Human Rights

Major in Human Rights

The requirements for the Major are 36 credit hours in human rights, including the following 18 credit hours.

HMRT 1003	Introduction to Human Rights
HMRT 2013	Research Methods
HMRT 3033	Philosophy of Human Rights
or	
HMRT 3043	Human Rights in Theory and Practice
HMRT 3113	The Rights Revolution in Canada
or	
HMRT 3013	Discrimination and the Law in Canada
HMRT 3123	International Human Rights
or	
HMRT 3063	Crimes Against Humanity
HMRT 4013	Capstone Seminar

Students must also complete a minimum of 15 credit hours in elective courses from the following human rights courses:

HMRT 2023	Human Rights and Literature
HMRT 2033	Human Rights in Theory and Practice
HMRT 2103	Non-Western Perspectives on Human Rights
HMRT 3013	Discrimination and the Law in Canada
HMRT 3033	Philosophy of Human Rights
HMRT 3063	Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity
HMRT 3073	Human Rights Internship
HMRT 3113	The Rights Revolution in Canada
HMRT 3123	International Human Rights
HMRT 3133	Activism and Social Justice
HMRT 3203	Human Rights Advocacy through Social Media
HMRT 3503	Moot Court
HMRT 3543	Human Rights and Foreign Policy
HMRT 3633	Gender Expression, Sexual Orientation and Human Rights
HMRT 3803	Human Rights of the Child
HMRT 3903	Corporate Social Responsibility
HMRT 4023	Independent Study
HMRT 4043	Special Topics in Human Rights
HMRT 4053	Human Rights Leadership

In addition, students must complete 3 credit hours from the following list of cross-listed courses:

ANTH 2533	Anthropology of Gender and Sexuality
CRIM 2253	Crime and Society in Historical Perspective

CRIM 2743	Social Protest in Canada
CRIM 2123	Criminal Law
CRIM 2223	Youth Justice
CRIM 3203	Government and the Criminal Justice System
CRIM 4143	Hate Crime
CRIM 4403	Feminist Legal Studies
ECON 2203	Community Economic Development
ECON 2223	Political Economy of Women: Selected Topics
ECON 2303	Gender in the Global South
ENVS 2023	Environment and Society II: Perspective on Human-Nature relations
ENVS 3013	Environment & Society III: Policy, Power, and Politics
ENVS 3023	Environmental Praxis
ENGL 3443	World Literature in English: India
GRBK 2006	The Quest for the Good Life
GRBK 2206	Human Nature and Technology
GRBK 3306	Justice
GRBK 3506	Freedom
HIST 2913	Historical Roots of Contemporary Canada
HIST 3563	History of Western Feminism
HIST 3873	Immigrants in Canada 1870 to Present
NATI 3223	Native Environmental Ethics and Ecology
NATI 3813	Native Cultural Identity and Cultural Survival
NATI 3823	Native Peoples and the Canadian Form of Racism
NATI 3903	Native People and the Law I
NATI 3913	Native People and the Law II
NATI 3923	Aboriginal Rights. The Land Question
NATI 3933	Aboriginal Peoples and International Law
PHIL 2213	Introduction to Moral Philosophy
PHIL 2233	Contemporary Moral Philosophy
PHIL 2243	Current Issues in Ethics
PHIL 2253	The Ethics of Sustainability: Thinking, Acting Green
POLS 1603	Global Politics
POLS 2803	The Western Tradition of Political Philosophy I
POLS 2813	The Western Tradition of Political Philosophy II
POLS 3503	Human Rights and International Relations and Foreign Policy
POLS 3613	Model United Nations
SOCI 2416	Inequality in Society
SOCI 2443	Racialization, Racism & Colonialism
SOCI 2613	Sociology of Gender
SOCI 3043	Qualitative Research Methods
SOCI 3313	Sociology of Law
SOCI 3323	Sociology of Women and Law
SPAN 4923	Collective Memory, Culture, and Texts in Argentina
STS 2403	Science, Technology, and War
STS 3303	Sex, Science, and Gender
STS 3503	Feminism and Techno-Science

Students should consult with the Director of the Human Rights Program to ensure that their program meets all requirements.=

Minor in Human Rights

The Minor in Human Rights requires the 3 credit hour introductory course and 15 additional credit hours in Human Rights.

Honours in Human Rights

i. Honour's students must maintain a GPA of 3.7 in human rights courses.

ii. Students must complete the Thesis Proposal Course a minimum of one year before graduation. Upon completion, approval is required from the Chair of the Program, as well as the proposed thesis supervisor.

Completion Requirements
Students completing an Honours in Human Rights require a total of 54 credit hours in human rights, including the following required 36 credit hours of courses:

HMRT 1003	Introduction to Human Rights
HMRT 2013	Research Methods
HMRT 2033	Human Rights in Theory and Practice
HMRT 3033	Philosophy of Human Rights
HMRT 3113	The Rights Revolution in Canada
HMRT 3013	Discrimination and the Law in Canada
HMRT 3123	International Human Rights
HMRT 3063	Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity
HMRT 3133	Activism and Social Justice
HMRT 3603	Thesis Proposal
HMRT 4013	Capstone Seminar
HMRT 4063	Honours Thesis

Students must also complete a minimum of 18 credit hours in elective courses from the following human rights courses. Students should consult the program director if substitution of cross-listed courses is requested.

