

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINES		
TERM: Fall 2015	COURSE NO: POLITICAL STUDIES 250	
INSTRUCTOR: TBA	COURSE NAME: GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS	
OFFICE: TBA	SECTION:	CREDITS: 3
OFFICE HOURS: TBA		

COURSE FORMAT

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15 week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

No prerequisites for this course.

Note: Students who receive credit for POL 250 cannot receive credit for POL 350.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The students learn the historical evolution of human rights standards in the world and explore the principles and practices of human rights norms at the global and regional levels. Students explore the significance of international conventions, global and regional instruments, and multiple dimensions of human rights in a globalized context. Students also learn about the key debates on the issue of universality and cultural relativism, responsibility to protect, right to development, and gender discrimination.

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

- Define and articulate the evolutionary process, the principles and norms, and the instruments of global human rights.
- Identify and assess the concept of universality when compared with the regional and local standards of human rights.
- Identify and critically evaluate the issues of genocide and humanitarian intervention, right to development, right to protect the environment, rights of refugees and displaced people, rights of specific groups of people, and human trafficking.
- Research, document, synthesize, and evaluate information about international human rights from library, online and media sources.
- Design and write a research paper on one of the international human rights issues identified above.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Smith, Rhona K.I.M. *Textbook on International Human Rights*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014

RECOMMENDED READINGS

- Bunn, Isabella D. *The Right to Development and International Economic Law: Legal and Moral Dimensions*. Oxford and Portland, Oregon: Hart Publishing, 2012.
- Goodhart, Michael (ed.). *Human Rights: Practice and Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013
- PDF guides available in [The Writing Centre](http://www.capilanou.ca/writing-centre/) at Capilano University (Fir 402, <http://www.capilanou.ca/writing-centre/>)
- [The Capilano University Guide to Writing](#) (available in bookstore).
- Scott, G. *The Political Science Student Writer's Manual*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, current. (On reserve in the Library).
- Roselle, Laura and Spray, Sharon. *Research and Writing in International Relations*. Pearson Longman, 2008. (On reserve in the Library).
- Heckman, Grant. *Nelson Guide to Web Research for Canadian Students*. Nelson, 2008. (On reserve in the Library).

Students are encouraged to read relevant articles in a daily newspaper, periodical, or on-line publication which has regular and continuous coverage of issues and events significant for understanding the principles, practices and complexities of human rights in multiple settings. A list of acceptable print or on-line resources will be provided. All students are required to become familiar with the United Nations, International Court of Justice, International Criminal Court, and European Commission on Human Rights web sites and visit them as requested.

COURSE CONTENT

A list of additional required reading corresponding to the course content below will be posted on Moodle.

Week	Content
1	Introduction: Explanation and Theoretical Perspectives on Human Rights
2	Human Rights International Law
3	UN and Human Rights
4	Regional Protection of Human Rights
5	Human Rights in Europe
6	Human Rights in America
7	Human Rights in Africa
8	Genocide and Humanitarian Intervention
9	Right to Development
10	Environment and Human Rights
11	Rights of Refugees and Displaced People
12	Human Trafficking
13	Rights for Specific Group of People
14-15	Exam Period

EVALUATION PROFILE

Participation	10%
Research Paper 1	30%
Research Paper 2	30%
Research Paper 3 & Presentation	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

GRADING PROFILE:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B+ = 77 - 79%	C+ = 67 - 69%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89	B = 73 - 76	C = 63 - 66	F = 0 - 49
A- = 80 - 84	B- = 70 - 72	C- = 60 - 62	

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grades), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all seminars and activities.

Participation: Students are expected to complete all the assigned readings before coming to class and actively participate in class discussions. To encourage participation in class, the instructor will raise pertinent issues and ask specific question/s every week. For discussion purposes, students will be frequently paired with each other to discuss the pertinent issue/s for few minutes and share their opinion or observation to the class. Students also need to participate in online discussion forum created by the instructor to discuss relevant issues in the course. Regular attendance and positive contribution to class and online discussion will be the primary basis of participation grade.

Assignments: Each student will complete three separate written assignments on various issues related to the course material.

Late Assignments: The student is encouraged to submit assignments on the required date. Late assignments will be penalized. If a student requires an extension the matter should be discussed with the instructor.

Incomplete Grades: Only in very exceptional circumstances will incomplete grades be awarded.

English Usage: The instructor will not accept a paper or exam requiring extensive corrections of grammar. A student anticipating problems should consult the Writing Centre

Electronic Devices: No personal electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, calculators, electronic dictionaries, etc..) may be used during an examination without prior approval from the instructor. During an exam, turn off all cell phones and pagers and remove them from the desk.

Emergency Procedures: Please read the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.