As you know, the theme of the KHRCA Colloquia is “Testimony across the Disciplines: Cultural and Artistic Responses to Genocide”. Before you undertake the Empathy project, it may be helpful for you to understand what a genocide is and what is not. You will also need to learn about the role of the International Criminal Court in prosecuting genociders who are accused of masterminding and committing a genocide. Refer to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court to answer the following questions.

**Discussion Questions:**

**Article 1:** Where is the International Criminal Court located?

**Article 6:** According to this definition of genocide, what groups in recent history have been accused of committing genocide? What ethnic groups have been victims of genocide?

**Article 7:** Using the definitions on page 49, explain the following Crimes Against Humanity in your own words: extermination, deportation or forcible transfer of population, enforced disappearance of persons, apartheid. Can you give any examples from recent history of any of these crimes against humanity?

**Article 8:** What are the 8 grave breaches of the Geneva Convention? Paraphrase these acts or provide examples. Skim (b) other serious violations of international armed conflict: What statutes make it illegal to…

a. Bomb a church  
b. Kill a soldier who has surrendered  
c. Poison public drinking supply  
d. Test new drugs on prisoners  
e. Attack trucks belonging to the Red Cross  
f. Force civilians to fight against their own people  
g. Force young children to use guns  
h. Force women to undergo sterilization  
i. Drive civilian populations out of an area that is not under military attack

According to **Article 25**, Individual criminal responsibility, which of the following persons can be accused of a war crime?

a. Anyone who orders others to commit a crime  
b. Anyone who does not commit a crime, but provides the means for it to be carried out
c. Anyone who is part of a political group that orders a war crime, such as genocide
d. All of the above

According to Article 26, how old must a person be in order to be charged with a war crime?

Article 31: How might a person avoid criminal responsibility? Summarize statutes a,b,c,d

**ACTIVITY FOR GROUP 1**
Read the following scenario:

**BACKGROUND:**
In March of 2000, the desert country of Northworld entered into a civil war. The Blue Army, led an attack on the small but wealthy village of Lakeview. Lakeview is the only area in Northland with access to a large body of fresh water. It is also chiefly inhabited by an ethnic minority who practice a religion that is unique to Lakeview. The Blue Army represents the ethnic majority of Northworld, and have long resented the Lakeview minority’s control of the country’s water supply.

On March 12, 2000, General X of the Blue Army, ordered arrests of any civil engineers and laborers involved in the construction of dams, aqueducts or irrigation systems. The civil engineers and laborers were forcibly deported from their villages and forced to begin work on a project that would redirect the water supply from Lakeview to the areas inhabited by the majority ethnic group in the capital city. These workers were not paid and were denied communication with their families. These work camps were supervised by Division A of the Blue Army under the command of Sergeant U.

On March 14, Sergeant Y a 65-year-old retired war hero invaded Lakeview and destroyed food supplies, burned crops and slaughtered animals in the village. The members of Sergeant Y’s small army were teenagers from the majority ethnic group, who were known to be members of urban gangs. Mr. Z, President of Northworld, claimed that the events were the actions of paramilitary groups beyond his jurisdiction. Furthermore, the majority of the Blue Army was needed to defend the borders Northworld against a hostile neighbor, Westland, recently known to be testing nuclear weapons. For this reason, President Z and his party insisted no military troops could be spared.

In an impassioned speech delivered on March 20th, President Z claimed that he would protect the minority people of Lakeview. His solution and the solution of the Z Party was to relocate the people of Lakeview to a region 1,500 miles south of their homeland. On March 29th, General X ordered his Blue Army to transport the every member of the village of Lakeview to their “new home.” The villagers were rounded up and put on trains with only a few possessions. They were housed in tents and food was provided by Division B of the Blue Army under the command of Sergeant V.

On March 18th, the hostile neighbor invaded Northland. Sergeant V and Division B of the Blue Army were ordered to abandon the newly located ethnic minority and went to fight
on the western borders of Northland. Lacking food supplies and water, much of the ethnic minority formally of Lakeview perished throughout the hot summer.

