Who We Are
The Human Rights Institute at the University of Connecticut advances human rights knowledge and practice through research, teaching, and engagement. As a university-wide program under the Office of Global Affairs, HRI supports interdisciplinary inquiry into the most pressing human rights questions and prepares the next generation of human rights advocates across a range of fields. Through Dodd Human Rights Impact, HRI fosters a culture of human rights through engagement and community impact, in Connecticut and around the world.

HRI houses one of the largest undergraduate and graduate programs in human rights, including a major and a minor in Human Rights, graduate certificate and a Master of Arts in Human Rights. Students receive a broad, interdisciplinary grounding in human rights history, theory, and practice, specialize in a range of particular issues and fields, and engage in experiential learning opportunities with leading human rights practitioners around the world.

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Appointments via Nexus
About the Program

The Human Rights Institute offers an accelerated Master of Arts (MA) in Human Rights, which enables students to complete their bachelor’s degree and a MA in Human Rights in five years.

The MA in Human Rights is designed to advance participants’ knowledge of human rights as both an academic and professional field, hone students’ critical inquiry skills, and ultimately become competitive candidates for professional positions in industry, government, education, and non-profit sectors.

Program Structure

The MA in Human Rights program requires:
- 12 Common Core credits
- A 3-credit Human Rights Practicum (200 hours),
- At least 6 Foundational Elective credits,
- 9 additional elective credits drawn from either the Foundational Elective or Supplementary Elective lists.

Common Core Courses

HRTS 5301: Contemporary Debates in Human Rights
HRTS 5351: Topics in Human Rights Practice*
HRTS 5401: Methods in Human Rights Research and Practice
HRTS 5600: Human Rights Practice Lab

Human Rights Practicum

HRTS 5282: Practicum in Human Rights

Foundational Electives

EDCI 5847: Human Rights and Social Justice in Education
HRTS 5055: Theory and Practice of International Criminal Justice
HRTS 5450: Contemporary Issues in Genocide Studies
HRTS 5460: Human Rights and Armed Conflict
HRTS 5351: Topics in Human Rights Practice*
HRTS 5095: Special Topics in Human Rights*
HRTS 5499: Independent Study in Human Rights
HRTS 5899: Variable Topics in Human Rights*
HRTS/HIST 5270: History of Human Rights
HRTS/POLS 5390/ECON 5128: Economic Rights
LAW 7878: International Human Rights
SWEL 5385: Human Rights and Social Work

Supplementary Electives

ALDS/GERM/CLCS 5324: Teaching for Intercultural Citizenship and Human Rights I
ALDS/GERM/CLCS 5325: Teaching for Intercultural Citizenship and Human Rights II
ANTH 5390: Cultural Rights
ENGL 6540: Seminar in Literature and Human Rights
HRTS/ANTH 5380: Propaganda, Disinformation, and Hate Speech
LAW 7380: Critical Race Theory
LAW 7653: European Human Rights
LAW 7695: Philosophy of Human Rights
LAW 7814: Refugee Law
LAW 7876: Philosophy of Collective Rights and Self-Determination

Supplementary Electives (cont.)

LAW 7883: Human Rights and Post Conflict Justice
LAW 7914: American Slavery and American Law: The Legal Origins of Racism in America
POLS 5115: Theories of Human Rights
POLS 5322: Assessing Human Security
PUBH 5460/LAW 7592: Health and Human Rights
SOCI/HRTS 5825: Sociology of Human Rights
SOCI 5515: Sociology of Immigration

*May be repeated for a total of 9 credits with a change in subject matter.

Eligibility

There are two paths to the successful completion of the MA in Human Rights at the University of Connecticut: the 4+1 Accelerated Master of Arts Program, and the traditional 2-year Master of Arts program.

Current UConn students with junior status are should apply for the 4+1 accelerated Master of Arts Program.

- To Apply: [http://connect.grad.uconn.edu/apply](http://connect.grad.uconn.edu/apply)

Individuals who have earned a bachelor degree are encouraged to apply for the 2-year Master of Arts Program

- To Apply: [https://grad.uconn.edu/admissions/apply-to-uconn/](https://grad.uconn.edu/admissions/apply-to-uconn/)