Human Rights in the World Community   LAW 8570
Professor Adrien Katherine Wing
Spring 2015

This course will introduce the student to the established and developing legal rules, procedures, and enforcement mechanisms governing the protection of international human rights. It will address both liberal western and developing world notions of human rights as well as highlight recent examples of human rights controversies in various regions of the world.

READINGS

The readings are:

1. Burns Weston & Anna Grear, HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WORLD COMMUNITY (4th ed. 2015 manuscript) [hereinafter Weston] Please note this manuscript has a number of typos that have not been fixed, including in the Table of Contents. Please bring all errors to my attention.

2. Handouts

There may be additional short reading due to late breaking events. There may be guest speakers as well. There will be make up classes.

All readings may be accessed through ICON.

COURSE EVALUATION

This class is not on the curve. If there are nonlaw students in the course, they are graded separately from the law students.

1. There will be a take home open book essay final exam distributed at the end of the course. The exam will count 30% of the final grade.

2. Each student will do a 20 minute oral and written class presentation of one day’s readings. The length of the written component is variable. Many students now do powerpoint and we circulate the slides via email. Some of the powerpoints even contain video clips which can be highly effective. The presentation MUST include questions raised by the presentation and reading; and may include relations of the readings to other readings and current events, issues for further study, etc. DO NOT SUMMARIZE THE DAY’S READINGS. This aspect may include a role play, moot court, film clip or some other creative component. This assignment is worth 20%. The students should email the class the presentation no later than 8am of the day of the presentation. Presentations will be posted on the UICHR website.

3. Class participation will count 20% of the final grade as well. It includes regular class attendance and preparation as well as active contribution to class discussion. Comments should evidence a mastery of the readings. Anyone who will be absent should email me.
4. At the end of the course, each student will participate in a simulation about a current human rights problem. The simulation will count 30% of the final grade. Students will do an oral presentation. The amount of time given will depend on the size of the class. Each student will hand in a written presentation as well. Specific details will be distributed later in the course.

5. Those students desiring to do a research paper should be sure to discuss the proposed paper with me early in the semester. The papers can be for 1-3 units of writing credit.

6. Any student needing exam or other accommodations to comply with the requirements for this course should contact Dean Crain at the start of the semester.

OFFICE HOURS

The best time to reach me is right after class. Please do not come and see me in the hour before class. Feel free to stop by my office in room 410. The best days are Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. My cell phone is 319-621-7674. My email address is adrien-wing@uiowa.edu. Email if you want a specific appointment. My secretary is Kelley Winebold in room 405. She can be reached at kelley-winebold@uiowa.edu or 335-9099.

READINGS ---- all dates approximate. The readings may be adjusted to accommodate guest speakers, make ups, late breaking events, or need to revise simulation start date. (Do the reading for the day listed even if we have not finished the prior day’s readings)

Week One

Mon. Jan. 12 INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE
Introduce Ourselves  Weston pp. xi-xix, Chapter One 1-17

Tues. Jan. 13 Weston pp. 515-42

Wed. Jan. 14 sign up for presentations
Handout 1 Human rights documents:
UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples
(for all declarations and treaties, look for interesting features and comparisons)

Week Two  Mon. Jan. 19 -- no class MLK holiday

Tues. Jan. 20 Handout 1 continued Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol

Wed. Jan. 21 Weston pp. 18-28, Handout 1 continued International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Race Discrimination **NO CLASS TODAY**

Week Three

Mon. Jan. 26 Weston pp. 29-56

Tues. Jan. 27 Weston pp. 57-82

Week Four

Mon. Feb. 2  Handout 2 Maya Sosnov, The Adjudication of Genocide: Gacaca and the Road to Reconciliation in Rwanda  
Weston pp. 103-15

Tues. Feb. 3  Weston pp. 116-29, Handout 2 Committee Against Torture: Concluding Observations on the 3rd-5th periodic reports of the United States

Wed. Feb. 4  Handout 3 Aaron Fellmouth, State Regulation of Sexuality in International Human Rights Law and Theory

Week Five

Mon. Feb. 9  Fellmouth continued, Handout 3 continued  Courtney Finerty, Being Gay in Kenya

Tues. Feb. 10  Weston Chapter Three  pp. 130-60


Week Six

Mon. Feb. 16  Weston pp. 182-208  (Chapter Four starts on p. 191)

Tues. Feb. 17  Weston pp. 209-31

Wed. Feb. 18  Weston pp. 232-55

Week Seven

Mon. Feb. 23  Weston pp. 256-78  (Chapter Five starts on p. 262)

Tues. Feb. 24  Weston pp. 279-300

Wed. Feb. 25  Weston pp. 301-21

Week Eight

Mon. Mar. 2  Weston Chapter Six  pp. 324-45

Tues. Mar. 3  Weston pp. 346-66

Wed. Mar. 4  Weston  Chapter Seven  pp. 367-84

Week Nine

Mon. Mar. 9  Weston pp. 385-411

Tues. Mar. 10  Weston pp. 412-30
Wed. Mar. 11  Weston Chapter Eight  pp. 427-56 (pagination error)

**SPRING BREAK week of March 16**

Week Ten

Mon. Mar. 23  Weston pp. 457-83  (Chapter Nine starts on p. 468)

Tues. Mar. 24  Weston pp. 484-514  (postscript starts on p. 510)

Wed. Mar. 25  **SPECIAL FOCUS: WOMEN’S RIGHTS, MUSLIM WORLD**
Handout 4 Nienke Grossman, Sex on the Bench: Do Women Judges Matter to the Legitimacy of International Courts; Justice Ginsberg’s International Views

Week Eleven

Mon. Mar. 30  Handout 4 continued Karla McKanders, The Unspoken Voices of Indigenous Women in Immigration Raids

Tues. Mar. 31  Handout 4 continued Jemma Wilson, The Sharia Debate in Britain: Sharia Councils and the Oppression of Muslim Women

Wed. Apr. 1  Handout 4 continued Adrien Wing & Monica Smith, Critical Race Feminism Lifts the Veil?: Muslim Women, France and the Headscarf Ban

Week Twelve

Mon. Apr. 6  Handout 5  European Court of Human Rights: Leyla Sahin v. Turkey Grand Chamber (2005); Aktas v. France and related cases (2009)

Tues. Apr. 7  **NO CLASS**  Handout 5 continued Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, Arab Charter on Human Rights (compare provisions with UDHR, ICCPR and other conventions)

Wed. Apr. 8  **NO CLASS**  Handout 5 continued Adrien Wing, Arab Fall: the Future of Women’s Rights

Week Thirteen

Mon. Apr. 13  Handout 5 continued Adrien Wing & Hisham Kassim, Hamas, Constitutionalism, and Palestinian Women


Wed. Apr. 15  Handout 5 continued Adrien Wing, A Truth and Reconciliation Commission for Palestine/Israel: Healing Spirit Injuries
Week Fourteen

Mon. Apr. 20 & Tues. Apr. 21 simulation

Wed. Apr. 22  last class  hand out take home final