
HUMAN RIGHTS

Department Website: <http://humanrights.uchicago.edu>

THE POZEN FAMILY CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The Pozen Family Center for Human Rights, founded in 1997 as the Human Rights Program, supports innovative, interdisciplinary teaching and research projects that explore the theory and practice of human rights. The Pozen Center advances the global study of human rights through:

- A rigorous liberal arts curriculum that combines humanities and social sciences perspectives and analysis with practice-oriented teaching;
- Research initiatives that bring together faculty and students from across the University to address the challenges of human rights in a global world of diverse histories, politics, religions, and cultures;
- Programs designed to enhance the University community's engagement with local, national, and international human rights issues, practices, and organizations.

The Human Rights Internship Program (<http://humanrights.uchicago.edu/internships/>) provides funded summer fellowships to College, graduate, and professional students to gain hands-on experience at host organizations around the world and in the United States. The Pozen Center also advances human rights research through grants to faculty and doctoral students that support innovative scholarship, as well as conferences and symposia. Multi-year faculty initiatives develop projects such as health and human rights, philosophical approaches to labor rights, and changing norms of refugee protection. The Pozen Center fosters a human rights culture at the University of Chicago and in the broader community with public events (<http://humanrights.uchicago.edu/page/events/>) throughout the year. Conferences, lectures, workshops, performances, and exhibitions bring scholars and practitioners from around the world to explore human rights in theory and practice.

HUMAN RIGHTS CURRICULUM

The Human Rights Curriculum (<https://humanrights.uchicago.edu/page/curriculum/>) includes the Human Rights in World Civilizations core sequence, a Human Rights Major (<https://humanrights.uchicago.edu/students/undergraduate-opportunities/human-rights-major/>), a Human Rights Minor (<https://humanrights.uchicago.edu/collegeminor/>), an introduction to international human rights law and practice, a course preparing students to do human rights fieldwork, a Spring Human Rights in Paris Study Abroad program (<https://study-abroad.uchicago.edu/programs/vienna-human-rights/>), and a variety of elective courses with distinct disciplinary, thematic, and/or regional perspectives.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN WORLD CIVILIZATIONS

HMRT 10100 (<http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/search/?P=HMRT%2010100>) Human Rights in World Civilizations I and HMRT 10200 (<http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/search/?P=HMRT%2010200>) Human Rights in World Civilizations II is a two-quarter Civilizations sequence that explores the essential concepts and history of human rights at the global, national, and local levels, while exposing students to their contested genealogies, limits, and silences. The sequence is primary source driven and discussion based, with readings drawn from a range of texts in law, philosophy, history, anthropology, literature, film and visual art. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses must be taken in sequence.

MAJOR IN HUMAN RIGHTS

The Human Rights major explores the theory and practice of human rights. It is an interdisciplinary major that approaches human rights as a worldly topic through a variety of disciplinary lenses. Students examine fundamental conceptual issues around human rights through a variety of disciplinary perspectives in courses from the arts and humanities to the law and the social and biological sciences, engaging with the problematics of human rights practice to formulate their own critical perspectives on human rights as a field of knowledge. The major offers a unique opportunity at the University of Chicago for students to integrate theory with practice with its strong experiential focus. It also connects majors with unique research opportunities, for example, through partnerships with the Global Human Rights Clinic at the Law School, as well as homegrown human rights projects housed at the Pozen Center.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete a total of 12 courses (1100 units):

- HMRT 24823 International Human Rights Law and Practice
- HMRT 23921 Human Rights Field Work
- One foundational course in the Humanities
- One foundational course in the Social Sciences

- Six electives (four grouped in a topical stream)
- Two-Quarter BA Thesis Workshop *or* Practice Capstone Workshop

Students are also required to undertake a human rights fieldwork experience and to complete a BA thesis or capstone project.

HMRT 24823 International Human Rights Law and Practice

This course introduces students to the legal architecture of international human rights law. While the legal framing of rights emphasizes universality and the common good, its application reflects the historical compromises and political uncertainties of the times. This course will explore the tensions that are produced when politics meets "the law" and examine the issues, actors, doctrines, and practices that make up the human rights project. Students are required to complete this course in Autumn Quarter of their third year.

HMRT 23921 Human Rights Field Work

This course prepares students to relate the academic study of human rights to human rights practice. It provides training in human rights monitoring, analysis, the use of public information and records, effective storytelling in human rights advocacy, effective interview techniques, stakeholder mapping, and working with legal documents. Importantly, this course will also address the "ethics" side of field work, including principles of do no harm as well as self-care, which is so critical to human rights work. Students are required to take this course before completing their human rights field experience, which is usually undertaken over the Summer Quarter of their third year.

Foundational Courses

Foundational courses are designed to introduce students to key disciplinary, cross-disciplinary, and methodological approaches to the study of human rights. Students will take one foundational course in the humanities (HUM) and one foundational course in the social sciences (SS). Students may petition to use courses in the Human Rights in Paris Study Abroad program to meet the humanities and social sciences foundational requirement. They may also petition to use HMRT 10100-10200 Human Rights in World Civilizations I-II (if they do not use it to meet their general education requirement in civilization studies). Foundational courses can also be used to satisfy elective requirements, but only if they are not used to satisfy the foundational course requirement.

HMRT 21002 Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations (HUM)

HMRT 20200 Human Rights: History and Theory (SS)

HMRT 26200 Human Rights: An Anthropological Perspective (SS)

HMRT 21400 Health and Human Rights (HUM or SS)

HMRT 24638 Global Challenges to Human Rights (HUM or SS)

Elective Courses

Elective courses are designed to allow students to develop expertise in particular human rights topics or issues. Any HMRT-designated course satisfies an elective requirement. However, students must choose four of their six elective courses from within a single stream. This is intended to provide a depth and coherence to the selection of electives. You can find on the Pozen Center website (<https://humanrights.uchicago.edu/courses/>) which stream each HMRT-designated course is in. Note that students may also petition to create their own topical stream of elective courses. Streams include:

Human Rights in Theory

Courses that explore the theoretical foundations of human rights, including topics such as the relation of human rights to justice, the state, and law, or the role of human dignity and the concept of the human being. Sample courses include Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights, Advanced Topics in the Philosophy of Human Rights, Anti-Colonial Thought, and Justice at Work. Courses in this stream are marked (Theory) on the Pozen Center website.

Human Rights in Crisis

Courses that explore emerging "crises" in both the theory and practice of human rights, including rising authoritarianism and the erosion of democracy, climate crisis and human rights, or refugee crises. Sample courses include: Migrant, Refugee, and Citizen, Militant Democracy and the Preventative State, and The Politics of Law: Human Rights in Crisis. Courses in this stream are marked (Crisis) on the Pozen Center website.

Human Rights in Context

Courses that explore human rights by contextualizing them either historically or regionally. Sample courses include Human Rights in Mexico, Human Rights in the Middle East, Cold War Human Rights, American Legal

History, or The History of LGBTQ Rights. Courses in this stream are marked (Context) on the Pozen Center website.

Human Rights in Transition

Courses that explore questions of transitional justice, and post-conflict conditions, including peace and reconciliation, memorialization, and reparations. Sample courses include Ethnic Conflict in Comparative Perspective, Reimagining Justice: The Chicago Police Torture Memorial, or Challenging Transitional Justice. Courses in this stream are marked (Transition) on the Pozen Center website.

The Right to Have Rights

Courses that focus on exclusion and new and emerging regimes of rights, including the claims of immigrant rights, indigenous rights, gender and sexual rights, and the rights of incarcerated persons. Sample courses include Incarceration and Justice, Indigenous Rights and Capitalism, and The Transnational Migration Regime. Courses in this stream are marked (R2HR) on the Pozen Center website.

Human Rights Field Experience

In addition to required coursework, all majors will undertake either a human rights field or research experience.

Field Experience

For a field experience, Human Rights Majors apply for a Human Rights Internship usually during Autumn Quarter of their third year as part of a cohort. Over the summer between third and fourth years, they intern with a human rights partner organization that offers strong learning opportunities and practical experience doing human rights work. Relevant organizations include international human rights NGOs, locally based NGOs, government bodies, and think tanks. Together the host organization and student, with the guidance of Pozen Center faculty and staff, establish Learning Agreements for each placement. The host organization and student complete two evaluations over the course of the placement. At the end of the internship the student writes a reflection on their experience and in Winter Quarter of their fourth year, presents about their internship work at the Pozen Internship Symposium. A list of current partnerships is available on the Pozen Center website.

Research Experience

Students may also satisfy this requirement by enrolling in the rigorous Summer Institute in Social Research Methods, provided they work with a professor on human rights related topics, or through a Quad Undergraduate Research Grant that supports their work on a human rights research project with a professor.

BA Thesis or BA Practice Capstone Project

Two tracks are available to fourth-year students: the BA Thesis Track and the BA Practice Capstone Track.

BA Thesis Track

Students on the BA Thesis Track write a BA Thesis that involves human rights. The student must find a supervisor for their thesis in Spring Quarter of third year, submitting a thesis proposal signed by their supervisor to the Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies by the end of the Spring Quarter. In Autumn and Winter Quarters of their fourth year, the students must enroll in the Human Rights BA Thesis Workshop. This is a workshop which meets once a week, where students will receive research training, attend panels, and share their evolving thesis research with their peers and the workshop's instructor. For students who are double majoring in a major with a thesis workshop, the student may petition to have this workshop count for satisfying the BA workshop requirement, provided the thesis involves human rights.

Practice Capstone Project Track

The Practice Capstone Track is available only by application, to be submitted in Spring Quarter of Year 3 to the Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies. Students will enroll in the Practice Capstone Workshop, which meets weekly. Under the supervision of the workshop instructor, the students on the Practice Capstone Track will either continue their engagement with the organization where they have their field experience, or with some other ongoing human rights project, over the course of their fourth year. They will engage in intensive human rights field research and learn how to marshal this research to engage in advocacy in various modes from writing reports, to op-eds, or multimedia projects. This will culminate in a written document that may take various forms under the supervision of the Practice Capstone Workshop instructor.

General Education

It is recommended but not required that students who major in Human Rights take HMRT 10100 Human Rights in World Civilizations I and HMRT 10200 Human Rights in World Civilizations II to fulfill their general education requirement in civilization studies.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR IN HUMAN RIGHTS

HMRT 24823	International Human Rights Law and Practice	100
HMRT 23921	Human Rights Field Work	100
One foundational course in the Humanities		100
One foundational course in the Social Sciences		100
Six electives (four grouped in a stream)		600
Two quarters of BA Thesis Workshop or Practice Capstone Workshop		100
BA Thesis or Practice Capstone Project		
Human Rights Field Experience		
Total Units		1100

GRADING

Students who are majoring or minoring in Human Rights must receive quality grades in courses taken to meet the requirements of the program.

HONORS

Eligibility for honors requires a GPA of 3.5 or higher overall and in each of the courses taken to meet the requirements of the program, and a BA Thesis or Practice Capstone Project that is judged to merit honors by the project's faculty supervisor.

ADVISING

Majors should plan their course of studies in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Ben Laurence (benlaurence@uchicago.edu). There is no application for entry to the major, although one must apply by the Spring Quarter of third year to do the Practice Capstone Track. All majors must sign up for the hrundergrads@lists.uchicago.edu list, the main channel of communication for those pursuing a degree in human rights to receive information.

DOUBLE MAJORING

Double majoring in human rights is permitted. The same courses may be used to satisfy the requirements for both majors. Furthermore, students may petition to substitute the BA thesis workshop of their other major for the Human Rights BA Thesis Workshop, provided their thesis involves human rights.

MINOR IN HUMAN RIGHTS

College students in any field of study may complete a minor in Human Rights. The minor is an interdisciplinary plan of study that provides students the opportunity to become familiar with the theoretical, historical, and comparative perspectives on human rights. The flexibility of this course of study complements majors in any of the disciplines. A minor in Human Rights will provide a background for graduate study in many disciplines or for careers that incorporate human rights analysis or advocacy, including medicine, law, film-making, social work, public policy, teaching, journalism, or government service.

The Human Rights minor requires a total of 500 units (five courses), including:

1. One introductory course. Choose from one of the following:

HMRT 21002	Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations	100
HMRT 23921	Human Rights Field Work	100
HMRT 24823	International Human Rights Law and Practice	100
HMRT 24638	Global Challenges to Human Rights	100
HMRT 21400	Health and Human Rights	100

Or any course in the Human Rights in Paris Study Abroad program: HMRT 20101, HMRT 20201, HMRT 20301

2. Four approved Human Rights (HMRT) courses or cross-listed courses.

It is recommended but not required that students who minor in Human Rights take HMRT 10100-10200 Human Rights in World Civilizations I-II to fulfill their general education requirement in civilization studies.

Summary of Requirements for the Minor in Human Rights

One of the following:		100
HMRT 21002	Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations	
HMRT 23921	Human Rights Field Work	
HMRT 24823	International Human Rights Law and Practice	
HMRT 24638	Global Challenges to Human Rights	
HMRT 21400	Health and Human Rights	

Or any course in the Human Rights in Paris Study Abroad program: HMRT 20101, HMRT 20201, HMRT 20301

Four approved HMRT courses or cross-listed courses	400
Total Units	500

To apply for the minor, students must receive the Pozen Center Executive Director's approval on the Consent to Complete a Minor Program (https://humanities-web.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/college-prod/s3fs-public/documents/Consent_Minor_Program.pdf) form obtained from their College adviser or online. This form must then be returned to the College adviser by the end of Spring Quarter of the student's third year.