The Blue Army lost the war against Westland. Now individuals are being tried for the March events.

The following persons have been accused of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity.

President Z, General X,  
Sergeant Y and his gang,  
Sergeant U and division A of the Blue Army,  
Sergeant V and division B of the Blue Army

Group 1A State your case against the individuals above. Use the statute to support your convictions.  
Example:

President Z is guilty of Genocide according to Article ( ) which states…

Group 1B: You are lawyers for the defendants. Using the statute, particularly Article 31, prepare a defense.
ACTIVITY FOR GROUP 2
Read the following scenario.

The war between the countries of Silverdom and Goldian has ended after 12 years. While horrible atrocities have been committed on both sides, accusations of war crimes are currently being brought up against individuals from the country of Silverdom.

Rock Prison Camp

Prisoners in Rock Prison Camp suffered from cholera, a disease that effectively killed ¾ of the camp. The Red Cross supplied medications known to treat cholera but these bottles were found unopened in the camp. Instead, medications not known to the international community were provided by the Silverdom army doctors. The prison guards administered the medication but the medication proved to be completely ineffective. Recently, vials of the bacteria that causes cholera were found in a laboratory near the camp and cholera, normally a waterborne disease, was not found in the water supply.

Center Hospital

On June 5th, 1987, a civilian hospital in Goldian was the target of an air attack. Patients and hospital staff were killed or injured when explosives belonging to the Goldian army exploded in the basement. The attack was ordered by General M of the Silverdom army.

Silverdom Prostitutes

The commanding officers of Unit 87 of the Silverdom army traveled with prostitutes – each woman assigned to one officer. These women were known to be have worked in the “Red Light” district of Goldian’s capital city during peace time. The prostitutes were taken by the enemy when the capital was invaded and entirely destroyed. The Silverdom army maintains that these women were fed and clothed. Had they remained in the capital of Goldian they would have died from starvation. Also, the women were not in danger of becoming pregnant as all were sterilized by medical doctors.

Wheatland Massacre

Silverdom soldiers of Unit 77 invaded the rural community of Wheatland. These soldiers were known to be using “Marching Powder” a mixture of cocaine and steroids to keep them moving with little sleep. When they arrived in Wheatland, they found that guerrilla forces has set land mines which killed half of their members. Unit 77 lived up to its reputation of being the most violent of all Silverdom soldiers. In revenge, they tortured every man, woman and child they found in the community over a period of 5 days. After torturing their victims, they buried them alive.
Bridgetown counter-attack

Unit 88 of the Goldian army had occupied the small village of Bridgetown for 8 months. Bridgetown was inhabited by a few dozen women and their children. By the standards of the war, Unit 88 behaved respectively. Not one woman or child was injured or harmed in any way. On the night of December 12, 1995, Sergeant Q and his unit threw poison gas canisters into the homes occupied by Goldian soldiers. When they began tossing poisonous gas canisters in the last occupied home, 4 soldiers emerged without their weapons, waving a white flag. They were arrested by Sergeant Q and executed without a trial.

The following persons have been accused of **War Crimes**
The military doctors at Rock Prison Camp
General M
Commanding officers of Unit 87
Soldiers of Unit 77
Sergeant Q

Group 2A State your case against the individuals listed above. Use the statute on *War Crimes* to support your convictions.

Group 2B You are lawyers for the defendants. Using the statute, particularly Article 31, to prepare a defense.

**GROUPS 1 AND 2 EXCHANGE SCENARIOS**

Group 1 Present your arguments to Group 2. Group 2 you are the jury and must decide if the defendants are guilty or not guilty. Discuss and vote.

Group 2 Present your arguments to Group 1. Group 1 you are the jury and must decide if the defendants are guilty or not guilty. Discuss and vote.

**Preparing for the Empathy Project**
After participating in the activities actively and deciding whether the defendants were guilty or not guilty, you will arrive at a better understanding of the crimes genociders commit against humanity. Keep in mind that you are to read the article entitled *A Muscular Empathy*, watch Professor Monohan’s lecture on empathy, prepare PowerPoint presentations, and write reflection papers on the theme of empathy.