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.

Human Rights Major and Minor Degree Requirements

Requirements for the Human Rights Major

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 three divisions: Institutions and Laws; History, Philosophy, and Theory; and Applications and Methods. 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 primary major.

STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A SECOND MAJOR

Requirements for the Human Rights Minor

The Human Rights major is an interdepartmental, interdisciplinary plan of study requiring a minimum of 15 credit hours:

- 3 credits must be taken from the Core Courses, which are arranged in two divisions: Institutions and Laws and History, Philosophy, and Theory. One course must be taken from either division.
- 3 credits are taken from the Applications and Methods division;
- 6 credits must be taken from Elective Courses.
- 3 credits are a Capstone Course involving a service learning/internship experience.

*Please note that more than six credits may not be taken in one department*

For Further Information
Contact Professor Samuel Martinez
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 Fall 2015
**Recommended Prerequisite**
HRTS 1007: Introduction to Human Rights

**Institutions and Laws**
- HIST/HRTS 3202: International Human Rights
- HRTS 3200: International Human Rights Law
- HRTS 3420: Being International – Geopolitics and Human Rights
- POLS/HRTS 3212: Comparative Perspectives on Human Rights
- SOCI/HRTS 3831: Human Rights in the United States

**History, Philosophy, Theory**
- HIST/HRTS 3201: The History of Human Rights
- HIST/HRTS 3207: Genocide after the Second World War
- POLS/HRTS 3042: The Theory of Human Rights
- ENGL/HRTS 3631: Literature, Culture and Humanitarianism
- PHIL/HRTS 3220: Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights

**Applications and Methods**
- DRAM/HRTS 3139: Theater and Human Rights
- HRTS 3149(W): Human Rights Through Film
- HRTS 3250(W): Human Rights and New Technologies
- POLS/HRTS 3256(W): Politics & Human Rights in Global Supply Chains
- POLS/HRTS 3428: The Politics of Torture
- SOCI/HRTS 3835(W): Refugee Camps and Humanitarianism
- SOCI/HRTS 3837(W): Sociology of Global Human Rights

**Elective Courses**

**African American Studies**
- AFRA/SOCI/HRTS 3505: White Racism
- AFRA/HIST/HRTS 3563: African American History to 1865
- AFRA/SOCI/HRTS 3825: African Americans & Social Protest

**Anthropology**
- ANTH/HRTS 3028: Indigenous Rights and Aboriginal Australia
- ANTH 3150(W): Migration
- ANTH/HRTS 3153(W): Human Rights in Democratizing Countries
- ANTH /WGSS 3350: Anthropological Perspectives on Women

**Art History**
- ARTH/HRTS 3575: Human Rights and Visual Culture

**Asian American Studies**
- AASI 3221/SOCI 3221/HRTS 3571: Sociological Perspectives on Asian American Women
- AASI 3222/SOCI 3222 / HRTS 3573: Asian Indian Women: Activism and Social Change
- AASI 3531/HIST 3531: Japanese Americans and World War II

**Economics**
- ECON 2126/PHIL 2245: Philosophy and Economics
- ECON 2127: Beyond Self-interest
- ECON 3473W: Economic Development

**Engineering**
- ENGR/HRTS/POLS 3209: Sustainable Energy in the 21st Century

**English**
- ENGL/HRTS 3619: Topics in Literature and Human Rights History
- ENGL 3629: Introduction to Holocaust Literature

**History**
- HIST 3100(W): Biography as History
- HIST/AASI 3531: Japanese Americans and World War II
- HIST/WGSS 3562: History of Women & Gender in the United States, 1850-Present
- HIST/AFA/HRTS 3563: African American History to 1865
- HIST 3570: American Indian History
- HIST 3575/LLAS 3221/HRTS 3221: Latino/as and Human Rights

**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
*Any HRTS course numbered 2000 or above*

**Latino and Latin American Studies**
- LLAS 3221/HRTS 3221/HIST 3575: Latino/as and Human Rights

**Philosophy**
- PHIL/HRTS 2170(W): Bioethics and Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspective
- PHIL 2215: Ethics
- PHIL 3218: Feminist Theory
- PHIL/HRTS 3219: Topics in Philosophy and Human Rights

**Political Science**
- POLS/ENGR/HRTS 3209: Sustainable Energy in the 21st Century
- POLS 3255: Politics of South Africa
- POLS/HRTS 3418(W): International Organizations and Law
- POLS/HRTS 3807: Constitutional Rights and Liberties

**Sociology**
- SOCI 3221/HRTS 3571/AASI 3221: Sociological Perspectives on Asian American Women
- SOCI 3222/HRTS 3573/AASI 3222: Asian Indian Women: Activism and Social Change
- SOCI/HRTS 3421(W): Class, Power, and Inequality
- SOCI/HRTS 3429(W): Sociological Perspectives on Poverty
- SOCI 3503W: Prejudice and Discrimination
- SOCI/HRTS/AFA 3505: White Racism
- SOCI/HRTS 3801(W): Political Sociology
- SOCI/HRTS/AFA 3825: African Americans and Social Protest

**WGSS/HRTS 3263: Women and Violence**

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