

# Human Rights

Students with an interest in human rights may do a Major (36 credit hours) in this area provided they complete a second Major in any other subject area at St. Thomas. Students may also do a Minor in Human Rights.

The requirements for the Major are:

HMRT 2003	Introduction to Human Rights (This course is the required prerequisite for all upper level courses in the Human Rights Programme.)
HMRT 3013	Codes and Commissions
HMRT 3033/PHIL 3313	Philosophy of Human Rights
HMRT 3113	The Charter
HMRT 3123	International Human Rights
HMRT 4003	Research Seminar
HMRT 4013	Capstone Seminar

In addition, students must take 15 credit hours in electives. They must choose 3 credit hours from each of the following areas: social issues, law, philosophical foundations, institutions and applications. In addition, students are to take a fifth course from any of the above mentioned areas.

## *a) Social Issues*

ANTH 2533	Anthropology of Gender
ECON 2223	Political Economy of Women
HIST 3873	Immigrants in Canada 1870 - Present
HMRT 3053/RELG 3833	Human Rights and the Church
PSYC 4413	Seminar on Prejudice and Discrimination
PSYC 4483	Seminar in the Psychology of Women
SOCI 2416	Inequality in Society
SOCI 2443	Race and Ethnic Relations
SOCI 2613	Sociology of Gender
SOCI 3413	Employment Equity Policy and Gender Inequality at Work

## *b) Law*

CRIM 3113	Criminal Law and the Canadian Charter
ECON 3423	Industrial Relations and Collective Bargaining
HMRT3063	Humanitarian Law and Human Rights
NATI 3923	Aboriginal Rights: The Land Question
NATI 3903	Native People and the Law I
NATI 3913	Native People and the Law II
NATI 3923	Aboriginal Rights: The Land Question
PSYC 4863	Seminar in Ethical Issues in Psychology
SOCI 3313	Sociology of Law
SOCI 3323	Sociology of Women and the Law

*c) Philosophical Foundations*

HMRT 3043	Human Rights in the Catholic Tradition
PHIL 2143	Contemporary Moral Philosophy
PHIL 2243	Current Issues in Ethics
PHIL 3533	St. Thomas: Law, Morality, Society
PHIL 3343	Human Nature, Society, Justice, and Law I
PHIL 3353	Human Nature, Society, Justice, and Law II
POLS 2806	The Western Tradition of Political Philosophy

*d) Institutions and Application*

HMRT 3073	Human Rights Internship
HMRT 3133	Human Rights and Non-governmental Organizations
HMRT 3506	Human Rights in International Relations and Foreign Policy (POLS)
POLS 1103	Law, Power, and Canadian Politics
POLS 1603	Law, Power, and Global Politics
POLS 3606	The United Nations

Students should consult with the Director of the Human Rights Programme to ensure that their programme meets all requirements.

**2003. Introduction to Human Rights**

This course will introduce students to the study of human rights by investigating the question “what is a human right?” The course will proceed primarily through a number of examples and case studies. Students will also be given an overview of the basic instruments, institutions, and ideas relevant to human rights. 3 credit hours.

**3013. Codes and Commissions**

This course will focus on domestic human rights codes and human rights commissions. Special attention will be given to the New Brunswick Human Rights Code and the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission. 3 credit hours.

**3033. Philosophy of Human Rights (PHIL 3313)**

This course will introduce students to philosophical questions concerning the foundations of human rights. What are human rights based on? What makes something a human right? Are human rights universally and permanently valid or is the notion of human rights merely a construct of modern Western culture? The course will familiarize students with alternative theoretical answers to these and other related questions. 3 credit hours.

**3043. Human Rights in the Catholic Tradition**

This course will introduce students to a theological study of human rights from the Roman Catholic perspective. Selected theological foundations of human rights shall be explored, including: ‘imago Dei’, redemption, salvation, the sacraments. The dignity of the person, the common good, and the rights and duties in the Church will be explored. The articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be analysed theologically. 3 credit hours.

**3053. Human Rights and the Church (RELG 3833)**

This course will focus on the role of the People of God in the practice of human rights. The rights of all in the Church will be examined in the light of Ecclesiastical Law. The action of the Church in the protection and promotion of human rights will be explored in terms of the Church as community for witness, hope, and liberation. Selected human rights initiatives of Church organizations will be considered. 3 credit hours.

**3063. Humanitarian Law and Human Rights**

This course will examine the historical development of humanitarian law and the relationship with human rights. It will study the principle actors in the administration of humanitarian law and human rights. Students will explore the protection of victims and their fundamental rights in emergency situations, the rights and duties of aid organizations and their personnel, the changing role of humanitarian law in the light of terrorism and international crime. The course will review the enforcement of rights and duties as well as the mechanisms available under general international law, human rights law, and international humanitarian law. 3 credit hours.

**3073. Human Rights Internship**

This course will provide students with exposure to the practice of human rights, encouraging them to reflect on the relationship between that experience and their formal human rights studies. Students must obtain the approval the Director of the Human Rights Programme for their participation and for the conditions of the internship. 3 credit hours.

**3113. The Charter**

This course will examine the impact of the Charter on rights and freedoms in Canada. After an introductory discussion of the Bill of Rights and the development of the Charter, instruction will focus on a large number of Supreme Court decisions interpreting the meaning of the Charter's provisions.

**3123. International Human Rights**

This course explicates the principal international and regional systems in place for the protection and promotion of human rights, including the Inter-American, European, African, and United Nations systems. Students will study the most important human rights instruments, such as the International Bill of Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights, and the American Convention on human rights. 3 credit hours.

**3133. Human Rights and Non-Governmental Organizations**

This course will identify and explore the operations of the main non-governmental organizations at the international and domestic levels in the field of human rights. Theoretical consideration shall be given to the role of these organizations in the practice of freedom. The practical work of various human rights groups will be considered. Students will be expected to participate in the work of a given human rights group during the course. 3 credit hours.

**3506. Human Rights in International Relations and Foreign Policy (POL5 3506)**

This course considers human rights in international relations and foreign policy from the point of view of constraints on sovereignty. With background from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries up to WWII, it concentrates on the promotion and protection of human rights in the post-war period. Topics covered include: the UN system of human rights and the international and domestic politics of human rights as evidenced in foreign policy, Canadian in particular. 6 credit hours.

**4003. Research Seminar**

Students in this course will do a research project in human rights under the supervision of the instructor. The course will begin with a general introduction to the aims and methods of research projects. Students will be expected to present periodic reports on the status of their work. The course is normally reserved for students in their final year of the human rights Major. 3 credit hours.

**4013. Capstone Seminar**

This course will consist of an in-depth investigation of one or more human rights problems. The specific topic will change from year to year. Students will be expected to examine the issue(s) in light of their knowledge of the basic instruments, institutions, and ideas relevant to human rights as well as their understanding of the fundamental questions of value that surround

contemporary social issues. The course is normally reserved for students in their final year of the human rights Major. 3 credit hours.

#### **4023. Independent Study**

Students may undertake studies under the direction of a member or members of the programme with the permission of the Director. The course is limited to students with a proven academic record. 3 credit hours.

#### **6503. Teaching for and about Human Rights (EDUC)**

This course is offered during the human rights summer institute designed for pre-service teachers, practicing teachers, and professionals in related fields. The course introduces participants to the various rights, instruments, and issues relevant to the classroom and provides opportunities for teachers and others to increase their knowledge base in the human rights field. 3 credit hours.