Problem Based Learning and How It Functions in an Honors Environment
Introduction

- DHC 399: International Peace and Security: Humanitarianism & Development
- Our majors
- Previous knowledge
What it is

- An instructional (and curricular) learner-centered approach that empowers learners to conduct research, integrate theory and practice, and apply knowledge and skills to develop a viable solution to a defined problem.
Viability of Long Term Projects

- Independent research
- Self directed learning & role of Instructor
- Coming together of groups
PBL—a brief history

- Socrates—learning through questioning
- John Dewey
- Medical approach—McMaster University Canada
- Albanese and Mitchell
- Other environments such as chemical engineering, economics, architecture, high school education, etc.
How we went about it

- Tasks
- 7 steps
- Simulation game
- Policy Papers and poster presentations
Seven steps

1. Clarifying terms
2. Defining problem or task
3. Brainstorming
4. Taking stock and analyzing possible solutions
5. Formulating learning objectives
6. Independent study
7. Post/group discussion
The Humanitarian Crisis (Simulation) Game

- 4-Player game based in the fictional country of Carana.
  - Carana, U.N., NGOs, HADR-TF
- Much like a real humanitarian crisis, there is sometimes no solution.
- First experience with solving a problem.
South Sudan Background

- 2011: independence from Sudan
- December 15, 2013: rift between Pres. Salva Kiir and VP Riek Machar erupts into violence
- Situation at present: retaliatory violence, risk of starvation
Political Affairs
Recommendations

- Removal of Ugandan Troops
- Political reform
- Preventative diplomacy and legal reform
- Agricultural reform
- Transitional justice
- Military reform and DDR
Humanitarian Response

Recommendations

- Supply transport security
- Capacity development within refugee camps