



UNSW Course Outline

LAWS8181 International Human Rights - 2024

Published on the 12 May 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : LAWS8181

Year : 2024

Term : Term 2

Teaching Period : T2

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Law and Justice

Academic Unit : School of Global and Public Law

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course involves a study of the fundamental legal principles and institutions of international human rights, through the medium of contemporary human rights concerns. The course begins with an examination of the human rights framework in international law and the mechanisms for

enforcing human rights including consideration of the position of the United Nations in this era of reform. The course also focuses on gross human rights violations and the responsibility of the international community to protect, terrorism, globalisation, and discrimination law among other contemporary topics. This course is part of a general offering of human rights and social justice topics within the UNSW Law School and aims to provide students with an introductory approach to select human rights issues.

Main Topics

- What are human rights?
- Contemporary concerns: human rights issues, for example this may include genocide; discrimination; death penalty and/or the impact of globalisation
- Framework of the human rights system
- Human rights enforcement

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Engage in complex critical discussions of how human rights law operates internationally (PLOs 1a & 2a)
CLO2 : Demonstrate effective oral communication and collaboration by debating the role human rights play in the development of law and society in a scholarly and insightful manner (PLOs 1a & 3a)
CLO3 : Demonstrate advanced written communication skills by explaining in your own words the meaning of legal concepts, doctrines and principles of international human rights law by successfully completing a short answer question (PLO 1a & 3a)
CLO4 : Demonstrate, using research principles and methodologies, an ethical understanding of the nature of human rights law and the on-going and future issues in the area of human rights by completing an extended research essay (PLO 2a, 2b & 4)

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Engage in complex critical discussions of how human rights law operates internationally (PLOs 1a & 2a)	• Class Participation
CLO2 : Demonstrate effective oral communication and collaboration by debating the role human rights play in the development of law and society in a scholarly and insightful manner (PLOs 1a & 3a)	• Class Participation
CLO3 : Demonstrate advanced written communication skills by explaining in your own words the meaning of legal concepts, doctrines and principles of international human rights law by successfully completing a short answer question (PLO 1a & 3a)	• Short Answer Question (500 words)
CLO4 : Demonstrate, using research principles and methodologies, an ethical understanding of the nature of human rights law and the on-going and future issues in the area of human rights by completing an extended research essay (PLO 2a, 2b & 4)	• Research Essay (6000 words)

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Microsoft Teams

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Research Essay (6000 words)	70%	
Short Answer Question (500 words)	15%	
Class Participation	15%	

Assessment Details

Research Essay (6000 words)

Assessment Overview

Feedback includes formative feedback, peer feedback in class, online and the use of rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL04 : Demonstrate, using research principles and methodologies, an ethical understanding of the nature of human rights law and the on-going and future issues in the area of human rights by completing an extended research essay (PLO 2a, 2b & 4)

Assessment Length

6000 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Short Answer Question (500 words)

Assessment Overview

Feedback includes formative feedback, peer feedback in class, online and the use of rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL03 : Demonstrate advanced written communication skills by explaining in your own words the meaning of legal concepts, doctrines and principles of international human rights law by successfully completing a short answer question (PLO 1a & 3a)

Assessment Length

500 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Class Participation

Assessment Overview

Feedback includes formative feedback, peer feedback in class, online and the use of rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Engage in complex critical discussions of how human rights law operates internationally (PLOs 1a & 2a)
- CL02 : Demonstrate effective oral communication and collaboration by debating the role human rights play in the development of law and society in a scholarly and insightful manner (PLOs 1a & 3a)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

Please see information about attendance requirements in **Law & Justice Assessment Procedure and Student Information** located in the Other Useful Information tab in the Academic Information field.

Please be advised there will be no classes on public holidays. If your class falls on a public holiday, alternative arrangements will be made by the course convenor to make up the missed class.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Christopher Michaelsen					No	Yes
Lecturer	Ashna Taneja					Yes	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the [UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website](#).

UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy

It is essential that all students undertaking this course read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#). This document includes information on Class Attendance, Late Work, Word Limits, Marking, Special Consideration, Workload, and Academic Misconduct & Plagiarism. More information can also be found at [Assessment & Exam Information](#).

Information regarding Course Outlines are subject to change and students are advised to check updates. If there is a discrepancy between the information posted here and the handbook or the UNSW Law & Justice website, please contact [Student Services via The Nucleus Hub](#) for advice. UNSW Law & Justice reserves the right to discontinue or vary such courses or staff allocations at any time. If your course is not here, please visit [Handbook](#) for information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Student Code](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action under the Student Misconduct Procedure. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Student Code, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Before submitting assessment items all students must read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#).

Special consideration

Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable. To apply, and for further information, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

Feedback

UNSW Law & Justice appreciates the need for students to have feedback on their progress prior to the last date for withdrawal without failure. All courses will therefore provide feedback to students prior to this date, as well as throughout the course. However, students should note that feedback does not take the form only of formal grades and written comments on written assessments. Rather, formative feedback, which helps students to self-assess, to identify misunderstandings, and to identify areas requiring further work, will occur during class and possibly online. For example, where a teacher asks the class a question, all students should think about how they might answer. Even though not all students will necessarily be able to respond orally, everyone can reflect on their tentative answer in light of the teacher's response and subsequent class discussion. If you are struggling to understand what is being asked in class, or if your tentative answers prove incorrect and subsequent discussion does not clear things up, then you should continue to ask questions (of yourself, your peers or your teacher). Similarly, you can get a sense of your ability in a course through peer feedback during group work, your teacher's responses to your in-class contributions, and your own response to in-class problems and examples (whether or not you are called on to relay your answer to the class) and also your online activities and responses by others to those activities. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the specific feedback used in this course.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- Student support: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>
- Equitable Learning Services: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au>

Course improvement

Student feedback is very important to continual course improvement. This is demonstrated within the Faculty of Law & Justice by the implementation of the UNSW online student survey myExperience, which allows students to evaluate their learning experiences in an anonymous way. myExperience survey reports are produced from each survey. They are released to staff after all student assessment results are finalised and released to students. Course convenors will use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the actions taken in response to evaluation feedback in Student Survey.

School Contact Information

Please contact [Nucleus Student Hub](#) for all enquiries. The Nucleus acts as a central communications hub for UNSW and will distribute your enquiry to the best person to respond.