Courses in the minor program may not be (1) double counted with the student's major(s) or with other minors or (2) counted toward general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades, and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

HUMAN RIGHTS COURSES

HMRT 10100-10200. Human Rights in World Civilizations I-II.

This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses must be taken in sequence.

HMRT 10100. Human Rights in World Civilizations I. 100 Units.

The first quarter begins with a set of conceptual problems and optics designed to introduce students to the critical study of human rights, opening up questions of the universal, human dignity, and the political along with the practices of witness and testimony. It is followed by two thematic clusters. "Anti-Slavery, Humanitarianism, and Rights" focuses on the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries to historicize notions of dignity, sympathy, and witness. "Declarations as a Human Rights Genre" examines revolutionary eighteenth-century rights declarations in France, the United States, and Haiti against the aspirations of the 1948 UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Instructor(s): B. Laurence, A. Wang, Staff Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses must be taken in sequence.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 24900

HMRT 10200. Human Rights in World Civilizations II. 100 Units.

Four thematic clusters structure the second quarter. "Migration, Minorities, and Refugees" examines minority rights, the evolution of legal norms around refugees, and human trafficking. "Late Twentieth Century Human Rights Talk" explores the contestations between rights claims in the political-civil and socio-economic spheres, calls for sexual rights, and cultural representations of human rights abuses. "Global Justice" considers forms of international criminal law, transitional justice, and distributive justice. "Indigenous Rights as Human Rights" takes up the relatively new domain of the rights of indigenous peoples and how they relate to contemporary human rights practice.

Instructor(s): B. Laurence, A. Wang, N. Gonzalez, Staff Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): SOSC 24900

Note(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses must be taken in sequence; students must have taken SOSC 24900 to enroll in this course.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 24901

HMRT 12120. Population Control: A Global History of Demographic Politics in Modern China and Beyond. 100 Units.

Are there too many people in the world? Are there too few? Is human reproduction a right, a duty, or an interest? This course offers essential insights into the historical and ongoing dynamics of population control, economic inequality, and shifting global demographics. As modern population growth accelerated during the Industrial Revolution due to falling infant mortality rates, longer life expectancies, and increased migration, governments began to formulate policies to manage populations by restricting human reproduction and movement. Today, while concerns over overpopulation remain in some contexts, many parts of the world are now grappling with a fertility crisis. Declining birth rates have become a pressing issue, raising urgent questions about aging populations, shrinking workforces, and the sustainability of economic and social systems. China holds a unique position in demography and politics. The central governments in China, from the Qing Empire to the PRC, implemented a variety of population policies, some of them most extreme in human history, notably exemplified by the "One Child Policy." Analyzing China's experiences allows us to critically assess the limits, failures, and successes of attempts by the state to predict and control demography.

Instructor(s): Zhao Fang, Xiangning Li Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 13921. Human Rights Fieldwork and Practice. 100 Units.

This course introduces students to the principles and practices of conducting research in the field of human rights. Blending theory with applied methodology, the course explores how rights are claimed, negotiated, and contested in diverse contexts-from international courts to grassroots movements. Through an interdisciplinary lens drawing on law, sociology, anthropology, and feminist and decolonial critique, students examine both the epistemological foundations and practical challenges of human rights research. Core themes include

methodological pluralism, ethics of representation, trauma-informed inquiry, and the politics of evidence. Discussions and case studies invite students to question the boundaries of the "human rights field" and to reflect critically on their positionality as emerging researchers. By the end of the course, students will have developed the skills to design, conduct, and evaluate human rights fieldwork that is analytically rigorous, ethically grounded, and socially engaged. The course culminates in the creation of a personal research manifesto articulating each student's scholarly and ethical commitments as a practitioner in the field.

Terms Offered: Summer

HMRT 20035. Graphic Design and Social Movements. 100 Units.

Posters, publications, social media graphics, handbills, and other graphic materials have long played a role in sustaining and shaping social movements. In this course, which is part studio class and part discussion, we will discuss the role of graphic design in building collective identity for social movements, with a particular focus on the labor movement. Students will identify artifacts from contemporary or past social movements and use them as the basis for writing and designing a small publication.

Instructor(s): Danielle Aubert Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 20035, ARTV 20036, ENGL 20035

HMRT 20101-20201-20301. Human Rights in Paris: HMRT 20101, HMRT 20201, HMRT 20301.

Human Rights in Paris

HMRT 20101. Human Rights, Empire, and Postcolonial Politics. 100 Units.

This class focuses on the history and theory of human rights by considering it as a quintessentially postcolonial political form. Dialoguing with histories of imperialism, we consider how the genealogies of colonial rule intersect and interact with trajectories of political modernity after the formal end of empire. Empirically, the class focuses on the histories and presents of India and South Africa, as exemplary cases of countries that underwent processes of constitutional decolonization. Thus, rights have a foundational place in both polities. What does that mean? How does that create openings for the imaginations and instantiations of socially transformative policies? How does it lead to the endurance of traces and aspects of colonial government? What are the promises and limits of rights as we consider them in such historical and political contexts? In the process, how does our thinking and conceptualization of rights, imperialism and postcolonial political modernity, and the relationship between them, itself come to be at stake?

Instructor(s): Kaushik Sunder Rajan Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 20201. Human Rights and Great Power after Total War and Genocide. 100 Units.

This class focuses on the history and theory of human rights by considering it as a quintessentially postcolonial political form. We consider how genealogies of human rights intersect and interact with trajectories of colonial rule and postcolonial politics. In the process, the question of rights itself comes to be posed afresh. Empirically, the class focuses on the histories and presents of India and South Africa. Both these countries underwent processes of constitutional decolonization. Thus, rights have a foundational place in both postcolonial polities. What does that mean? How does that create openings for the imaginations and instantiations of socially transformative policies? How does it lead to the endurance of traces and aspects of colonial government? What are the promises and limits of rights as we consider them in such historical and political contexts? In what ways are political struggles in these countries marked as being both for and against rights? In the process, how does our thinking and conceptualization of rights itself come to be at stake?

Instructor(s): James Sparrow Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 20301. Loot, Empire and the Decolonial: Human Rights and the Politics of Cultural Restitution. 100 Units.

Who owns culture and where do cultural objects belong? This course explores the cultural politics of the growing movement in the global South demanding the return of objects now housed in Western museums that are the legacies of looting and the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage under 19th and 20th century imperial regimes. We will examine the larger historical, human rights and ethical issues underlying movements for cultural restitution by examining critical cases involving African, Greek and Cambodian cultural heritage looted during the colonial era and now housed at the Musée du Quai Branly and Musée Guimet in Paris, the British Museum in London and the Humboldt Forum in Berlin. Along with classroom readings and discussion, we will meet curators, policymakers, scholars and activists who are actively involved in the contemporary politics of cultural restitution. Museum visits in Paris will be supplemented a short field trip to London (and perhaps Berlin) to better appreciate the transnational dimensions of movements for repatriating cultural heritage.

Instructor(s): Mark Bradley Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 20116. Global-Local Politics. 100 Units.

Globalizing and local forces are generating a new politics in the United States and around the world. This course explores this new politics by mapping its emerging elements: the rise of social issues, ethno-religious and regional attachments, environmentalism, gender and life-style identity issues, new social movements, transformed political parties and organized groups, and new efforts to mobilize individual citizens.

Instructor(s): T. Clark Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): GEOG 30116, SOCI 20116, PBPL 27900, HMRT 30116, SOCI 30116, LLSO 20116, GEOG 20116

HMRT 20200. Human Rights: History and Theory. 100 Units.

This course is concerned with the theory and the historical evolution of the modern human rights regime. It discusses the emergence of a modern "human rights" culture as a product of the formation and expansion of the system of nation-states and the concurrent rise of value-driven social mobilizations. It proceeds to discuss human rights in two prevailing modalities. First, it explores rights as protection of the body and personhood and the modern, Western notion of individualism. Second, it inquires into rights as they affect groups (e.g., ethnicities and, potentially, transnational corporations) or states.

Instructor(s): Savitri Kunze, Pozen Center for Human Rights Social Science Teaching Fellow Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): INRE 31700, HIST 29302, HIST 39302, HMRT 30200

HMRT 20204. Democratic Declension and the Power of Historical Narrative. 100 Units.

This course will examine the power of historical narratives in framing and resisting democratic decline.

Instructor(s): Jane Dailey Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 20205. Paris Between the Wars: Creative Research, Migration, and the Avant-Garde. 100 Units.

In this creative research course, students will be keeping an in-depth notebook as we make our way through archives, historic sites, museums, and the streets of the city. In the years between the two world wars, Paris was a clash of forces, memories, celebrations and dread. The people making their way through the city found brilliant and idiosyncratic creative research methods. There were American jazz musicians and novelists who had fought in the war or who were escaping Jim Crow at home; German intellectuals who had begun to leave Germany; denizens of fallen empires at work on the United Nations and Red Cross internationalism; French booksellers who supported refugee books and writers; designers of the Colonial Exposition of 1931 forging a new imperial vision; Surrealist poets, collage artists, and photographers with nightmares at once commemorative and predictive. As we develop our own methods, we'll read snippets from Walter Benjamin's Archives Project, from the memoirs of Victor Serge, Adrienne Monnier, Sylvia Beach, Ada "Bricktop" Smith, Ernest Hemingway, Stefan Zweig, Paul Éluard, George Orwell and others, we'll study art at the Pompidou Center and the Musée de l'Art Moderne, and we'll explore the Historical Library of the City of Paris, the Museum of the Préfecture de Police, the streets around Montmartre, and the Bois de Vincennes in search of traces of the avant-garde migrants who passed through these places and the research they left us.

Instructor(s): Rachel Cohen Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 20401. Speaking Law to "War" 100 Units.

What are the key legal principles that govern the conduct of war and protect human rights? The concept of Speaking Law to War addresses the interface and perhaps even more, struggle, disguise and tension between law and power. This course will examine doctrines on the rightfulness of waging war, on who can declare war, and on the manner in which it is to be waged as these relate to contemporary norms and debates within international law.

Instructor(s): Kathleen Cavanaugh Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 21001. Human Rights: Contemporary Issues. 100 Units.

This course examines basic human rights norms and concepts and selected contemporary human rights problems from across the globe, including human rights implications of the COVID pandemic. Beginning with an overview of the present crises and significant actors on the world stage, we will then examine the political setting for the United Nations' approval of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in 1948. The post-World War 2 period was a period of optimism and fertile ground for the establishment of a universal rights regime, given the defeat of fascism in Europe. International jurists wanted to establish a framework of rights that went beyond the nation-state, taking into consideration the partitions of India-Pakistan and Israel-Palestine - and the rising expectations of African-Americans in the U.S. and colonized peoples across Africa and Asia. But from the beginning, there were basic contradictions in a system of rights promulgated by representatives of nation-states that ruled colonial regimes, maintained de facto and de jure systems of racial discrimination, and imprisoned political dissidents and journalists. Cross-cutting themes of the course include the universalism of human rights, problems of impunity and accountability, notions of "exceptionalism," and the emerging issue of the "shamelessness" of authoritarian regimes. Students will research a human rights topic of their choosing, to be presented as either a final research paper or a group presentation.

Instructor(s): Susan Gzesh, Senior Lecturer, (The College) Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter

Equivalent Course(s): CHST 21001, LLSO 21001, DEMS 21001, LACS 21001, SOSC 21001, HIST 29304

HMRT 21002. Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations. 100 Units.

In this class we explore the philosophical foundations of human rights, investigating theories of how our shared humanity in the context of an interdependent world gives rise to obligations of justice. We begin by asking what rights are, how they are distinguished from other part of morality, and what role they play in our social and political life. But rights come in many varieties, and we are interested in human rights in particular. In later weeks, we will ask what makes something a human right, and how are human rights different from other kinds of rights. We will consider a number of contemporary philosophers who attempt to answer this question, including James Griffin, Charles Beitz, Joseph Raz, Jiewuh Song, Pablo Gilabert, and Martha Nussbaum. Throughout we will be asking questions such as, "What makes something a human right?" "What role does

human dignity play in grounding our human rights?" "Are human rights historical?" "What role does the nation and the individual play in our account of human rights?" "When can one nation legitimately intervene in the affairs of another nation?" "How can we respect the demands of justice while also respecting cultural difference?" "How do human rights relate to global inequality and markets?" (A)

Instructor(s): Ben Laurence, Pozen Center for Human Rights Instructional Professor Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 29319, INRE 31602, MAPH 42002, PHIL 31002, HIST 39319, PHIL 21002, DEMS 21002, HMRT 31002

HMRT 21005. Militant Democracy and the Preventative State. 100 Units.

