, but other cases will also be examined, including the genocides of indigenous populations during the era of European expansion, of Kurds in Iraq, of Mayan Indians in Guatemala, of East Timorese under Indonesian domination, of Muslims in Kosovo, and of Darfuris in Sudan. Using scholarly texts, fiction, film, and other media, we will discuss the definition of genocide and its representation, the long- and short-term historical contexts that enable genocide, the question of the uniqueness of the Holocaust and the value of “comparative genocide studies,” the problem of prevention and intervention, and the relationship between genocide and other forms of social and political violence. ***This is a required course in the MAHG program and will be taken by MAHG students as well as Certificate students.***

MAHG XXXX Genocide Prevention Research Seminar (Elisa von Joeden-Forgey)

In this research seminar students will pursue independent research on a specific country and a subject related to the genocide prevention protocols outlined in the UN *Framework for Atrocity Prevention* (2012). Through small group Skype meetings as well as optional trips to NYC, topics and research progress will be discussed with the course instructor as well as with staff from the UN Office of the Special Adviser on Genocide Prevention. Students’ final reports for the course will be deposited with the UN Office.

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COURSES SCHEDULE SPRING 2016 – Fall 2017

Spring 2016

- Tibi Galis, **Early Prevention of Mass Atrocity**
- James Waller, **Perpetrator Behavior: Implications for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention**

Summer 2016

- Kerry Whigham, **Aftermath: Transitional Justice and Collective Memory in the Wake of Genocide**

Fall 2016*

- MAHG faculty, **History of the Holocaust**
- Tibi Galis, **Early Prevention of Mass Atrocity**
- Elisa von Joeden-Forgey, **Research Seminar**

Spring 2017

- Elisa von Joeden-Forgey, **History of Genocide**
- Kerry Whigham, **Aftermath: Transitional Justice and Collective Memory in the Wake of Genocide**

Summer 2017

- James Waller, **Perpetrator Behavior: Implications for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention**
- Elisa von Joeden-Forgey, **Research Seminar**

Fall 2017

- MAHG faculty, **History of the Holocaust**
- Tibi Galis, **Early Prevention of Mass Atrocity**

*Depending on interest in the Certificate, we may begin to add online electives beginning in Fall 2016