



|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Course Code</b><br>IREL-345                                    | <b>Course Title</b><br>Human Rights & International Relations | <b>ECTS Credits</b><br>6                  |
| <b>Department</b><br>European Studies and International Relations | <b>Semester</b><br>Fall, Spring                               | <b>Prerequisites</b><br>None              |
| <b>Type of Course</b><br>Elective                                 | <b>Field</b><br>International Relations                       | <b>Language of Instruction</b><br>English |
| <b>Level of Course</b><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Cycle                   | <b>Year of Study</b><br>4 <sup>th</sup>                       | <b>Lecturer(s)</b><br>Dr Craig Webster    |
| <b>Mode of Delivery</b><br>face-to-face                           | <b>Work Placement</b><br>N/A                                  | <b>Co-requisites</b><br>None              |

### **Objectives of the Course:**

The main objectives of the course are to:

This course is for students who are interested in the role of human rights in world politics. In this course, we will explore the controversial issue of defining “human rights” and the various mechanisms currently in place to defend human rights internationally. We will discuss theories presented to explain human rights variations over time and space. In addition, we examine the role of such diverse organizations as the U.S. Department of State, the United Nations and Amnesty International in their attempts to defend human rights internationally.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the critical debates in International Relations and human rights issues.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the field of International Relations (the major debates, issues, and actors in global politics) and how these actors deal with human rights issues.
3. Communicate in English language both orally and in written form at (near) native level.
4. Use IT skills (word processing, Internet and e-mail) as study and communication tools.
5. Illustrate the ability to continue learning in a self-directed manner and work on an academic level within the intended professional field.
6. Use libraries, bibliographical material and academic research in an efficient manner.

**Course Contents:**

1. Human Rights: universalism?
2. Civil & Political Rights
3. International Crimes
4. Human Rights and the 'War against Terror'
5. Cultural Relativism
6. Economic, Social & Cultural Rights
7. Equal Rights & Non-Discrimination
8. Rights of Minorities & Indigenous Peoples
9. Rights of the Child
10. Human Rights and international action
11. Human Rights and globalization
12. Women's Rights

**Teaching Methods:**

Lectures, Project work

**Assessment Methods:**

Mid-Term Exam, Final Exam, Class Participation, Essays

**Required Textbooks:**

| Authors       | Title   | Publisher                | Year | ISBN |
|---------------|---|--------------------------|------|------|
| Jack Donnelly | Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice | Cornell University Press | 2002 |      |

**Recommended Textbooks/Reading:**

| Authors                           | Title   | Publisher                      | Year | ISBN |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------|------|
| Alison Brysk                      | Globalization and Human Rights  | University of California Press | 2002 |      |
| Belden Fields                     | Rethinking Human Rights for the New Millennium  | Palgrave MacMillan             | 2003 |      |
| Micheline R. Ishay                | The Human Rights Reader: Major Political Essays, Speeches and Documents from the Bible to the Present   | Routledge                      | 1997 |      |
| A. H. Robertson and J.G. Merrills | Human Rights in the World: an Introduction to the Study of the International Protection of Human Rights | Manchester University Press    | 1989 |      |
| Walter Laqueur and Barry Rubin    | The Human Rights Reader   | Meridian                       | 1989 |      |

|  |   |  |      |  |
|--|---|--|------|--|
| Richard Pierre<br>Claude and Burns<br>H. Weston        | Human Rights in the<br>World Community                                | University of<br>Pennsylvania<br>Press | 2006 |  |
| Richard Ashby<br>Wilson                                | Human Rights in the 'War<br>on Terror'                                | Cambridge<br>University Press          | 2005 |  |
| Henry J. Steiner,<br>Philip Alston and<br>Ryan Goodman | International Human<br>Rights In Context: Law,<br>Politics and Morals | Oxford<br>University Press             | 2008 |  |
| Henry Steiner &<br>Philip Alston                       | International Human<br>Rights in Context: Law,<br>Politics, Morals    | Oxford<br>University Press             | 2000 |  |