Are states of exception still exceptional? The current debates and developments as well as the existential governmental crises has led to a securitization of rights. State security discourse narrates how states understand and mediate their legal obligations and has been used to justify pre-emptive actions and measures which otherwise would not fit within an international law framework. When narrated in the public square, States often construct a discourse around a necessity defence-measures that may be extra-legal but argued to be necessary to protect democratic values and the democratic 'way of life.' This typifies what we refer to as 'militant democratic' language of the 'preventive state' and has been most visible in the raft of antiterrorism measures that were introduced after the events of September 11, 2001 and remain to date. This course will examine the impact of militant democracy and the preventative state on the current human rights landscape. It will look specifically how the narrative of prevention and protection has impacted normative changes to fundamental human rights and how the permanence of emergency is beginning to give the concept of 'securitization of rights' legal legs.

Instructor(s): Kathleen Cavanaugh, Senior Lecturer, Executive Director, Pozen Center for Human Rights Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 31005, DEMS 21005, PLSC 21005

HMRT 21007. The Politics of Human Rights Law. 100 Units.

In contrast to the notion that international law is a 'stable set of normative demands opposed to international politics,' it is 'better understood as an aspect of hegemonic contestation, a technique of articulating political claims in terms of legal rights and duties' (Koskeniemi 2004:197). As a hegemonic technique, law is a surface over which political struggles are waged, reflecting back the political uncertainties of the time. That international law is situated within, not apart from political realities is not in question and before we can begin to explain universal international law, we must first clarify 'what or whose view of international law is meant' (199). This course challenges a traditional reading of international law by examining the politics of law. Specific attention will be paid to the interface between emergency powers and international law. When are international law principles relevant? What guidance or constraints does international law impose on emergency powers? What is the relationship between national and international control mechanisms? How do international law mechanisms supervise or monitor the exercise of emergency powers-from the "global war on terror" to Covid19-- and how effective are they? The course will provide students with a toolkit to [re]conceptualise international law in order to better understand the hegemonic contestation over the rights-based discourse.

Instructor(s): Kathleen Cavanaugh, Senior Lecturer, Pozen Center for Human Rights Terms Offered: Autumn

HMRT 21008. Policing Life. 100 Units.

Policing Life This course explores the historical and contemporary uses of police forces by various states to control and criminalize racialized populations, minority groups, and social movements in diverse geographical regions. By examining multiple histories of violence, occupation, and domination by police forces, students will delve into societal challenges that continue to affect everyday life. The course will also examine how the deployment of police forces, as part of a wave of punitive approaches that have gained popularity in many democratic nations in recent years, disrupts the social fabric of societies, establishes hierarchies, reinforces inequality, and facilitates the criminalization of dissent.

Instructor(s): Maria Aguilar Velasquez Terms Offered: Autumn

HMRT 21010. Global Spice Trade Histories: Migration, Foodways and Empire. 100 Units.

This project-based course on the global history of the spice trade seeks to disentangle and reweave the culinary, economic and political threads that hold the trade's 3500-year histories in place. It will focus on creative forms of visual mapping and more traditional research methodologies to capture the imperial and economic intersections linking the historical movement of spices and contemporary foodways with human migrations. Student projects will include hands on work in various sites of spice history in Paris and elsewhere in Western Europe, including botanical gardens, markets, restaurants, libraries and archives. The course and its method are in part informed by co-instructor visual artist Tiffany Chung's ongoing project on spices.

HMRT 21011. Paris Between the Wars: Creative Research, Migration, and the Avant Garde. 100 Units.

In this creative research course, students will be keeping an in-depth notebook as we make our way through archives, historic sites, museums, and the streets of the city. In the years between the two world wars, Paris was a clash of forces, memories, celebrations and dread. The people making their way through the city found brilliant and idiosyncratic creative research methods. There were American jazz musicians and novelists who had fought in the war or who were escaping Jim Crow at home; German intellectuals who had begun to leave Germany; denizens of fallen empires at work on the United Nations and Red Cross internationalism; French booksellers who supported refugee books and writers; designers of the Colonial Exposition of 1931 forging a new imperial vision; Surrealist poets, collage artists, and photographers with nightmares at once commemorative and predictive. As we develop our own methods, we'll read snippets from Walter Benjamin's Archives Project, from

the memoirs of Victor Serge, Adrienne Monnier, Sylvia Beach, Ada "Bricktop" Smith, Ernest Hemingway, Stefan Zweig, Paul Éluard, George Orwell and others, we'll study art at the Pompidou Center and the Musée de l'Art Moderne, and we'll explore the Historical Library of the City of Paris, the Museum of the Préfecture de Police, the streets around Montmartre, and the Bois de Vincennes in search of traces of the avant-garde migrants who passed through these places and the research they left us.

HMRT 21012. International Law & Its Others. 100 Units.

The universalist project of human rights is often defined and institutionalized through the medium of international law. This course examines international law from the standpoint of the colonized and neocolonial subject, highlighting the contradictions of how international law has served both as an instrument of subjugation as well as a vehicle for emancipatory demands.

Instructor(s): Darryl Li Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 21013. Corporatism and Human Rights. 100 Units.

This course will think through the relationship between corporatism and human rights. This considers, most immediately, the field of business and human rights, which includes attempts at strategic litigation and advocacy to hold corporations accountable for human rights violations. More substantively, however, it interrogates the meanings and histories of "Corporatism" itself, as a relation of production and a mode of governance. What is the relationship between corporatism and capitalism? How is it implicated in histories of colonization and empire? How might we think about the relations between corporatism and constitutionality, in the US and elsewhere? And, what are the future horizons of corporatism and its implications for rights, especially in the context of the consolidating hegemonies of Big Tech?

Instructor(s): Kaushik Sunder Rajan Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 31017, HMRT 31013, ANTH 21016

HMRT 21014. Religion, State and Multiculturalism. 100 Units.

Religious minorities are seeking accommodations in a variety of forms: exemptions (kosher and halal regulations); recognition (representation quotas); assistance (subsidies, museums); self-government (schools, religious courts, territorial sovereignty) and more. Drawing on the rich experience of countries where such accommodations were granted, the course will inquire into the legitimacy and problems associated with such accommodations. In doing so, the course will draw on modern theories of multiculturalism and religion and state designs. Principal topics will include: Liberal multiculturalism, theory and practice; Group accommodations in a democracy; A survey of religious groups and illiberal practices; Traditional schemes of religious accommodations, with special reference to the Ottoman millet system; The reality of religious accommodations in Western democracies (United States, Canada, France, United Kingdom, Germany); The reality of religious accommodations in the Middle East and South East Asia, with special reference to Israel; the problem of minorities within minorities; essentialism, secularism in divided communities and reform movements.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 31014

HMRT 21016. The Right to Have Rights: Arendt, Ambedkar and Du Bois. 100 Units.

The course engages with three formidable thinkers of the early and mid-twentieth century—W. E. B. Du Bois, B. R. Ambedkar, and Hannah Arendt. The purpose of this course is to understand how these three thinkers raised fundamental questions about the philosophical and anthropological idea of humanity. These questions allowed them to transcend their contexts and to reflect on the lives of those represented as the "other." This global concern addresses the suffering and pain present in human society and the capacity of human beings to move beyond their specific contexts toward a shared understanding of human fulfillment, articulated in the form of human rights and related values. We will explore the role of humanity and the human being in each of their thought and the way in which their reflections on humanity allowed them to develop, challenge, and critique political values. By staging this dialogue between three great thinkers, operating across the color line, and the global north and south, we will enrich and complicate narratives about 20th century universalism.

Instructor(s): Kumud Ranjan Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 31016

HMRT 21025. Creating a Different Image: Black Women's Filmmaking of the 1970s-90s. 100 Units.

This course will explore the rich intersections between African American women's filmmaking, literary production, and feminist thought from the 1970s to the early 1990s, with an emphasis on the formation of a Black women's film culture beginning in the 1970s. We will examine the range of Black feminisms presented through film and the ways that these films have challenged, countered, and reimagined dominant narratives about race, class, gender, and sexuality in America. We will explore the power and limitations of filmmaking as a mode of Black feminist activism; the range of Black feminisms presented through film; and the specific filmic engagements of well-known Black feminist critics such as bell hooks, Toni Cade Bambara, and Michele Wallace. As many Black feminist writers were engaged with filmmaking and film culture, we will look at these films alongside Black women's creative and critical writing from the period. Approaching filmmaking in the context of Black feminist thought will allow us to examine the possibilities of interdisciplinary approaches to film studies broadly, as well as to think specifically about the research methods and theories that are demanded by Black women's filmmaking in particular.

Instructor(s): Allyson Field Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): This course is open to graduate and undergraduate students from across the disciplines; our conversations and presentations of the films will both depend on and be energized by different disciplinary perspectives.

Note(s): Not offered in 2024-25. Please email Professor Field at anfield@uchicago.edu before enrolling. **Course Description Continued:** We will discuss the form, aesthetics, and politics of individual films and we will examine larger efforts by artists and activists to build a Black women's film culture, asking such questions as: What does a film history of Black feminism look like, and what scholarly and creative methods does such a history demand? To begin to answer these questions, we will revisit the 1976 Sojourner Truth Festival of the Arts—believed to be the first ever Black women's film festival—organized by Michele Wallace, Faith Ringgold, Patricia Jones, Margo Jefferson, and Monica Freeman. The class will collectively participate in a homage series inspired by the 1976 festival, featuring work by filmmakers from the original festival such as Monica Freeman, Madeline Anderson, Michelle Parkerson, Ayoka Chenzira, Carol Munday Lawrence, Edie Lynch, and Camille Billops; as well as others including Julie Dash, Zeinabu irene Davis, Maya Angelou, and Yvonne Welbon. The weekly course screenings will be open to the public and students will gain experience in the public presentation of films by actively engaging in public-facing aspects of film exhibition (writing program notes, delivering introductions, participating in discussions, etc.). The class will culminate with a two-day symposium that will bring together around 35 Black feminist filmmakers and artists, including a number from the 1976 festival, to revisit the threads and legacies of the original event and discuss the present and future of Black women's film practices.

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 37415, CMST 21025, HMRT 31025, GNSE 20128, HIST 27415, KNOW 31025, CMST 31025, GNSE 30128

HMRT 21400. Health and Human Rights. 100 Units.

This course attempts to define health and health care in the context of human rights theory and practice. Does a "right to health" include a "right to health care"? We delineate health care financing in the United States and compare these systems with those of other nations. We explore specific issues of health and medical practice as they interface in areas of global conflict: torture, landmines, and poverty. Readings and discussions explore social determinants of health: housing, educational institutions, employment, and the fraying of social safety nets. We study vulnerable populations: foster children, refugees, and the mentally ill. Lastly, does a right to health include a right to pharmaceuticals? What does the big business of drug research and marketing mean for our own country and the world?

Instructor(s): R. Sherer, E. Lyon **Terms Offered:** Winter

Equivalent Course(s): MEDC 60405, HLTH 21400, HMRT 31400

HMRT 21501. Theory and Practice in Environmental Organizing and Activism. 100 Units.

This course explores how organizations—civic, private, governmental—working in the field of environmental advocacy construct, deploy and are shaped by distinct discourses governing relationships between nature and society. The environment is a field of social action in which organizations attempt to effect change in large domains like resource conservation, access, stewardship, and a basic right to environmental quality in everyday life. The work of effecting change in these complex domains can assume a variety of forms including public policy (through the agencies of the state), private enterprise (through the agency of the market), 'third sector' advocacy (through the agency of nonprofit organizations) and social activism (through the agency of social movements and community organizations). State, market, civil society and social movement organizations are where ideas are transmitted from theory to practice and back again in a recursive, dialectical process. These contrasting forms of organization have different histories, wellsprings and degrees of social power. Moreover, they bring different epistemologies to their claims about being legitimate custodians of nature—that is to say they can be understood genealogically. As such, organizations working to effect environment change are at once animated by and constitutive of distinct discourses governing the relationships between nature and society. The course explores how those distinct discourses are associated with a suite of different organizational realms of social action; the goal is trying to connect the dots between discursive formations and organizational forms.

Instructor(s): Mary Beth Pudup **Terms Offered:** Winter

Equivalent Course(s): SSAD 41501, SSAD 21501, RDIN 21501, GLST 21501, CEGU 21501, CEGU 31501

HMRT 21648. Languages of Migration: Literature, Law, and Language Justice. 100 Units.

For decades, human rights activists and lawmakers in the United States have been fighting for a person's right to speak their native language before the law, implying that language justice could be achieved through the use of interpreters. At the same time, a new generation of poets and fiction writers has been exercising alternative approaches to language justice, shifting the focus from speakers to listeners, and from the legal to the personal. This course brings these seemingly separate discourses into conversation in an attempt to trace the assumptions that undergird different formulations of language justice in the late 20th century and 21st century. Drawing on Edward Said's *The Public Role of Writers and Intellectuals*, we will examine NGO statements and immigration court hearings side by side with poetry and fiction by Monica de la Torre, Antonio Ruiz Camacho, Irena Klepfisz, Joseph Brodsky and others. As we analyze theories of identity, desire, language and responsibility and engage with thinkers such as Andrea Long Chu, Hannah Arendt and Aamir Mufti, we will consider the potential implications of bringing literature and law into conversation with one another.

Instructor(s): Yael Flusser **Terms Offered:** Spring

Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 21648, ENGL 21648

HMRT 21820. Global Justice and the Ethics of Immigration. 100 Units.

