



**COLLEGE of SOCIAL AND
APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES**

GUELPH INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

COURSE: IDEV2400 - Social Justice and Human Rights

Lectures: Thursday, 11:30am-2:30pm

Instructor: Carmen Jacqueline Ho

Office location: Virtual

Office Hours: TBC

Email: carmen.ho@uoguelph.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the politics and practice of human rights. The focus is on providing a broad overview of the historical context of human rights and the current international human rights system, including international treaties and monitoring bodies. The course will discuss the ways in which state and non-state actors have engaged with different treaty conventions. The course will address substantive issue areas, including women's rights, indigenous rights, and migrant rights. Current affairs and student interests will shape the topics that are discussed.

WINTER 2021 COURSE DELIVERY FORMAT

Synchronous lectures. Recording, distributing, or taking screenshots of course material is not permitted.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- Demonstrate a knowledge of the evolution of the idea of human rights and its historical roots; the international human rights system and the relevant legal instruments and institutions
- Explain political issues associated with human rights instruments and protection
- Critically engage with news coverage, particularly with respect to how meanings, definitions, and truths are constructed
- Identify and analyze human rights

EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated on a variety of assignments. Details will be confirmed on the first day of class.

REQUIRED READINGS

There is one required textbook: Goodhart, Michael, ed. *Human Rights: Politics and Practice*. Oxford University Press, 2016.