UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL STUDIES
TERM : WINTER 2016

COURSE #: 3160 **SEC:** A01 **CRN**: 25281 **CREDIT HOURS:** 3

COURSE TITLE: HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

PROFESSOR: Davis Daycock

FORMAT: Seminar

OFFICE LOCATION:

LOCATION OF CLASS: 418 Machray Hall

TELEPHONE:

TIME OF CLASS: Wed.; 8:30-11:15 AM

EMAIL ADDRESS: davisday@mts.net

OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment

COURSE CONTENT AND DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the concepts, moral assumptions and values that underpin current conceptions of human rights and civil liberties. The disagreements and uncertainties that arise in any discussion of human rights will be explored first as they are presented in the theoretical literature. Next, selected current problems and controversies that have arisen in the attempt to apply universal standards of human rights in a culturally and politically divided world will be examined.

Topics:

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Research Paper and in class presentation	50%
Essay critique	20%
In-Class Test	20%
Class Participation	10%

GRADING SCALE

A+	=	90-100
A	=	80-89
B+	=	72-79
B	=	65-71
C+	=	59-64
C	=	51-58
D	=	50
F	=	0-49

PAPERS SHOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 20 PAGES IN LENGTH . THEY ARE DUE ONE WEEK BEFORE THE SCHEDULED DATE FOR THE PRESENTATION. THEY ARE TO BE CIRCULATED TO THE CLASS SO THAT EVERYONE HAS A COPY ON THE DAY OF THE PRESENTATION. THE PRESENTATION SHOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 10 TO 20 MINUTES AND OFFER A SUMMARY OF THE PAPER.

STUDENTS MUST ALSO CHOOSE A TOPIC FOR A CRITIQUE . A CRITIQUE IS A SHORT CRITICAL COMMENTARY ON THE SUBMITTED PAPER. IT SHOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 5 PAGES IN LENGTH AND SUBMITTED TO THE INSTRUCTOR ON THE DAY OF THE PRESENTATION . THE IN CLASS CRITIQUE IS ORAL AND CAN BE PRESENTED FROM NOTES.

REQUIRED TEXT(S):

There is no required text. There is a list of required readings included in this outline, see below.

To avoid penalties notice must be given if a class cannot be attended. A doctor's note may be required. Students are reminded of the Departmental requirement to keep a copy of all work that is submitted.

Students are required by the Department to retain a copy of each assignment submitted to their instructors. Students should acquaint themselves with the University=s policy on plagiarism, academic dishonesty, academic fraud, cheating and examination impersonation in the University of Manitoba General Calendar. Students may also refer to the Faculty's website: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student/index.html which will provide detailed information on the issues and possible range of penalties for Academic Dishonesty. Unreturned term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

Class Schedule , Note: This schedule is subject to change both with respect to times and content.

Jan. 6 Introduction to Course and organization of assignments.

Jan.13 Lecture/Discussion Rights and Liberties : Definitions and Foundations liberal conceptions Ideas from the classic literature, Assigned Readings:

Jan20 Lecture/Discussion Conceptions of Rights " Negative" and "Positive" rights "Individual and Group Rights" Rights vs. Obligations Burke and T.H. Green Marx
Assigned Readings

Jan 27 Lecture/Discussion Continuing from Jan.20

Feb.3 Lecture/Discussion Rights Documents: The United Nations Declaration of Rights
The Canadian Charter, The 1977 Constitution of the USSR Assigned Readings:

Feb.10 Lectue /Discussion The Guardians of Rights Charters and Courts

Feb.17 MID TERM

Feb 24 Seminar Student Presentation s and Guest Speaker Human Rights and International Law; International law and the protection and treatment of refugees

Mar.2 Seminar Student Presentations and Guest Speaker The role Courts and Commissions as interpreters and guardians of rights.

Mar. 9 Seminar Student Presentations Issues 1. Particular Rights and Limitations on Rights Example: The rights of those accused of a crime vs. the rights of the victims of crime. Canadian Court Cases

Mar.16 Seminar Student Presentations 2. Example: The Right of Freedom of Expression vs. the Right of protection from "hate speech" Canadian Charter Cases

Mar. 23 Seminar Student Presentations Group Rights l Discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, religious affiliation - Issues and Conflicts : Canadian Charter Cases

Mar. 30 IN CLASS TEST Seminar Student Presentations Continuation of Mar.23 topics
And Religious rights Issues and Conflict

Apr. 6 Extensions of human rights Seminar Student Presentations The Rights of Animals The

Apr.6 Extensions: The Rights of Animals, The rights of nations vs. the rights of the global community. The rights of future generations.

Required Readings:

Jan 13 J.S. Mill " Of the Limits to the Authority of Society over the Individual" from On Liberty (widely available and on line) John Locke Two Treatises of Government Second Treatise especially chpts ,1,2,7,9.

Jan 20 Thomas Hill Green in Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy 7.(Theory of Rights) on line; K.Marx On the Jewish Question; Marcel van Herpen Marx and Human Rights Analysis of an Ambivalent Relationship ON LINE; Edmund Burke Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790 ; Priyanka Menon Conservatism and Human Rights Harvard Political Review ON LINE.

Jan 27 & Feb.3 The Canadian Charter of Rights Freedoms , The Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948; The European Convention 1950 Section 2 Articles 2-18 The 1977 Constitution of the USSR Chapter 7 The Basic Rights, Freedoms and Duties of Citizens of the USSR. Widely available and ON LINE

Feb 10 The Canadian Human Rights Act 1977 Nancy Holmes, Human Rights and The Courts in Canada Available ON LINE

In Consultation with the instructor students are required to select a topic under the general topic headings of 24th Feb -6th April and to research their own sources with guidance from the instructor.