This seminar introduces urgent moral and political questions in international affairs, with a particular focus on human rights, global inequality, colonialism and decolonization, structural injustice, and immigration. Addressed ethical questions will include: How should we understand the demands of social and distributive justice beyond state borders? Are economic inequalities between countries unjust? If so, why? What do affluent countries owe to less affluent countries? Who should bear responsibility for structural and historical injustices? Is there a human right to immigrate? Do states have a right to close their borders to immigrants? Do states have a right to constrain their citizens' ability to emigrate? We will address these and other ethical questions by reading and critically assessing important texts written by leading scholars within the fields of political philosophy, postcolonial theory, legal scholarship and applied ethics. The seminar requires no prior background.

Instructor(s): C. Cordelli Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 21820

HMRT 21822. Global Political Justice. 100 Units.

This course investigates what justice requires in terms of collective decision-making institutions beyond state borders. Should international or transnational political, economic, and military decisions be made more democratically? What would that mean? Would that be objectionably "neo-colonial"? Should institutions be constrained to satisfy principles of national self-determination? Do states have obligations to sacrifice their own interests to support more inclusive transnational decision-making? Or does international conflict make political integration too dangerous? We will explore theoretical frameworks in contemporary political philosophy to address these questions, and study applied problems of global political justice including anti-imperialism, humanitarian intervention, and global constitutionalism.

Instructor(s): J. Wilson Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): Final project/paper

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 31822, DEMS 31822, PLSC 21822, LLSO 31822

HMRT 21899. The Politics of International Migration. 100 Units.

This course examines the legal and political dimensions of the phenomenon of international migration: when migrants cross territorial borders and enter a state to whose citizenry they do not belong. During the first half of the course, we will ask why and how migrants move - studying theoretical explanations for population flows - and why and how receiving states try either to attract them or to keep them out. We will reflect on the intersection of inequality and migration by critically examining how different groups of people on the move are categorized in different ways (e.g., as high or low-skilled workers, refugees, "illegal" immigrants, asylum-seekers) and, as a consequence, are granted different levels of territorial access and rights. We will also reflect on the human costs of policies of migration control and engage with normative debates on the ethics of borders. During the second half of the course, we will examine what happens to immigrants once they have arrived in the country of reception. Focusing on the cases of undocumented immigrants, asylum-seekers, unaccompanied children, humanitarian claimants, and families, we will ask how different groups claim rights and legal status in the host country and what challenges they encounter in the process. The class readings and lectures will mainly focus on migration to the US and Europe, but we will also briefly touch on immigration to developing countries in the Global South, which host 85% of the world's refugees.

Instructor(s): C. Galli Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): Distribution - undergrad: C

Equivalent Course(s): LLSO 29899, SOCI 20587, CHDV 21899, ANTH 21899

HMRT 21900. Subjects to Citizens: A Global History of Population Control and Migration in Modern China & Beyond. 100 Units.

Are there too many people in the world? Is human reproduction a right, a duty, or an interest? In 1798, a pamphlet titled *An Essay on the Principle of Population* was published anonymously in London. The author claimed that a growing population increases the supply of labor, inevitably lowering wages and living standards. The author warned that future improvements for humanity would be hindered if governments failed to address the issue of overpopulation. What is now known as the Malthusian Law of Population sparked continuous debate among politicians, economists, statisticians, and philosophers for over two centuries. Today, however, the global population debate has shifted. While concerns over overpopulation remain in some contexts, many parts of the world are now grappling with a fertility crisis. Declining birth rates have become a pressing issue, raising urgent questions about aging populations, shrinking workforces, and the sustainability of economic and social systems. Historically accounting for approximately one-fifth of the world's population, China holds a unique position in demography and politics. In the current landscape of falling birth rates across East Asia-affecting China, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan and rising skepticism toward globalization, this course offers essential insights into the historical and ongoing dynamics of population control, economic inequality, and shifting global demographics.

Instructor(s): Zhao Fang, Xiangning Li Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 29317, HMRT 31902, EALC 21900

HMRT 21905. Rights Under Strain: A Practicum. 100 Units.

This practicum offers an applied exploration of how anti-rights actors shape discourse, law, and public policy across Africa, and how rights-affirming advocates can respond. Students analyse the growing sophistication of anti-gender, anti-LGBTQ+, anti-democracy, and anti-sexual and reproductive health movements, examining their links to religious institutions, political elites and shifting geopolitical forces. These actors influence

legislation, coordinate disinformation, intervene in judicial processes, and promote cultural narratives that frame restrictive agendas as the defense of "tradition" or "sovereignty. Students collaborate directly with a Kenyan NGO partner and with the Leitner International Human Rights Clinic at Fordham Law School to develop research and communications outputs for live advocacy needs. Work may include comparative analyses of regional human-rights systems, technical assessments of proposals such as the African Charter on Family, Values and Sovereignty, and the creation of narrative-response materials for immediate use. Through this process, students gain experience in strategic storytelling, counter-disinformation practices, cross-border research coordination, and rights-based analysis grounded in contemporary political realities. The practicum also serves as a pathway to a competitive year-long internship that may include supervised field engagement, partnership meetings, and contributions to ongoing monitoring and advocacy efforts.

Instructor(s): Emmah Wabuke Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 31905, RLST 27905, GNSE 21908

HMRT 22040. Religion in Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and Peacemaking. 100 Units.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is arguably the most intractable political conflict at present. The conflict has been subjected to various historiographies and narrative explorations, offering often-competing explanations in an attempt to understand its origin and involvement, and also the failure of its resolution. This course explores the role of religion in the historical development of the conflict and in its contemporary manifestation, while at the same time probing the potential role of religion in the resolution of the conflict and outlining the history of attempts for religious peace-making in Israel/Palestine. Combining concrete historical analysis and intellectual history, the course will focus on the Jewish, Muslim and Christian views of the conflict and its potential resolution, relating to such themes as covenant, messianism, political theology, the sanctity of the land and the role of Jerusalem. These concepts and others will be explored against the backdrop of the concrete history of the conflict, focusing initially on the formative period of 1897-1948, pivoting to the 1967 war and its aftermath and concluding with the religionization of politics in recent decades and its far-reaching consequences.

Instructor(s): David Barak-Gorodetsky Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 24040, RLST 22040, HIST 25900

HMRT 22107. Queer Reproduction. 100 Units.

What makes reproduction queer, and how do queers reproduce? In some senses, more people than ever before have access to reproductive technologies and to family building resources. People of all genders and sexualities utilize tools to combat infertility such as in vitro fertilization, gamete donation, surrogacy, and adoption, sometimes reproducing the normative family form and other times expanding it. Kinship categories, from "diblings" (donor siblings) to house mothers, can be artifacts both of culture and of science, and reflect ways of understanding what constitutes a family and what relationships become considered family. This course asks after the many mechanisms which can be taken to foster or hinder queer reproduction, thinking through the tools for managing social and biological infertility alongside cultural anxieties about queer reproduction more broadly, as enacted through bans on queer representation in classrooms and other policies. We will consider how specific technologies emerge and are utilized among groups who identify as queer and those who do not, ask after the legacy of queerness and its association with non-procreative forms of intimacy, and map the ways that the figure of the child is always bound up with some vision of the future (of the family, the nation, or humanity itself).

Instructor(s): Paula J. Martin Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): HLTH 22107, ANTH 22107, HIPS 22107, CHDV 22107, GNSE 20164

HMRT 22123. Natural Law in the Hist of Scholastic Political Thought: Aquinas, Vitoria, Suárez, Hooker, Grotius. 100 Units.

The concept of natural law has played a central role in the history of Western political thought, and it has often been deployed in political argumentation at pivotal moments in human history, from the discovery of the New World and the American founding to the Nuremberg trials and the Civil Rights Movement. Though the doctrine has antecedents in Greek and Roman philosophers, including Plato, Aristotle, and the Stoics, it received its classic articulation in the writings of the Scholastic thinkers of the Middle Ages and early modern period. In this seminar, we will read key primary source texts in the development of natural law theory in the Scholastic age from five of the Scholastic tradition's seminal thinkers: Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), Francisco de Vitoria (1483-1546), Francisco Suárez (1548-1617), Richard Hooker (1554-1600), and Hugo Grotius (1583-1645). In reading their works, we will consider the theories of natural law they construct as well as the implications of their respective theories for political debates concerning such questions as Spanish treatment of Native Americans, religious toleration, the foundations of international law, and the origins of political authority. We will also consider questions of continuity and discontinuity between the authors and the ways in which their works reflect the historical contexts in which they were written. Throughout, we will focus on close reading and careful exegesis of the primary source texts.

Instructor(s): S. Waldorf
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 22123, RLST 27123, MDVL 22123

HMRT 22241. Human Rights Research and Writing I. 100 Units.

This course provides an introduction to human rights theory and method for students working on disciplinary or interdisciplinary BA thesis projects that examine human rights topics.

Instructor(s): Nathaniel Gonzalez, Alec Wang, Social Science Teaching Fellows Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Consent Required.

HMRT 22242. Human Rights Research and Writing II. 100 Units.

This course provides an introduction to human rights theory and method for students working on disciplinary or interdisciplinary BA thesis projects that examine human rights topics.

Instructor(s): Nathaniel Gonzalez, Alec Wang, Social Science Teaching Fellows Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Consent Required.

HMRT 22243. Human Rights Research and Writing III. 100 Units.

This course provides an introduction to human rights theory and method for students working on disciplinary or interdisciplinary BA thesis projects that examine human rights topics.

Instructor(s): Nathaniel Gonzalez, Alec Wang - Social Science Teaching Fellows Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Consent Required.

Note(s): This is a Pass/Fail class

HMRT 22310. The Political Philosophy of the Labor Movement. 100 Units.

Is the labor movement a proper subject for political philosophy? What would it be to develop a political philosophy of labor unions? In this course, we will explore the relationship of unions to class interests, to ideas of justice and solidarity, and to the critique capitalism. We will consider the contradictions that arise from the fact that unions are institutions embedded in capitalist relations of production, while simultaneously being part of a movement that contests and challenges the terms of those very relations. We will explore the idea that under certain conditions, unions can be conceived of as agents of change involved in political projects oriented to overcoming injustices related to class. Time permitting, we will also explore the complex relationship of class-based political projects to injustices of race and gender.

Instructor(s): Ben Laurence Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 33310, PHIL 22310

HMRT 22401. Impunity and Justice for Atrocity Crimes in Latin America. 100 Units.

For the past 50 years, Latin America has been gripped by a cycle of dictatorships, authoritarian governments masquerading as democracies, and armed conflicts. These have facilitated the commission of atrocity crimes. In most cases, perpetrators have evaded accountability. However, thanks to the tireless efforts of victims, civil society organizations, and the international community, a measure of justice has been achieved through various truth-seeking processes and accountability mechanisms. This course will delve into the human rights crises in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Peru, and Mexico, exploring how they led to the commission of atrocity crimes - large-scale and systematic human rights abuses, genocide and war crimes. We will examine the political, legal, and social strategies employed by human rights organizations and victims' movements to break the cycle of impunity. We will also explore the crucial role of the United Nations and the Organization of American States, highlighting the importance of intergovernmental cooperation in transforming policies and practices for the improvement of human rights on the ground.

Instructor(s): Guevara Bermudez, Jose Antonio Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): LACS 32400, LACS 22400

HMRT 22705. Contemporary Challenges to Freedom of Expression. 100 Units.

Laws, policies and practices in a range of countries -- and in select regional and international bodies -- threaten to further erode the already fragile right to freedom of expression under both international and domestic law. States' violations of the right have also produced a "chilling effect" that has created fear and uncertainty about what is protected speech, further undermining people's ability to harness various forms of expression as a means of dissent and/or protest. This survey course will be case heavy, using examples from select countries with a particular focus on developments over the last decade in North America and Europe. Topics to be addressed include the crackdown on expression in various protest movements, including the racial justice, austerity, BDS, climate justice and Palestine solidarity movements; the increasing use of national security justifications for restricting expression ("glorification"/"apology" of terrorism); big tech and online censorship; media freedom, including the case of Julian Assange; the growth in SLAPP (strategic lawsuit against public participation) and other lawsuits against journalists/media workers/nongovernmental actors; infringements on cultural and artistic forms expression; academic freedom, including the "cancellation" of specific voices within the academy; and the weaponization of freedom of expression by violent far right groups.

Instructor(s): Hall, Julia Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 22706. Beyond State Power: Margins, Borders, and Frontiers. 100 Units.

What are the fringes that erupt, resist, and reconfigure established power structures? How do they shift, befuddle and defy the authority of the State? Often, our focus is centered on the how those in power practice statecraft. This course shifts the lens to the margins, exploring how communities on the periphery engage in alternative "world-makings" that transcend the constraints of the nation-state. Through this course, we will interrogate global and imperial designs through the lives of those inhabiting wastelands, occupied/contested territories, and war-torn regions. Starting with the rise of the modern nation-state as inheritors of colonial legacies, and tracing its evolution under the neoliberal regime, this course will reveal the various frailties woven into the state structure that are exposed through these contestations. Students will engage with the revolutionary vocabularies and vernacular politics of marginalized groups as they assert their claims to land, rights, and community. By engaging with the transformative actions and narratives from the peripheries, students will gain a deeper understanding of how these communities navigate and reconfigure power dynamics beyond the reach of the state.

Instructor(s): Dasgupta, Ishani Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 23178. The Queer Enemy and the Politics of Homophobia. 100 Units.

