The Study of Human Rights

What are human rights? When and where did the idea of human rights emerge and how has it become globalized across many different societies and cultures? How and why have human rights been violated, both in the United States and abroad? How have people struggled to claim and defend their human rights against tyrannical governments, exploitative multinational corporations, and oppressive religious authorities and with what success? How do human rights protect your political freedoms and allow you to challenge economic, social, and cultural exclusion, and how can these protections be enhanced and made more effective? These are the types of questions pursued in the interdisciplinary Human Rights Major.

In this major, students receive interdisciplinary instruction in theoretical, comparative, and historical perspectives on human rights through classroom courses and gain valuable practical experience in the human rights field through a supervised internship or senior thesis.

Requirements for Bachelor of Arts Degree in Human Rights

The Human Rights major is an interdepartmental, interdisciplinary plan of study requiring a minimum of 36 credit hours:

9 credits must be taken from the Core Courses, which are arranged in two divisions: Institutions, Laws, Movements and History, Culture, Theory. One course must be taken from each division.

12 credits must be taken from the Elective Courses. Students may also take additional Core Courses to fulfill their Elective requirement.

3 credits are taken from the Capstone Courses. Students may complete either a service learning/internship experience or a senior thesis.

12 credit hours of Related Courses must be completed as approved by the Director of the Major.

All students must also take a Writing Requirement, different from the W-Course for their second major.

STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A SECOND MAJOR.

Learn more about the programs and resources for undergraduate Human Rights students at:

http://humanrights.uconn.edu/academic/undergrad/

For Further Information about the Human Rights Major
Contact Professor Samuel Martínez
Director of Undergraduate Programs in Human Rights
(860) 486-4515 or by e-mail at samuel.martinez@uconn.edu

Human Rights Institute
Information about University of Connecticut human rights programs and human rights resources may be found at http://www.humanrights.uconn.edu

Revised July 3, 2014
Recommended Prerequisite
HRTS 1007: Introduction to Human Rights

Core Courses (9 credits)
- Institutions, Laws, Movements
  HIST/HRTS 3202: International Human Rights
- POLS/HRTS 3212: Comparative Perspectives on Human Rights
- POLS/HRTS 3428: The Politics of Torture
- POLS/HRTS 3430: Evaluating Human Rights Practices of Countries
- SOCI/HRTS 3831: Human Rights in the US
- SOCI/HRTS 3835: Refugee Camps and Humanitarianism
- SOCI/HRTS 3837: Sociology of Global Human Rights

History, Culture, Theory
- DRAM/HRTS 3139: Theater and Human Rights
- ENGL/HRTS 3631: Literature, Culture and Humanitarianism
- HIST/HRTS 3201: History of Human Rights
- HIST/HRTS 3207: Genocide after the Second World War
- HRTS 3149: Human Rights Through Film
- PHIL/HRTS 2170(W): Bioethics and Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspectives
- PHIL/HRTS 3219: Topics in Philosophy and Human Rights
- POLS/HRTS 3042: Theory of Human Rights

Economics
- ECON 2126: Philosophy and Economics
- ECON 2127(W): Beyond Self-interest
- ECON 3473(W): Economic Development

English
- ENGL/HRTS 3619: Topics in Literature and Human Rights
- ENGL 3629: Holocaust Literature in English

History
- HIST/AASI 3531: Japanese Americans and World War II
- HIST/WGSS 3562: History of Women and Gender in the US, 1790-Present
- HIST/HRTS/AFAM 3563: African American History to 1865
- HIST 3570: American Indian History
- HIST 3575/PRLS/HRTS 3221: Latinos/as and Human Rights in the US

Human Rights
- HRTS 3293: Foreign Study
- HRTS 3295: Special Topics
- HRTS 3298: Variable Topics
- HRTS 3299: Independent Study
- HRTS 3475: Economic Development and Human Rights

Philosophy
- PHIL 2215: Ethics
- PHIL 3218: Feminist Theory
- PHIL 3220: Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights

Elective Courses (12 credits)
- Anthropology
  ANTH/HRTS 3028(W): Indigenous Rights and Aboriginal Australia
  ANTH/HRTS 3153(W): Human Rights in Democratizing Countries
  ANTH/WGSS 3350: Anthropological Perspectives on Women

- Economics
  ECON 2126: Philosophy and Economics
  ECON 2127(W): Beyond Self-interest
  ECON 3473(W): Economic Development

- English
  ENGL/HRTS 3619: Topics in Literature and Human Rights
  ENGL 3629: Holocaust Literature in English

- History
  HIST/AASI 3531: Japanese Americans and World War II
  HIST/WGSS 3562: History of Women and Gender in the US, 1790-Present
  HIST/HRTS/AFAM 3563: African American History to 1865
  HIST 3570: American Indian History
  HIST 3575/PRLS/HRTS 3221: Latinos/as and Human Rights in the US

- Human Rights
  HRTS 3293: Foreign Study
  HRTS 3295: Special Topics
  HRTS 3298: Variable Topics
  HRTS 3299: Independent Study
  HRTS 3475: Economic Development and Human Rights

- Philosophy
  PHIL 2215: Ethics
  PHIL 3218: Feminist Theory
  PHIL 3220: Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights

Capstone Courses (3 credits)
- HRTS 4291: Service Learning/Internship
- HRTS 4996(W): Senior Thesis

Human Rights Institute Internship Funding Opportunities
- Human Rights Institute Undergraduate Internship Award
- Human Rights Institute Undergraduate Internship Travel Award

Applications can be downloaded at
http://humanrights.uconn.edu/academic/undergrad/undergraduatefunding.php