

Concentration in Human Rights Law

This memorandum lists both the general concentration requirements established by the Law School Policy as well as the more specific requirements applicable to the Human Rights Law Concentration. The document also contains a roster of core faculty for this Concentration.

General Concentration Requirements

1. Each J.D. student seeking to satisfy the Law School Concentration in Human Rights Law will meet with the Faculty Chair each Fall to review courses and plans. LL.M. students seeking this concentration should meet with the Faculty Chair early in the fall semester.
2. Law students must complete at least 12 credits from approved “required” or “recommended” Concentration courses. Students must receive a grade for each Concentration course and achieve a grade point average of at least 3.0 in the Concentration courses taken. Courses taken outside the Law School must comply with both the policy on credits taken outside the Law School and the requirements stated herein.
3. Students must take at least one course, seminar, or independent study that requires a significant writing and research component of at least 25 total pages in length. Students are also encouraged to pursue an internship, summer fellowship, clinical course, or other practical/field experience in the field of human rights.
4. Students must notify the Concentration Faculty Chair of their intent to fulfill the Concentration requirements before submission of the Graduation Assessment Form.
5. Students who have successfully completed the Concentration will receive a special certificate upon graduation and may, at the time of completing the Graduation Assessment Form, request that a notation of Concentration fulfillment appear on their transcript records. In order to receive a special certificate at the time of graduation, a student must identify the intention to satisfy the requirements of the Concentration on the Graduation Assessment Form supplied to third-year law students by the Registrar’s Office. The student must notify the Concentration Faculty Chair by March of the student’s graduation year of all courses taken, grades received, other activities undertaken, and expected fulfillment of Concentration requirements. The Faculty Chair will, in a timely fashion, send a memo to the Registrar confirming that the student has fulfilled the requirements of the Concentration.
6. Students are encouraged to carefully consider completion of the concentration requirements in advance as not all courses are offered every year. In particular, LL.M. students are encouraged to seek curricular advising early as their participation in non-law courses is more limited than for J.D. students, and LL.M. students do not participate in clinics, moot courts, and journals.

Specific Requirements of the Concentration in Human Rights Law

7. Required Courses: Students must take at least two of the following five courses.
- a. Law 6886—International Human Rights Law (3 credits)
 - b. Law 6058—Human Rights Advocacy (3 credits)
 - c. Law 6806—International Humanitarian Law Seminar (2 credits)
 - d. Pol 5485—Human Rights and Democracy in the World (3 credits)
 - e. Pol 8660—Topics in International Relations: Theoretical Approaches to Human Rights (3 credits)

8. Recommended Law Courses

- a. Indian Law (3 credits)
- b. Civil Rights: Citizenship and Human Rights (3 credits)
- c. Civil Rights Moot Court (3/2 credits)
- d. Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar (2 credits)
- e. Comparative Criminal Procedure (2/3 credits)
- f. Critical Feminist Theory Seminar (2 credits)
- g. Death Penalty Seminar (2 credits)
- h. European Human Rights Law (3 credits)
- i. European Union Law (3 credits)
- j. First Amendment (3 credits)
- k. Human Rights Litigation and International Legal Advocacy (4 credits)
- l. Immigration Law (3 credits)
- m. Immigration and Human Rights Law Clinic (4 credits)
- n. Independent Study (2/3 credits; on a human rights topic; may include satisfaction of significant writing requirement)
- o. Inter-American Human Rights System Seminar (2 credits)

- p. Inter-American Human Rights System (2 credits)
- q. International Criminal Prosecution Seminar (2 credits)
- r. International and Foreign Legal Research Seminar (2 credits)
- s. International Law (3 credits)
- t. International Law and Use of Force Seminar (2 credits)
- u. International Law Moot Court and the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (on a human rights topic; 2/4/2 credits)
- v. Law Review, Journal of Law & Inequality, or Journal of International Law (must meet significant writing and research)
- w. Sexual Orientation and the Law Seminar (2 credits)
- x. Torture, Violence, War on Terror & Law Seminar (2 credits)
- y. Women's International Human Rights Law (2/3 credits)

9. Eligible Graduate Level Courses (5000-8000) in Other University Departments

- a. HIST 8245 Human Rights and Crimes against Humanity (3 cr)
- b. PA 5490—Immigration and Public Policy (3 cr)
- c. PA 5490—Child Labor (3 cr)
- d. POL 8403 International Norms and Institutions (3 cr.)
- e. PubH 6800 Global Health, Relief, Development and Religious & Non-Religious NGOs (2 cr.) and Human Rights (2 cr.)
- f. PubH 6801 Health and Human Rights (2 cr.)
- g. PubH 6281 Immigrant Health Issues (3 cr)

10. A student may petition the Curriculum Faculty Chair to include a course not listed here if the course will substantially further the student's understanding of this Concentration's subject matter.

11. Core law school faculty for this Concentration are listed below. Faculty may be added (*e.g.*, upon joining this University) or removed (*e.g.*, if the faculty member's teaching interests move away from the subject matter of this Concentration) at the discretion of the Curriculum Faculty Chair.

- a. Richard Frase
- b. Jennie Green
- c. Oren Gross
- d. Stephen Meili
- e. Fred Morrison
- f. Fionnuala Ní Aoláin
- g. Ruth Okediji
- h. Myron Orfield
- i. Chris Roberts
- i. Mary Rumsey
- j. Robert Stein
- l. Carl Warren
- m. David Weissbrodt