How is the queer enemy politically constructed? And what are the uses and effects of this enemy in contemporary politics? This course investigates queer sexuality as a specific kind of threat and homophobia as a specific mode of political antagonism. Key to understanding this specificity is the examination of other kinds of political enemies. Across categories of gender, sexuality, race, religion, and empire, the course theorizes the queer enemy in a comparative perspective. Engaging scholars like Monique Wittig, Simone de Beauvoir, Frantz Fanon, and Jean Paul Sartre, we compare homophobia with other forms of political enmity like misogyny, anti-Black racism, and anti-Semitism. After investigating antagonism across categories of political difference, we delve into the specificities of homophobic antagonism in the second half of the course. Here, we explore how the queer threat is framed: through metaphors of civilizational destruction but also through anti-sodomy and anti-disclosure laws. We also trace how the normalization of the queer enemy has produced new enemies. Through notions of "Pinkwashing" and the "Gay International," we further examine how queer liberation is made to stand in for colonial domination. But we also read critiques of the "gay=colonialism" equation, asking how homophobia mediates anti-colonial politics. Finally, we conclude the course with Michel Foucault's seminal essay and relate the question of the queer enemy to the threat of new human relations.

Instructor(s): Omar Safadi Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): This course counts as a Concepts course for GNSE majors

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 23178, GNSE 23178, PLSC 23178

HMRT 23401. Development, Resources & Justice: The Political Economy of Human Rights. 100 Units.

Global climate change, the increase in authoritarian government worldwide, the COVID pandemic aftermath, disruptions of global supply chains, inflation, and deepening sovereign debt have fallen with particular ferocity on the post-colonial Global South. The World Bank's 2024 Poverty, Prosperity and Planet Report refers to a 'polycrisis' - multiple and interconnected crises occurring simultaneously - that has stalled or reversed the forces of globalization slowed human development, amplified the dilemmas of 'fragile and conflicted states' and unleashed powerful forces of dispossession condemning millions to lives of radical precarity. This course will focus on a set of problems associated with the contemporary political economy of basic resources - land, forests, food, energy, minerals, water, marine resources, shelter - and 'provisioning systems' from the particular vantage point of social justice and human rights, drawing upon case studies from Latin America, South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa in particular. This course seeks to understand the sorts of conflicts and struggles over resources and extractive economies in postcolonial settings placed on a wider canvas of transnational capital flows, multi-lateral development institutions, neoliberal state policies, authoritarian populisms, NGOs and social movements. Connections will be made between resources politics in the Global South and the Global North.

Instructor(s): Michael J. Watts Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): CEGU 23402, HMRT 33401

HMRT 23245. Imagining Human Rights in American Journalism. 100 Units.

From the anti-slavery press through the New Journalists, every movement in American reporting has imagined human rights in a distinctive way. Some of those imaginaries have persisted and grown hegemonic, while others now languish in the archive-the old radical newspapers forgotten and unread. This course is dedicated to investigating the history of American journalism to see how the press and human rights coevolved: piecing together historical links between movements, recovering lost possibilities, and looking for future paths of development. Following a line from the abolitionists through the international movement against the Belgian Congo and onto contemporary New Yorker-style journalism, we will learn the history of the news in America. Through that history, we will see how developments in journalism-in content, form, and technology-ultimately changed international ideas of human rights.

Instructor(s): Matthew Zipp Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 23301. Narratives of Incarceration and Justice. 100 Units.

This is a community-engaged course which brings enrolled UChicago students and community members together for a quarter of learning, dialogue and knowledge building. We will examine and analyze narratives of incarceration and justice in multiple mediums (history, memoir, film, visual art, storytelling) to explore how narratives of incarceration and justice are documented, told and historicized. What are the dangers of a single story and how can dominant narratives be disrupted? What tools and methods can be deployed to surface previously marginalized lived experiences and truths? How have individuals and communities developed platforms to tell their stories and shape new futures? This course will include field trips, including visiting a class at Logan Correctional Center in Lincoln, Illinois. An application is required to register for this course.

Application Due Date: Friday, Feb 28, at 12pm <https://tinyurl.com/RDIN23300>

Instructor(s): Alice Kim Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 23300, CHST 23300

HMRT 23304. Abolitionist Theologies. 100 Units.

How might religions activate the abolitionist imagination? The contemporary abolition movement is not just about dismantling prisons or the police. It is about imagining alternatives to this apparatus of fear, punishment, and scarcity-and experimenting with new modes of living together premised on mutual aid rather than state power. Many abolitionist thinkers thus see abolition as a sacred force interrupting the normalized brutalities of everyday life. This course focuses on Jewish, Christian, and Islamic theologies that interrogate incarceration,

capitalism, the war on terror, and the settler colonial state. We will analyze the possibilities and limits of these theologies as revolutionary resources. Our readings will include a variety of genres: scriptural interpretation, spiritual autobiography, and speculative fiction. No prior experience with academic theology or abolition required.

Instructor(s): Olivia Buston Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 23304, RLST 23304, GLST 23304

HMRT 23416. Law and Social Change. 100 Units.

This course explores social mobilization through legal channels. Activists consistently use law and legal institutions to influence public policy, as seen in contemporary examples such as climate change litigation, Black Lives Matter's push for police reform, and the LGBTQ+ community's advocacy for marriage equality. We will examine this dynamic relationship between law and social change. We will tackle questions like: What potential does the law have for bringing about transformative social change? Are there certain areas of the law that are more effective in achieving meaningful change than others? How does the legal system influence the strategies of those seeking to make a difference? What does institutionalizing rights really mean for us? Can we see legal mobilization happening outside of the courtroom? We will also pay special attention to how the pursuit of social change through legal avenues invites a diverse range of stakeholders and participants, not just the aggrieved groups or individuals, but also those who play supportive roles in legal litigation. Additionally, we will examine how various legal systems—whether local, state, federal, religious, or indigenous—interact with each other, sometimes in harmony and other times in conflict, and how this influences legal mobilization.

Instructor(s): Heba Alex Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 33416

HMRT 23472. Human Rights BA Essay Workshop I. 100.00 Units.

Human Rights BA Essay Workshop.

Instructor(s): Pozen Center for Human Rights Director of Practice Terms Offered: Autumn. Course will have 0 units in Autumn quarter 2023 and 100 units in Winter quarter 2024.

HMRT 23473. Human Rights BA Thesis Workshop II. 100 Units.

TBA

Instructor(s): Pozen Center for Human Rights Director Terms Offered: Winter

HMRT 23480. Law, Rights, and Democracy in Crisis: Israel and Palestine in Comparative Perspective. 100 Units.

How do law and politics interact in contexts of deep national division? What are the limits of international law, human rights, and liberal democracy in addressing violent conflict? And what alternatives arise when conventional approaches—such as territorial partition and a focus on individual rights—fall short? This course explores these questions through the case of Israel-Palestine, examined in comparative perspective alongside other divided societies, including Northern Ireland, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Cyprus. Students will analyze how legal frameworks—both domestic and international—shape, constrain, or enable political arrangements in protracted conflicts. Core concepts such as sovereignty, self-determination, and the tension between individual and collective rights will be explored through competing understandings of peace and justice. Drawing on the emerging framework of Collective Equality, the course invites critical reflection on the foundational principles needed to support sustainable models of conflict transformation.

Instructor(s): Limor Yehuda Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): DEMS 23480, JWSC 23480, PLSC 23480, PLSC 33480

HMRT 23825. Human Rights in the Middle East. 100 Units.

This seminar explores the broad range of human rights struggles, concerns and activism in the contemporary Middle East region. The class will examine human rights issues posed by authoritarian, dictatorial and single-party state formations in the Middle East particularly by looking at the effects of internal security apparatuses, mechanisms of state violence, and struggles for political participation and liberty. We explore ongoing indigenous struggles for recognition and autonomy, such as the Kurdish, Sahrawi and Amazigh cases, while also contextualizing the region's complex history of colonial and neocolonial interventions by force and their human rights implications. We will examine the varied roles that non-state actors play in Middle Eastern human rights spheres, from militias to NGOs to religious and communal structures. The course will look to local actors and movements to explore forms of resistance, struggle, and social change while maneuvering through often highly-constrained political spaces. We pay particular attention to marginalized communities by looking at the rights struggles of minorities, women, children, migrant workers, the disabled, and the LGBTQ+ community in Middle Eastern contexts. Personal Status Laws and their effects on rights, especially with regard to marital relations and parental rights are considered. Interdisciplinary and varied modes of knowledge production including film serve as source materials.

Instructor(s): Lindsay Gifford, Pozen Center for Human Rights Assistant Research Professor Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): GLST 23825, NEHC 33825, LLSO 23825, HMRT 33825, NEHC 23825

HMRT 23921. Human Rights Field Work. 100 Units.

This course prepares students to relate the academic study of human rights to human rights practice. It will provide training in human rights monitoring, analysis, documentation (including the use of photography and videography), the use of public information and records, intervention and capacity building, trauma informed

research, effective storytelling in human rights advocacy, effective interview techniques, stakeholder mapping, statistical analysis in R, mapping technologies and GIS. Importantly, this course will also address the 'ethics' side of field work, including principles of do no harm as well as self-care, which is so critical to human rights work. Instructor(s): Pedro Gerson, Assistant Instructional Professor Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Students are required to take this course before completing their human rights research or field experience, which is often over the summer quarter of their third year.
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 33921

HMRT 23930. The Welcoming City: Field Research in Chicago. 100 Units.

The city of Chicago has welcomed over 45,000 migrants and asylum-seekers from Latin America over the past few years and has witnessed efforts to effect a welcoming and sanctuary city through government, non-profit, mutual aid network and individual volunteer work. Students in this course will conduct in-person field research with migrants and service networks to explore the ways that Chicagoans both new and established imagine and attempt to create a sanctuary or welcoming city. Through field research practice, students will gain experience with ethnographic methods of participant-observation, taking fieldnotes, conducting interviews and ethnographic writing. Accompanying course readings will guide us through ethnographic methods, the root causes of migration, migration pathways and infrastructure, refugee and migrant reception and sanctuary city concepts and policies.

Instructor(s): Lindsay Gifford Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 23930, LLSO 23930, CHST 23900

HMRT 24007. Human Rights in China. 100 Units.

This seminar explores the diverse range of human rights crises confronting China and Chinese people today. Co-taught by Teng Biao, an internationally recognized lawyer and advocate for human rights, and University of Chicago China historian Johanna Ransmeier, this course focuses upon demands for civil and political rights within China. Discussions will cover the Chinese Communist Party's monopoly on power, the mechanisms of the Chinese criminal justice system, and the exertion of state power and influence in places like Tibet, Hong Kong, Xinjiang, and Taiwan, as well as the impact of the Peoples Republic of China on international frameworks. We will discuss the changing role of activism, and the expansion of state surveillance capacity. Students are encouraged to bring their own areas of interest to our conversations. Throughout the quarter we will periodically be joined by practitioners from across the broader human rights community.

Instructor(s): Johanna Ransmeier, History, Teng Biao, Pozen Visiting Professor Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent Required
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 24517, HMRT 34007, HIST 24516, HIST 34516, EALC 34517

HMRT 24010. Vernacular Image Forensics: Everyday Spectatorship of State Violence. 100 Units.

This course explores the rise of a vernacular mode of forensic spectatorship through the relationship between two contradictory facets of contemporary visual culture. On the one hand, our screens are flooded with audio-visual documents of state violence, like livestreams of police killings and GoPro footage of Israeli soldiers in Gaza. We rely upon these images to hold perpetrators accountable and to make sense of the increasing complexity and abstraction of global capitalism. On the other hand, our so-called "post-truth" era and its attendant AI and deep fake anxieties has eroded the belief that these images can meaningfully reference a shared reality. While we urgently rely upon photographic images to make sense of the world, we also look at them with suspicion. From this tension arises an everyday fixation with image forensics, registered by cultural texts as wide ranging as true crime shows, conspiracy theory videos, investigative reporting, and popular documentaries. Surrounded with visual evidence, audiences have become forensic analysts. In this class we will explore this tension and mode of spectatorship, grounding both in debates across film and media theory surrounding the evidentiary value of photographic-based images. Through reading primary sources from the history of photography and film, and texts in film theory, documentary studies, critical theory, and forensic science, we will historicize and theorize this popular forensic gaze.

Instructor(s): Wolfgang Boehm Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 24010

HMRT 24011. Decolonizing Human Rights: Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights in Latin America. 100 Units.

This course traces Indigenous Peoples' role in the emergence of human rights in Latin America, as well as the region's contributions to universal human rights ideas. As issues of Indigenous, environmental, youth, migrant and gender rights receive more attention worldwide, this class asks students to center Latin America and Indigenous Peoples as they study the evolution of justice and solidarity, while also investigating long-term effects of colonialism, imperialism, authoritarianism, and neoliberalism in various territories. The course will follow a chronological approach starting with the colonial period, where students will explore texts concerned with the rights of Indigenous populations of the Americas, and move on to independence leader's missives regarding freedom and sovereignty. It will then focus on the various demands and contributions related to political, economic and social rights that emerged during the struggles against military dictatorships in the twentieth century and that continue to this day via processes of transitional justice. The course will end by centering new voices of human rights, particularly the emergence of Indigenous populations in the human rights arena, going from subjects to actors in charge of their own empowerment.

