

LAWS 7022 INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 200961

Coordinator Robert Mezyk (<https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Robert Mezyk/>)

Description This subject examines the foundations of the concept of human rights under international law, how international law became concerned with the rights of individuals and the development of international measures for the protection of human rights. It examines the extent of compromise of international human rights where sovereignty, cultural relativism and political resistance preclude comprehensive incorporation of some fundamental human rights principles in domestic law. Instruments such as The Charter of the United Nations, The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights are also examined.

School Law

Discipline International Law

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

Pre-requisite(s) LAWS 7057

Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in 2824 Master of Laws or 2826 Juris Doctor to enrol in this subject.

Students in program 8083 Bachelor of Research Studies or 1923 Master of Global Security and Justice should seek permission from the law school via a rule waiver to enrol in this subject.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Evaluate the fundamental norms of international human rights law, including the provisions of the principal human rights instruments and important jurisprudence of relevant human rights bodies;
2. Evaluate the principal human rights-related institutions;
3. Explain the effectiveness of their procedures at the international level for the protection and promotion of human rights;
4. Critically analyse and assess the major (non-legal) challenges to international human rights law;
5. Apply human rights principles in negotiations and problem solving.

Subject Content

1. Historical and philosophical foundations of human rights
2. Challenges to traditional conceptions of human rights
3. International human rights norms and institutions
4. Regional human rights systems
5. Human rights protection at the national level
6. The human rights treaty monitoring system

7. Case studies of human rights interventions on specific issues, which might include: asylum seekers; indigenous peoples; human trafficking; children's rights; rights of women; peace and security
8. Case studies of human rights interventions in specific countries, which might include Australia, New Zealand, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Timor Leste, Myanmar, Russia

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Presentation	20 minutes	20	N	Individual	N
Professional Task	1,500 words	30	N	Individual	N
Essay	3,000 words	40	N	Individual	N
Participation	Ongoing throughout semester	10	N	Individual	N

Prescribed Texts

- Daniel Moeckli, International Human Rights (Oxford University Press, 4th ed, 2022)