



**COLLEGE of SOCIAL AND  
APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES**

GUELPH INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

**COURSE:** IDEV2400 - Social Justice and Human Rights

Lectures: Mon, Wed, 8:30-9:20am

Seminar: Fri, 8:30-9:20am

Instructor: Carmen Jacqueline Ho

Office location: Virtual

Office Hours: TBC

Email: [carmen.ho@uoguelph.ca](mailto:carmen.ho@uoguelph.ca)

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines human rights at the international and the domestic level. The course begins by focusing on the international level and introduces students to the international human rights system, including the historical context from which it emerged, international treaties, and monitoring bodies. We will examine debates surrounding whether the international human rights system has been effective. We then turn to the domestic level and the extent to which states have upheld their international human rights commitments. We will focus on social rights by exploring the welfare state and redistributive justice. Current affairs and student interests will shape the topics that are discussed during the course and during the virtual conference.

### **FALL 2020 COURSE DELIVERY FORMAT**

Virtual lectures. In-person seminars. 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 knowledge of the international human rights system, its historical roots, and the relevant legal instruments and institutions
- Explain political issues associated with the protection of human rights
- Analyze the extent to which domestic governments have upheld their human rights commitments in their own countries
- Describe the welfare state and the origins of various social policies
- Critically engage with news coverage on 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.