Instructor(s): Maria de los Angeles Aguilar Velasquez Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 34011

HMRT 24034. Literary Nonfiction Workshop II: Writing Chicago. 100 Units.

This writing and reading course will allow us to explore the city of Chicago and many approaches to studying it and responding to it in prose by turns imaginative, narrative, and documentary. We'll think about issues like crises in housing, asylum, incarceration; about art and space in photographs, public murals, sculpture, architecture; and about plants, animals, and waterways. Students will write shorter exercises, keep a mixed media Chicago notebook, and write a longer piece in the genre or hybrid of their choice for workshop. Readings may include Eve Ewing, Lori Waxman, Frank London Brown, Gwendolyn Brooks, Rosalyn LaPier, Stuart Dybek, Sandra Cisneros, Aleksandar Hemon, Leonard Dubkin, Rebecca Zorach, Studs Terkel and more. *NOTE: Undergraduate students are expected to have taken Literary Nonfiction Workshop I (CRWR 10406) before enrolling in this class.

Instructor(s): Rachel Cohen Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): If the course is listed as consent required or closed, please reach out to the instructor to enroll or to be added to the waitlist. Attendance on the first day is mandatory.

Equivalent Course(s): CHST 24034, CRWR 24034, CRWR 44034

HMRT 24125. Technology and Human Rights. 100 Units.

The international human rights regime took form in the shadow of the atom bomb and WWII, a historical juncture, which for many marked the limits of techno-scientific rationality and progress. Utopian narratives of inevitable, technologically-driven social and economic progress nonetheless remain a cornerstone of American political and cultural imaginaries. In this course, we will draw on anthropology, law, and allied disciplines to explore the ambiguous intersections of technological innovation and human rights. Through a series of case studies, the course will consider how new technologies and their allied knowledge practices call into question the foundational categories of human rights law, complicating understandings of the individual, personhood, family, and life. The course will further examine how emerging developments in biotechnology, information technology, robotics, and AI variously enhance and undermine the substantive protections of human rights, including the rights to health, privacy, freedom of expression, security, and indigenous knowledge. Finally, we will consider how human rights norms and institutions can be mobilized to inform and constrain the design and application of potentially threatening new technologies.

Instructor(s): Lake Polan, Pozen Center for Human Rights Social Science Teaching Fellow Terms Offered:

Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 34125, ANTH 24125

HMRT 24193. Water Water Everywhere? 100 Units.

This interdisciplinary course explores aesthetics, environmental racism, and a human rights approach to the Commons to inform our perspective on the politics and aesthetics of water from the local to the global. The course will look at issues of scarcity and abundance through the lenses of art and human rights. The course will incorporate guest speakers, including artist Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle and environmental and water rights experts and advocates. Students will consider works by artists such as Pope L, Mel Chin, Allan Kaprow, LaToya Ruby Frazier, and Fazal Sheikh, to understand how art can confront the 21st century's environmental challenges. A diverse set of texts will include relevant human rights instruments, the documentary film "Whose Water" (Kate Levy 2024); Lewis Hyde, "Common as Air: Revolution, Art, and Ownership"; and Emily Eliza Scott & Kristen Swenson, 'Contemporary Art and the Politics of Land Art' from "Critical Landscapes: Art, Space, and Politics." The course will include site visits to nearby natural areas, such as the Big Marsh wetlands, the "Toxic Donut" near Altgeld Gardens, and Lake Michigan. This course is an extension of a collaborative project at the Gray Center for Arts and Inquiry with human rights lawyer Susan Gzesh, artist Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle, and curator Abigail Winograd.

Instructor(s): Susan Gzesh, Abigail Winograd Terms Offered: May be offered in 2026-2027 Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment.

Prerequisite(s): Third- or fourth-year standing

Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 24193, SOSC 21005, CEGU 24193, CHST 24193, BPRO 24193

HMRT 24349. Human Rights and Postcolonial Politics. 100 Units.

This class focuses on the history and theory of human rights by considering it as a quintessentially postcolonial political form. We consider how Euro-American genealogies of rights intersect and interact with trajectories of colonial rule and postcolonial politics. In the process, the question of rights itself comes to be posed afresh. Empirically, the class focuses on the histories and presents of India and South Africa. Both these countries underwent processes of constitutional decolonization. Thus, rights have a foundational place in both postcolonial polities. What does that mean? How does that create openings for the imaginations and instantiations of socially transformative policies? How does it lead to the endurance of traces and aspects of colonial government? What are the promises and limits of rights as we consider them in such historical and political contexts? In what ways are political struggles in these countries marked as being both for and against rights? In the process, how does our thinking and conceptualization of rights itself come to be at stake?

Instructor(s): Kaushik Sunder Rajan

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 24349

HMRT 24638. Global Challenges to Human Rights. 100 Units.

The This course will introduce students to the field of human rights through two specific lenses. First, the course will emphasize human rights practices, demonstrating how human rights-in-action relates to and diverges from the ideals and discourses of human rights as laid out in documents like the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Second, the course will view human rights from the perspective of affected communities, centering the experiences and critiques of those on the front lines of human rights crises. Through these two lenses, we will study the three most significant contemporary challenges to human rights in the world today: security regimes emerging from the post-9/11 paradigm of the global war on terror; escalating refugee crises; and climate change. Instructor(s): Ishani Dasgupa, Assistant Instructional Professor Terms Offered: Winter Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 34638

HMRT 24738. Translating Human Rights. 100 Units.

In a world where political vocabularies are increasingly losing shared meaning, this seminar examines the global circulation of human rights through the lens of the concept of translation. Rather than treating human rights as a single stable or universal language, the course asks how the meanings of human rights are produced, transformed, and contextualized as they are invoked across different institutional, cultural, and historical settings. Beginning with key conceptual works that illuminate the power relations and asymmetries embedded in the process of translation, we will then engage with ethnographic and historical studies that trace how human rights are understood, negotiated, and practiced across diverse locales and times. These empirically grounded readings reveal the wide range of (un)expected political consequences that accompany these processes as human rights are translated across contexts, including the expansion of bureaucratic and legal institutions, the emergence of new forms of violence and silencing, and the possibilities and limits of sociopolitical transformations

Instructor(s): Myungji Lee Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 34728, ANTH 24738

HMRT 24823. International Human Rights Law and Practice. 100 Units.

This course will introduce students to the legal architecture of international human rights law. Whilst the legal framing of rights emphasizes universality and the common good, its application reflects the historical compromises and political uncertainties of the times. This course will explore the tensions that are produced when politics meets 'the law' and examine the issues, actors, doctrines and practices that make up the human rights project. As human rights law is evolutive, we will look at how the human rights project has changed and evolved in connection to historical movements and post-colonial politics and has developed in order to address state violence, 'terrorism', minority rights, women's rights, gender and sexuality, transitional justice, health, and responsibility to protect, to name but a few. We will draw on case studies, including the United States, in order to examine the complicated role of the state as both perpetrator and protector and promoter of human rights. Students will be encouraged to think critically about the human rights project; how does it confront the underlying issues of injustice and abuse, as well as the inherent conceptual and structural limitations of supranational human rights mechanisms in addressing and providing remedies for the problems facing the world today.

Instructor(s): Kathleen Cavanaugh, Executive Director, Senior Lecturer, Pozen Family Center for Human Rights
Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 34823, PLSC 24823

HMRT 24901. Religion and Human Rights. 100 Units.

Religion played a crucial, but often overlooked, role in the development of post-World War II conceptions of human rights, providing principles and ideas that continue to influence contemporary human rights debates in the fields of law, public policy, and international relations. This no-prior-knowledge-necessary course explores the complex, sometimes fraught, relationship between religion and human rights from World War II to the present. We will begin by juxtaposing the role religious ideas played in the drafting of core post-war human rights documents (e.g. the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, etc.) with the decision by drafters to omit direct references to the divine or the beliefs of specific religious communities. Using case study analysis and close reading of primary religious texts, scholarly commentary, and historical accounts, we will examine the ways in which individuals and groups from multiple religious (and non-religious) traditions both apply and push back against existing human rights norms. Throughout the course we will discuss the role religion might play in debates surrounding emerging, but still contentious, conceptions of human rights. This includes: universal healthcare, LGBTQIA+ rights, ever more complex manifestations of religious freedom, as well as whether human rights as conceived of in the mid-20th Century can be reconciled with decolonial and post-colonial perspectives.

Equivalent Course(s): DEMS 24901, GNSE 24903, GLST 24902, RLST 24901

HMRT 25011. Imagining the Sanctuary City: Field Research with Migrants and Asylum-Seekers in Chicago. 100 Units.

TBD

Instructor(s): Lindsay Gifford Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 35011

HMRT 25107. Documentary Production II. 100 Units.

Documentary Production II focuses on the shaping and crafting of a non-fiction video. Enrollment will be limited to those students who have taken CMST 23930 Documentary Production I. The class will discuss issues of ethics, power, and representation in this most philosophical and problematic of genres. Students will be expected to write a treatment outline detailing their project and learn about granting agencies and budgeting. Production techniques will concentrate on the language of handheld camera versus tripod, interview methodologies, microphone placement including working with wireless systems and mixers, and lighting for the interview. Post-production will cover editing techniques including color correction and audio sweetening, how to prepare for exhibition, and distribution strategies. Consent of instructor is required to enroll.

Instructor(s): Marco Ferrari Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): CMST 23930, HMRT 25106, or ARTV 23930

Equivalent Course(s): CHST 23931, ARTV 33931, CMST 33931, MADD 23931, HMRT 35107, ARTV 23931, CMST 23931

HMRT 25203. Hong Kong and Human Rights in Asia. 100 Units.

The dynamic city of Hong Kong-a multicultural, special economic zone and a contested democracy with a vibrant popular press and a long history of support for regional grassroots politics-provides the setting for three weeks of investigation of human rights locally and across Asia. Students will become familiar with the human rights challenges facing Hong Kong and the region today. Topics as diverse as labor rights, gender and sexuality, democracy, access to health care and education, and freedom of expression will command our attention. We will also explore the relationship between art, exhibition practices, the media, and human rights. The University of Chicago's new Hong Kong campus will serve as our home base, but much of our time will be spent undertaking short field excursions to speak with human rights actors, journalists, curators, and artists in Hong Kong along with a tentative short trip to southern China. As the capstone of this intensive course, students will create digital, multimedia documentary projects to showcase their engagement with a particular regional or local human rights problem. These projects may combine interviews, photographs and videos, and the production of an original text or artwork.

Instructor(s): M. Bradley & J. Ransmeier

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the September Hong Kong: Human Rights in Asia program

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 24311, EALC 24311

HMRT 25301. Putting the Human Back in Human Rights: Narratives of Migration. 100 Units.

Across the world, there is a criminalization of migration. Does the human being become less human when they migrate? Do they lose rights? What are the stories that are being told about them, by others and by themselves, in the US and elsewhere? This course will look at the migrant experience in literature, journalism, poetry, film, and art. We will examine anti-immigrant texts as well as celebrations of migration, to see how storytelling shapes migrant destiny. We will pay close attention to the complexity of the individual immigrant, which is often at variance with broader group classification or ideology.

Instructor(s): Suketu Mehta Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 25317. Human Rights Capstone Practice Workshop I. 100.00 Units.

This two-quarter long course exists to support 4th year students who are on the practice intensive capstone track. Students will meet every other week to plan and receive help executing their projects from inception to completion. At every step, student will receive feedback from their peers and from the Director of Practice. The workshop will also likely involve training, including trauma informed research methodology, media strategy, and other topics as relevant. This course is 0 credits in Autumn Quarter and 100 credits in Winter Quarter.

Instructor(s): Pozen Center for Human Rights Director of Practice Terms Offered: Autumn. Course will have 0 units in Autumn quarter 2023 and 100 units in Winter quarter 2024.

HMRT 25318. Human Rights Capstone Practice Workshop II. 100 Units.

This two-quarter long course exists to support 4th year students who are on the practice intensive capstone track. Students will meet every other week to plan and receive help executing their projects from inception to completion. At every step, student will receive feedback from their peers and from the Director of Practice. The workshop will also likely involve training, including trauma informed research methodology, media strategy, and other topics as relevant. This course is 0 credits in Autumn Quarter and 100 credits in Winter Quarter.

Instructor(s): Pozen Center for Human Rights Director of Practice Terms Offered: Winter. Course will have 0 units in Autumn quarter 2023 and 100 units in Winter quarter 2024.

HMRT 25340. The 'Child' in South Asia: Minor Lives, Major Questions. 100 Units.

What does it mean to think about the history, culture, and politics of a region through the figure of the "child"? This course explores "childhood" as a powerful concept that has shaped debates about race, colonialism and development, particularly in the history of colonial and postcolonial South Asia. From the stereotype of the "childlike native" to the infantilization of women, the child figure repeatedly gets invoked to mark social hierarchies. Even in a globalized world, the status of children across the world, measured under the rubric of the UN Child Rights Convention, fuels understandings of "development" and "progress" among nations and communities. We will survey Southern Asia's colonial legacy, postcolonial present and globalized afterlife to examine how "childhood" has been imagined in relation to national and ethnic identities as well as class, caste, gender, and religious affiliations of people. Taking a wide range of visual and textual genres as objects of study - such as textbooks, educational charts, children's literature, advertisements, biographies and films -- this course

will enable students to study the category of the "child" through a humanistic lens and see how it's embedded in the cultural history of South Asia.

