

Human Rights: What They Are and Why We Have Them

Grades:	7th – 10th
Day (s) of Week:	Tuesday
Time of Class:	9:00 am – 10:30 am ET
Length of Class:	10 Weeks
Semester:	Winter 2019
Tuition:	\$300.00
Instructor's Name:	Kirsten Bowman
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Description of Class:

This course will give an overview of the United Nations, the development of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the leading historical figures in its inception, including Eleneanor Roosevelt. It will then cover the 30 human rights as laid out in the UDHR in more detail and explain what the process is for those whose rights are violated.

The first class will be an introduction and story of human rights development. During the second class the focus will be on Article 1 of the UDHR, "We are all born free and equal". The third class will focus on Articles 2-5, the fourth class will focus on Articles 6-11, the fifth class will focus on Articles 12-18 and the six class will focus on Articles 19-25. The seventh class will focus on Articles 26-30. During these classes vocabulary will be studied, each right will be presented and discussed, debate prompts may be given, group projects and scenarios to be analyzed may be part of the class experience. In each section the students will be provided the information and then presented with activities to help the student to understand the right in more applicable terms. In the eighth, ninth and tenth classes the students will each do a creative project to highlight an important right and showcase their project during class. The tenth class will conclude with the students ability to view what a successful application of the UDHRs looks like.

Class Approach:

The teacher gives no opinion but will provide many open ended questions for the students themselves to think in deeper terms about the UDHR and the framework it provides. The structure of the course will include some lecture, quite a lot of debate and discussion as well as group and individual activities designed to encourage a deeper understanding of the material and its application in a real world setting.

Goals:

The objective of this class is not only to learn about the UDHR and the particular rights that are provided within that document, but it is also to have students critically examine these rights and analyze what they themselves think about these rights. The teacher gives no opinion but will provide many open ended questions for the students themselves to think in deeper terms about the UDHR and the framework it provides.

Textbook:

All readings and materials will be provided by the instructor

Additional Supplies/Resources Needed:

Students will need a notebook and pen or the ability to keep detailed notes on a computer file. They will also be required to complete a project for presentation at the end of the course. They may be creative in their presentation, but may want to, for example, use video or audio recordings, photos etc. This could require technical usage of equipment such as recording equipment (cell phone for example) or a camera (or camera phone).

Requirements:

There will be short readings to prepare for each class which should not take more than 20 to 30 minutes to complete. This class is interactive and the ability to participate in class discussions is a highly valued skill. There will also be a presentation by each student at the end of the course.

Weekly Homework:

Weekly homework will include 20 to 30 minutes of reading per week, plus steady effort and work through the 10 week period to complete a project presentation.

Homework Policy:

Weekly readings should be done before class. I do not necessarily strictly enforce that the readings be done, but it is important to recognize that I will not wait or slow the material for students who have failed to do the readings. This means, that if you want to achieve the greatest amount of learning from this course, it is necessary to read the assigned material prior to class.

Evaluation:

Class Participation = 30%

Notebook work = 30%

Final project and presentation = 40%

Grading Scale: Percentages/Grades

100-90:	A
89-80:	B
79-70:	C
69-60:	D
59-0:	F

Anticipated Weekly Course Schedule:

Winter 2019

Week	Topic
Week 1	Introduction and story of human rights development
Week 2	Article 1 of the UDHR, "We are all born free and equal"
Week 3	Articles 2-5
Week 4	Articles 6-11
Week 5	Articles 12-18
Week 6	Articles 19-25
Week 7	Articles 26-30
Week 8	Creative Projects and Presentations
Week 9	Creative Projects and Presentations
Week 10	View of a successful application of the UDHR