

Faculty of Economics & Political Science

Human Rights

Information :

Course Code : PSC 110

Level : Undergraduate

Course Hours : 2.00- Hours

Department : University Requirments

Area Of Study :

The course provides students with a good opportunity to examine the history of human rights, and the role of both state as well as non-state actors in promoting human rights. Special attention will be given to the contribution of the United Nations in this field, and its struggle to combat human rights abuse all over the world. The course sheds also light on the status of human rights in the Middle East, with a particular focus on Egypt.

Course Goals:

- Introduce students to the main concepts in human rights, the relations between human rights and politics on the local and international level, as well as the main challenges facing preservation of human rights worldwide.
- Provide a critical understanding of development and human rights, with a particular focus on economic, social and cultural rights.
- Help with a working knowledge of global, regional and national human rights standards and accountability, mechanisms, their comparative strengths and limitations, and how to apply them.
- Present how human rights are implicated in contemporary legal and policy debated around of economic globalization, aid, trade, climate change and the right to development.

Description :

This course examines the conceptual foundations of human rights, history of the field, the development of human rights framework and the multidisciplinary character of the field as an area of study. It covers in details the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and all related agreements. It also touches on the state of Human Rights in Egypt and the Arab World.

Course outcomes :

a.Knowledge and Understanding: :

1 -	Describe conflicting interests and make decisions conforming to the political reality.
2 -	Recognize the effect of the international economic system on the deterioration of living standards in the South.

b.Intellectual Skills: :

1 -	Examine human rights and the democratization process in the Arab world.
2 -	Criticize in depth the role of local, regional and international actors in the protection of human rights.

c.Professional and Practical Skills: :

1 -	Discover the strengths and weaknesses of efforts to promote and protect international human rights by individuals, non-governmental organizations, states, and international organizations
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d.General and Transferable Skills: :

1 -	Explore the philosophical underpinnings of the concept of human rights and various critiques of this concept.
2 -	Evaluate the potential tension between the protection of state sovereignty and the promotion of human rights.
3 -	Consider the real impediments which hinder the progress of human rights in the Arab world.
4 -	Pay attention to the fact that human rights is not only a humanitarian issue, rather it also reflects the relations of power between states.

Course Topic And Contents :

Topic	No. of hours	Lecture	Tutorial / Practical
The History of International Human Rights	2	1	
Human Rights in Islam	2	1	
The Role of International Actors in the Protection of Human Rights - The United Nations	2	1	
The United Nations(cont.)	2	1	
Regional Organizations	2	1	
Regional Organizations (cont.)	2	1	
Midterm Exam		1	
Human Rights NGOs	2	1	
States and Human Rights	2	1	
Constitutions and Human Rights	2	1	
Foreign Policies and Human Rights	2	1	
Foreign Policies and Human Rights (cont.)	2	1	
Human Rights in the Arab World	2	1	
Human Rights in the Arab World (cont.)	2	1	
Final Exam		1	

Teaching And Learning Methodologies :

Data show and computer in lectures
Demonstration videos
Group discussion
Research Paper

Course Assessment :

Methods of assessment	Relative weight %	Week No	Assess What
Course Work (Attendance, Participation, Assignments, Quizzes, Research Paper...)	30.00		To assess understanding and theoretical background of the intellectual and practical skills.
Final Exam	40.00	15	To assess knowledge and intellectual skills
Midterm Exam	30.00	7	To assess professional skills