Instructor(s): Titas Bose Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 25340, HIST 26705, SALC 25340, CMLT 25340, EDSO 25340, RDIN 25340, CHDV 25340

HMRT 25408. Human Rights in Japanese History. 100 Units.

This course examines how the modern concept of "rights" and "human rights" localized in Japan and how different parties in Japan have used the language of human rights in attempts to remake Japan's social, cultural, and legal landscape. We will explore a wide range of topics including the translation of Eurocentric rights talk in East Asia, colonization and decolonization, statelessness and migration, transitional justice and reconciliation, biopolitical rights and bio-citizenship, indigenous rights, and women and gender-specific rights. Throughout the course we pay special attention to the ways in which rights talk and human-rights politics in Japan intertwine with the country's efforts to modernize and build the "nation within the empire" and, after its defeat in WWII, to close off its "long postwar" and reconcile with its neighbors. This is an introductory course, and no previous knowledge of Japanese history or the international history of human rights is required. However, you should be prepared to read (and watch, browse, and listen to) a wide array of primary and secondary sources that destabilize the most common vocabulary and concepts we take for granted in contemporary human-rights talk such as race, state responsibility, and the very notion of universalism so central to the idea of human rights.

Instructor(s): K. Pan Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 24508, EALC 24508

HMRT 25504. Saints and Other Exemplars. 100 Units.

This course will consider recent work on the nature and significance of spiritual & moral exemplars, and will then use this work as a framework with which to analyze the lives of exemplars such as Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Oscar Romero.

Instructor(s): Kevin Hector Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): This course meets the CS Committee distribution requirement for Divinity students.

Equivalent Course(s): DVPR 35501, RLST 25501, THEO 35501

HMRT 25510. Christianity, Nonviolence, and Realism. 100 Units.

This course investigates the connections between personal spiritual development and social engagement with justice movements. What, if any, effect does personal belief and faith have in directing political will? How does nonviolent resistance encounter the institutional realities of social advocacy? And lastly, in what ways are religious orientations challenged by globalized financial systems and power structures? The nonviolent religious philosophies of Howard Thurman and Daniel Berrigan will be contextualized within their respective Christian traditions and interreligious commitments. We will then encounter the challenge of Political Realism through the works of Reinhold Niebuhr and Samantha Power to interrogate the place of personal faith commitments within a pluralized society and the concrete realities of war, peace, and international conflict.

Instructor(s): Foster Pinkney Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): RLST 25510

HMRT 25561. Justice at the Margins: Religion, Race, and Resistance Ethics. 100 Units.

How does race shape what we think about what is right and wrong, just and unjust? How about religion? Is "justice" a universal idea that stretches across social groups, or do our experiences as members of a religious and/or racial group have fundamentally affect our understanding(s) of justice? We'll begin by examining works by Aristotle, King, Rawls, and Nussbaum, asking what each theorist thinks justice entails and why. Along the way, we'll ask how stated and suppressed understandings of both "race" and "religion" inform their theories, as well as complicate and challenge them. Then we'll set these theories of justice in conversation with works by Francisco de Vitoria, W.E.B. Du Bois, James Baldwin, Cornel West, Traci C. West, and the Movement for Black Lives, each of which offers a protest against injustice in which "race" and "religion" play a prominent role. No previous knowledge required.

Instructor(s): Derek Buyan Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): This course counts as an elective course for the "Inequality, Social Problems, and Change" minor and as an approved course for the Democracy Studies minor.

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 22561, RLST 25561

HMRT 25704. Environmental Justice in Chicago. 100 Units.

This course will examine the development of environmental justice theory and practice through social scientific and ethical literature about the subject as well as primary source accounts of environmental injustices. We will focus on environmental justice issues in Chicago including, but not limited to waste disposal, toxic air and water, the Chicago heat wave, and climate change. Particular attention will be paid to environmental racism and the often understudied role of religion in environmental justice theory and practice. Throughout the course we will explore how normative commitments are expressed in different types of literature as well as the basis for normative judgments and the types of authorities authors utilize and claim as they consider environmental justice.

Instructor(s): Sarah Fredericks Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): CEGU 25704, CHST 25704, AMER 25704, KNOW 25704, RDIN 25704, PBPL 25704, RLST 25704

HMRT 25706. Climate Justice. 100 Units.

Climate injustice includes the disproportionate effects of climate change on people who benefit little from the activities that cause it, generally the poor, people of color, and people marginalized in other ways. Given the complex economic, physical, social, and political realities of climate change, what might climate justice entail? This course explores this complex question through an examination of various theories of justice; the gendered, colonial, and racial dimensions of climate change; and climate justice movements.

Instructor(s): Sarah Fredericks

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 25706, CEGU 25706, KNOW 25706, GLST 25766, GNSE 25702, HIPS 25706, RLST 25706

HMRT 25900. Digitizing Human Rights. 100 Units.

In an era in which disruptive technologies have hijacked our consciousness and computer code has woven itself into the fabric of our existence, the lines between the virtual and the physical are increasingly blurred, and the nature of human existence itself increasingly uncertain. Digitizing Human Rights invites you to ponder, question, and even reshape the future of the species. We'll consider digital surveillance, data consent, access to tech, online agency, algorithmic bias and the future of artificial intelligence, among other topics. Drawing on cross-disciplinary perspectives, the course aims to illuminate the often misunderstood aspects of the digital age with the goal of creating an annotated digital document to serve as a blueprint for steering humanity towards a more equitable and just -- and perhaps a more secure -- future. Annotations will draw on a broad array of philosophical traditions and contextualize current issues and debates. We will also problematize the document itself to build into our work a consideration of the digital form through which we are thinking and representing claims about humanity, morality, truth, and justice, for example, that are entailed in the project of "human rights." The class will meet both in small groups and the larger seminar to refine the provisions and annotations, review progress, and shape the document as a whole.

Instructor(s): J. Spruill, N. Briz Terms Offered: Not offered in 2026-2027

Prerequisite(s): PQ: Third- or fourth-year standing.

Equivalent Course(s): DEMS 25900, MADD 25900, BPRO 25900

HMRT 26200. Human Rights: An Anthropological Perspective. 100 Units.

While the modern human rights regime developed largely absent input from anthropology, the discipline stakes its scholarly identity on claims to expertise over the nature of human being and the diversity of human experience. Anthropologists have long studied aspects of lived experience of central concern to human rights, including state violence, cultural difference, and structural inequality. In recent decades, they have focused increasing attention on the institutions and practices through which activists adopt and rework human rights concepts in local political and social struggles. Against this backdrop, Human Rights and the Human Experience will deploy anthropology's distinctive knowledge practices and ethical sensitivities to analyze human rights as both global force and as creative resource in local movements for dignity, security, and human flourishing.

Instructor(s): Lake Polan, Pozen Center for Human Rights Social Science Teaching Fellow Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 25215

HMRT 26304. Religion and Abortion in American Culture. 100 Units.

In American public discourse, it is common to hear abortion referred to as a "religious issue." But is abortion a religious issue? If so, in what ways, to whom, and why? In this course we will answer these questions by tracing the relationship between religion and abortion in American history. We will examine the kinds of claims religious groups have made about abortion; how religion has shaped the development of medical, legal, economic, and cultural perspectives on the topic; how debates over abortion have led to the rise of a certain kind of religious politics in the United States; and how issues of race, class, gender, sexuality, and the body are implicated in this conversation. Although the course will cover a range of time periods, religious traditions, and types of data (abortion records from Puritan New England, enslaved people's use of herbal medicine to induce miscarriage, and Jewish considerations of the personhood of the fetus, among others), we will give particular attention to the significance of Christianity in legal and political debates about abortion in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. There are no prerequisites for this course and no background in Religious Studies is required. However, this course may be particularly well-suited to students interested in thinking about how certain themes or areas of study--medicine and medical sciences, gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, political science--converge with religion and Religious Studies.

Instructor(s): Emily D. Crews Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HLTH 26304, AMER 26304, RLST 26304, ANTH 26304, SSAD 26304, HIST 28008, SOCI 20564, GNSE 12115, HIPS 26304, CCTS 21015, PBPL 25304

HMRT 26306. Religion, Medicine, and Human Flourishing on the South Side of Chicago. 100 Units.

Historically, medicine has promoted health as central to the good life. The contemporary turn in the medical and social sciences to the more capacious concept of human flourishing, however, presses these disciplines into conversation with longer traditions of inquiry--more specifically religious traditions--on the nature of the good life for individuals and communities. How might religious traditions reveal the possibilities and limits of contemporary views of human flourishing? How might they add elements to discourses of health such as forgiveness, dignity, and character, that might otherwise be missing from medical conversations? How might they challenge assumptions around our understanding not only of the health of the person (human flourishing) but also the health of the body? Just as medicine is understood best in its practice, so too this course seeks to understand religious traditions as embedded within and responsive to the communities

they serve through religious nonprofits and congregations. How does the on-the-ground experience of these community organizations seeking to advance human flourishing on the south side of Chicago challenge these categories? Note: Instructor's prior consent required for course enrollment to ensure students fully appreciate the dimensions of field education and experiential learning expected from this course. This course prioritizes enrollment for fourth year students (or third year students graduating early).

Instructor(s): John Yoon, MD Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 26306, CCTS 32000, CHST 26306, RLST 26306, HLTH 26306

HMRT 26409. Revolution, Dictatorship, & Violence in Modern Latin America. 100 Units.

This course will examine the role played by Marxist revolutions, revolutionary movements, and the right-wing dictatorships that have opposed them in shaping Latin American societies and political cultures since the end of World War II. Themes examined will include the relationship among Marxism, revolution, and nation building; the importance of charismatic leaders and icons; the popular authenticity and social content of Latin American revolutions; the role of foreign influences and interventions; the links between revolution and dictatorship; and the lasting legacies of political violence and military rule. Countries examined will include Guatemala, Cuba, Chile, Argentina, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Peru, Venezuela, Bolivia, and Mexico. Assignments: Weekly reading, a midterm exam or paper, a final paper, participation in discussion, and weekly responses or quizzes.

Instructor(s): B. Fischer Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Some background in Latin American studies or Cold War history useful.

Equivalent Course(s): LACS 26409, DEMS 26409, LACS 36409, HIST 36409, HIST 26409

HMRT 26635. Liberatory Violence. 100 Units.

From 18th century slave rebellions in the Americas to 20th and 21st century anticolonial revolutions, oppressed peoples' struggles for liberation have often incorporated violent tactics, even against non-combatants. This course examines anticolonial violence in light of the work of the Martiniquan revolutionary Frantz Fanon and some of his interlocutors. We study specific freedom movements: Nat Turner's slave rebellion, the Haitian and Algerian revolutions against French colonialism, Malcolm X and the Black Panthers' mobilization against white supremacy and police violence, and the ongoing Palestinian struggle against Zionist settler colonialism, ethnic cleansing, and apartheid. Throughout, we will pay attention to how revolutionaries evaluated the place of violence in their own movements, including religious criteria for justifiable and unjustifiable use of force.

Instructor(s): Alireza Doostdar Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Graduate student enrollment by permission only. Please send one or two paragraphs explaining your interest and prior preparation.

Note(s): This course meets the SCSR Committee distribution requirement for Divinity students.

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 36635, RDIN 26635, RDIN 46635, SSAD 26635, RLST 26635, GLST 26635, ANTH 26636, AASR 46635

HMRT 26636. Liberatory Violence: Part II. 100 Units.

In this follow up to the Autumn course "Liberatory Violence," we explore the temporality of revolutionary violence, its victories and defeats, its tragedies, promises, and pitfalls. The course will be split into three parts, attending to revolutionary violence in the past, the present, and the future. Our case studies will include the Grenada revolution, the Irish Republican Army's struggle for independence, ongoing Palestinian resistance against Zionist colonization, and speculative fiction about future liberation.

Instructor(s): Alireza Doostdar Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open to student who took RLST 26635/AASR 46635 "Liberatory Violence" in autumn 2024, or by instructor's permission.

Note(s): This course meets the SCSR Committee distribution requirement for Divinity students.

Equivalent Course(s): AASR 46636, RDIN 26636, ANTH 46636, RDIN 46636, ANTH 26637, RLST 26636

HMRT 26920. Freedom, Justice and Legitimacy. 100 Units.

In this course we will explore two main questions, which are central to both contemporary political theory and political discourse: (1) how different concepts and conceptions of freedom ground different theories of social justice and political legitimacy and (2) how to understand the relationship between justice and legitimacy. To what extent are justice and legitimacy separate ideas? Does legitimacy require justice? Are just states necessarily legitimate? We will critically analyze and normatively assess how different contemporary theories have answered, whether explicitly or implicitly, such questions. The course will focus on five major contemporary theories: liberal-egalitarianism as represented by the work of John Rawls; libertarianism, as represented by the work of Robert Nozick, neo-Lockean theories as represented by the work of John Simmons, neo-republicanism as represented by the work of Philip Pettit, and neo-Kantian theories as represented by the work of Arthur Ripstein.

Instructor(s): J. Wilson Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): DEMS 26920, LLSO 26920, PLSC 26920, PLSC 36920

HMRT 27002. Norms, Ideas, and Identity in International Politics. 100 Units.

This advanced seminar examines the role of norms, ideas, and identities in world politics. The main goal is to help students understand academic and policy debates over the role of non-material factors in theories of international politics. Our emphasis will be on the tradition of constructivist scholarship in International Relations, its trajectory, and its critics. This course is intended for advanced undergraduates (political science majors and non-majors welcome), CIR and other MA students with prior coursework in International Relations.

Instructor(s): R. Terman Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 37002, PLSC 27002

HMRT 27007. Power and Protest in a Media Driven World. 100 Units.

Media technologies have revolutionized ways of belonging together, with intimacy, community and collaboration no longer limited by physical proximity. However, apart from being a space where these relations play out, media can also be weaponized to galvanize citizens, build movements, imagine nations, manufacture consent, and even forge new gods. Deployed in different ways, media can serve the political agendas of neoliberal regimes, while also being platform for disempowered and resisting groups to form alliances and engage in collaborative and heterogenous world-making projects. This course will navigate the complex landscape of media's dual role. We will begin by examining early debates on media's influence in shaping society and progress to understanding its growing prominence in anthropological inquiry. Students will explore the tension between media as a tool of power and as a crucial medium for transnational resistance movements. The course will provide a critical journey into the multifaceted roles of media in contemporary society, equipping students with the analytical tools to decipher and engage with media's complex impact on global and local scales.

Instructor(s): Ishani Dasgupta Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 27061. United States Legal History. 100 Units.

This course focuses on the connections between law and society in modern America. It explores how legal doctrines and constitutional rules have defined individual rights and social relations in both the public and private spheres. It also examines political struggles that have transformed American law. Topics to be addressed include the meaning of rights; the regulation of property, work, race, and sexual relations; civil disobedience; and legal theory as cultural history. Readings include legal cases, judicial rulings, short stories, and legal and historical scholarship.

Instructor(s): A. Dru Stanley Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): This course will not overlap with Law and Society in Nineteenth Century America (HIST 27612/LLSO 29714); it will be substantially different.

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 37605, GNSE 27605, GNSE 37605, HIST 27605, AMER 27605, DEMS 27605, LLSO 29704, HMRT 37605

HMRT 27306. U.S. Women and Gender. 100 Units.

This course studies the history of women, gender relations, and ideas of sex difference from the emergence of the women's rights movement in the 1840s to the rise of women's liberation in the 1960s. Issues of work, rights, citizenship, race, and sexuality take center stage as we explore the social, political, and cultural forces that shaped women's lives and the aspirations and agency of women who sought to transform the rules and relations of gender in the United States. Readings include primary sources as well as classic and recent historical scholarship.

Instructor(s): A. Stanley Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 27306, HIST 27306, LLSO 27306

HMRT 27321. Legal Borderlands: Spaces of Exception in US History. 100 Units.

The periphery of the United States is not only made up of physical borderlands but also of legal interstitial zones, places that test the reach of American sovereignty. This discussion-based seminar will look at places where American law bumps up against other defining markers, the contact zones that challenge the prevalent legal paradigms. We will examine how these areas define what constitutes an American; how the government makes specific identities within its jurisdiction visible and invisible. Topics we will cover include: statelessness and denaturalization, American extraterritorial courts in China, gender and sexuality under the law, outlawing "coolies," the insular cases and citizen-subjects, and Guantanamo Bay, not to mention the making and unmaking of physical borderlands around the United States.

Instructor(s): Savitri Kunze, Pozen Center for Human Rights Social Science Teaching Fellow Terms Offered:

Winter

Equivalent Course(s): GLST 27321

HMRT 27380. The Ethics of Immigration. 100 Units.

Immigration is quickly becoming one of the defining controversies of our age, and it is increasingly common for states to restrict the movement of people across borders. But should we say that nation states have the right to exclude non-members in the first place? If so, what is the basis of that right? If not, should we say that immigration controls of any kind are at odds with justice? And is there a compelling case for the exclusion of immigrants that depends on a commitment to preserving national culture or managing the demographics of a national population? As we'll see, these questions touch on fundamental issues in political philosophy: the nature of citizenship and its relationship to culture, the source of legitimate authority, the justifiability of state coercion, the content and justification of rights. Readings will be drawn from the contemporary philosophical literature on immigration. (A)

Instructor(s): Tyler Zimmer Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 27380

HMRT 27601. Women and Islam. 100 Units.

This course is an introduction to the field of women, gender and Islam. We will examine the literature on Islamic legal, historical, Quranic and sacred textual constructs of women as well as critically explore the lived realities and experiences of Muslim women living in Muslim-majority societies and in the west. In centering the work of Muslim feminist scholars, students will gain an understanding of the contemporary debates around women's rights, sexuality, roles, responsibilities and gender relations in the context of Islamic law and the hadith literature.

The discursive constructions and social realities of Muslim women are critically examined through historic and literary representations, ethnographic accounts, human rights discourses, sexual politics and secular and Islamic feminism(s). Moreover, this course situates Muslim women as complex, multidimensional actors engaged in knowledge production and political and feminist struggles, as opposed to the oppressed, victim-centered images that have regained currency in the representation of Muslim women in the post 9/11 era.

Instructor(s): Maliha Chishti Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): This course meets the LMCS or SCSR Committee distribution requirement for Divinity students.

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 37608, GNSE 27608, ISLM 37601, RLST 27601, GLST 27601

HMRT 27720. Race and Religion in Chicago. 100 Units.

This course will explore the history of race and religion in the United States from the end of the Civil War to the twenty-first century. Taking Chicago as a case study, the course will introduce students to key topics in the study of race and religion in modern American history, considering especially how religion and race are each deeply imprinted by the other. Through close readings of the religious history and culture of Chicago over the last century and a half, the course will focus on Black-White racialization in Chicago, interrogating the construction of and contestation over whiteness among Catholics, Protestants, Jews, and new religious movements, as well as tracing the "spiritual afterlife of slavery" in Chicago's churches, synagogues, mosques, and other places of worship. The readings, guest lectures, field trips, and class discussions will also open out to consider other religious and racial issues and projects in Chicago (e.g., Latinx, Indian American, and Indigenous religious communities).

Instructor(s): Joel Brown

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27311, RLST 27720, CHST 27720

HMRT 28005. Illicit Religion: Contesting Religious Freedom under the Law in Modern America. 100 Units.

The "freedom of religion" is one of the United States' most enduring and celebrated national ideals. And yet, rights of religious belief and practice have been contested consistently throughout the history of the nation, transforming both cultural practices and legal definitions of religion. Can American religion be radically free "and" fundamentally subject to the legal definitions and executive constraints of the state? Or is religious freedom under the law impossible, as some scholars have it? In this course, we will examine historical events, legal principles and academic debates over the meaning of religion's "free exercise" in the United States. Three case studies will ground our investigations: the Pueblo Indian dance controversy of the 1920s, the organization of the Church of Scientology in the 1950s and, finally, conflict over property and political rights at Oregon's Rajneeshpuram in the 1980s. Historical and cultural study will be augmented with theory and legal analysis by scholars of American religion and law. The term will end with student presentations on controversial developments in the exercise of religion since 1993's Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), including its enforcement of religious boundaries around drug use, gay marriage and women's reproductive health. No prerequisite knowledge of religious tradition, historical period or legal principle is necessary.

Instructor(s): Greg Chatterley Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): RLST 28005, HIST 27120, AMER 28005

HMRT 28724. The History of Human Rights in Journalism. 100 Units.

From the anti-slavery press through the New Journalists, every movement in American reporting has imagined human rights in a distinctive way. Some of those imaginaries have persisted and grown hegemonic, while others now languish in the archive-the old radical newspapers forgotten and unread. This course is dedicated to investigating the history of American journalism to see how the press and human rights coevolved: piecing together historical links between movements, recovering lost possibilities, and looking for future paths of development. Following a line from the abolitionists through the international movement against the Belgian Congo and onto contemporary New Yorker-style journalism, we will learn the history of the news in America. Through that history, we will see how developments in journalism-in content, form, and technology-ultimately changed international ideas of human

Instructor(s): Matthew Zipf Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27909

HMRT 28726. Discussing Disability. 100 Units.

What does it mean to be disabled? Are narratives surrounding "reasonable accommodation", "inclusion" and "diversity" alert to the various intersections between disability, race, gender, sexual orientation or immigration status? How can we design a movement rooted in the lived and experiential accounts of disabled people? Informed by scholarly work, first person accounts, movies and other media by and for disabled people, "Discussing Disability" engages with these questions while pushing students to interrogate their own biases in how they approach disability.

Instructor(s): Malavika Parthasarathy

HMRT 28727. Making Sense of and Resisting Violence in Latin America. 100 Units.

This course addresses the question of violence in the context of contemporary Latin America. We will use the tools of sociology--and the social sciences more broadly--to better understand the kinds of violence that have arisen, how people make sense of them at different degrees of proximity, and how communities have resisted them. The course will focus on three Latin American contexts: Colombia, Mexico, and Argentina. We will analyze forms of police, military, and insurgent violence in the region, as well as the organizational infrastructure of Human Rights and state branches that respond to and help make sense of violence, alongside community forms

of resistance. Academic readings, books, and movies will inform our class-based discussions. Students will walk out of the course with a deeper understanding of how violence looks and feels, and a conceptual map of the forms of resistance that have emerged across the region.

Instructor(s): Nicolas Torres-Echeverry Terms Offered: Spring

HMRT 28728. Making Sense of and Resisting Violence in Latin America. 100 Units.

This course addresses the question of violence in the context of contemporary Latin America. We will use the tools of sociology--and the social sciences more broadly--to better understand the kinds of violence that have arisen, how people make sense of them at different degrees of proximity, and how communities have resisted them. The course will focus on three Latin American contexts: Colombia, Mexico, and Argentina. We will analyze forms of police, military, and insurgent violence in the region, as well as the organizational infrastructure of Human Rights and state branches that respond to and help make sense of violence, alongside community forms of resistance. Academic readings, books, and movies will inform our class-based discussions. Students will walk out of the course with a deeper understanding of how violence looks and feels, and a conceptual map of the forms of resistance that have emerged across the region.

Instructor(s): Nicolas Torres Echeverry Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 38728, GLST 25256, LACS 28728, SOCI 30652, SOCI 20652

HMRT 29120. Poverty Law and Policy Reform. 100 Units.

This seminar seeks to give students a comprehensive understanding of the major anti-poverty programs in the United States with an emphasis on current challenges and reform proposals. We will spend the first half of the course exploring the implementation and evaluation of the programs that make up the traditional safety net for poor Americans: income supports, health insurance, and housing assistance. We will spend the rest of the quarter exploring topics that complicate the traditional social policy regime, including how the safety net is more robust for some groups, such as the elderly and veterans, than others. We will explore how the legal systems of immigration and incarceration hamper anti-poverty policy and how safety net programs address the needs of rural and Native Americans. Finally, we will investigate two recent developments in the field: social entrepreneurship and the critique of procedural rights.

Instructor(s): Andrew Hammond

Prerequisite(s): No first year students; attendance on the first day of class is required.

Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 29120, LLSO 29120

HMRT 29432. How (Not) to Save the World: The History of International Development. 100 Units.

The drive to deliver humanitarian aid and improved living standards to the world far beyond one's own borders is a distinctively modern phenomenon. This course introduces students to the theories, actors, and practices that have shaped international development. We will explore the colonial origins of development as an idea, its evolution during the Cold War, and the implications of today's more multipolar world. We will see how different strategies have risen and fallen from favor, from big dams to trade to private philanthropy. Alongside scholarly histories, we will read reflections by development practitioners and critics and examine concrete case studies of development projects in action around the world.

Instructor(s): E. Chatterjee Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 29431, GLST 29431

HMRT 29604. Topics in Critical Theory: Constitutionalism and Rights. 100 Units.

(Brief/keyword description) - Historicizing and theorizing constitutionalism, rights and the law from the South. Particular empirical focus on South Africa, will also draw on Indian, other African and Latin American material, and think Euro-American genealogies of law and rights from these global Southern locations.

Instructor(s): Kaushik Sunder Rajan

Prerequisite(s): 3rd or 4th year standing

Note(s): This is a 3CT Capstone course.

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 29604

HMRT 29822. Community Organizing: History and Practice. 100 Units.

In recent decades, the community field has come to be viewed as a multiple-paradigm field in which each of the basic models - social planning and research, social-action community organizing, and community development - has been pushed and pulled in various directions. The first part of this course traces the evolving focus of these models, understanding them both as historical responses to the particular conditions of the American city and as strategic approaches that continue to inform contemporary forms of community action. The second part of the course involves stepping back from particular models to trace more explicitly the challenges faced by doing community work in a multiple-paradigm field and to examine recent "boundary-crossing" strategies as potential sources of innovation. The course assumes a basic knowledge of traditional community approaches (such as might be gained from SSA 48300: Theories and Strategies of Community Change) and, from this basis, seeks to deepen students' understanding of the evolving relationship between the broader political economy, the socio-spatial organization of the city and the changing opportunities for community-oriented action by marginalized urban groups.

Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): SSAD 29822, SSAD 49822

HMRT 29861. Radical America. 100 Units.

This course explores various sorts of radicalisms in America (religious, political, sexual, environmental) from the eighteenth century to the present.

Instructor(s): J. Dailey

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 37119, HIST 27119