HMRT 2023	Human Rights and Literature
HMRT 3073	Human Rights Internship
HMRT 3133	Activism and Social Justice
HMRT 3203	Human Rights Advocacy through Social Media
HMRT 3503	Moot Court
HMRT 3543	Human Rights and Foreign Policy
HMRT 3633	Gender Expression, Sexual Orientation and Human Rights
HMRT 3803	Human Rights of the Child
HMRT 3903	Corporate Social Responsibility
HMRT 4023	Independent Study
HMRT 4043	Special Topics in Human Rights

HMRT-1003. Introduction to Human Rights
This course will introduce students to the study of human rights by investigating the question "What is a human right?" The course will proceed primarily through a number of examples and case studies. Students will also be given an overview of the basic instruments, institutions, and ideas relevant to human rights.

HMRT-1203. Global Politics (POLS 1603)
This course provides an introduction to the concepts of nation and state, sovereignty, forms of government, and political conflict. It does so through consideration of issues in world politics, such as human rights and social justice, ecological imbalance, economic inequalities, war, global governmental institutions and organizations.

HMRT-2013. Research Methods
The purpose of this course is to give students an introduction to research methods used in the study of human rights. The course will include methods of data collection as well as analysis of data. The course will begin with a general introduction to the aims and methods of research projects. Students in this course will do a research project in human rights under the supervision of the instructor. Students will be expected to present periodic reports on the status of their work.

HMRT-2023. Human Rights and Literature
This course will explore various human rights questions through an examination of relevant legal documents paired with literary works from a variety of genres (from drama to memoir) that address each issue. The course is intended to give students an understanding of some of the most pressing human rights issues of the past and today, ranging from slavery to economic inequalities.

HMRT-2033. Human Rights in Theory and Practice
This course critically analyzes different theories concerning the practice of human rights as a framework for social justice. A variety of texts from thinkers such as Rawls, Grant, Locke, Marx, DuBois, and De Tocqueville will be used to analyze theories of justice, liberty, equality, solidarity, and legal certainty. This course will also examine the critiques of rights and the limitations of the international human rights movement and framework.

HMRT-2043. Non-Western Perspectives on Human Rights
This course will explore philosophic and religious sources outside the Western canon, on which Human Rights discourse can be and has been based. The culture spheres of interest will be the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. This course critically analyzes non-western theories concerning the practice of human rights as a framework for social justice. The course seeks to place Western Human Rights discourse in a global context by drawing attention to ways in which non-Western cultures have addressed questions of individual versus group or state rights, the metaphysical and political sources of rights, and the possibility of universal human dignity.

HMRT-2203. Community Economic Development (ECON)
A course which explores the theory and practice of community economic development. It will include the examination of case studies of successful community economic development. The focus will be on the appropriateness and applicability of the model to the Maritimes.

HMRT-2206. The Quest for the Good Life (GRBK 2006)
This course is designed to approach the perennial issue of The Quest for the Good Life through the thoughtful reading of some of the greatest works in a variety of disciplines. The texts may include ancient and modern, all selected because they speak to and illuminate this theme. Texts will vary from year to year but will include works such as Aristotle's *Ethics*, the

Bible, Machiavelli's *Prince*, and Camus' *The Plague*.

HMRT-2216. Human Nature and Technology (GRBK 2206)
This course will study the way in which diverse thinkers have considered the question of human nature. This question will be sharpened with a consideration of the way in which human beings considered as natural beings use and are affected by technology. Texts will vary from year to year, but may include works such as: Aeschylus' *Prometheus Bound*, Bacon's *New Atlantis*, Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*, Grant's *Technology and Empire*, Miller's *A Canticle for Leibowitz*, Heidegger's *The Question Concerning Technology*, Shelley's *Frankenstein*, Gaskell's *North and South*, Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, and Sterling's *Holy Fire*.

HMRT-2223. Political Economy of Women (ECON)
This is a seminar course examining, in depth, selected topics on the political economy of women. Potential topics include women as paid workers, domestic labour, and women and poverty.

HMRT-2233. Gender in the Global South: A Political Economy Perspective (ECON 2303)
This course will critically examine the role of women in the global South. It will concentrate largely on the changes in these roles and their correspondence with the transition from traditional to new forms of economic organization, production, and power.

HMRT-2243. Environment and Society II: Perspectives on Human-Nature Relations (ENVS 2023)
Social systems are constructed on a set of dominant beliefs, assumptions and values that are largely unexamined but shape the way societies perceive and interact with the natural world. In this course, students examine the dominant perspectives that give rise to environmental degradation, as well as alternative paradigms offered by Green, eco-justice, global south, sustainability, and indigenous movements. Students also engage with political, economic and cultural theories of environmental change. Prerequisite: ENVS 1013 or permission of the instructor.

HMRT-2253. Introduction to Moral Philosophy (PHIL 2213)
An examination, through readings, lectures, and discussion, of some important attempts to ground ethical judgments. Themes: relativism, egoism, values, and sentiment; values and consequences; and, the determination of duty.

HMRT-2263. Contemporary Moral Philosophy (PHIL 2233)
An investigation, through readings, lectures, and discussion, of contemporary issues and authors in moral philosophy. Topics include: Nietzsche and the transvaluation of values, existentialist ethics, emotivism, Marxism and ethics, the natural law debate, situation ethics, the logic and meaning of ethical discourse. Prerequisite: PHIL 2213, or permission of the instructor.

HMRT-2273. Current Issues in Ethics (PHIL 2243)
A discussion, through lectures and student presentations, of ethical theory through its application in the consideration of such contemporary issues as: pornography and censorship, euthanasia, abortion, punishment, justice and welfare, sexual and racial discrimination. Prerequisite: PHIL 2213, or permission of the instructor.

HMRT-2283. Science, Technology, and War (STS 2403)
This course explores the development of modern techniques, technologies, and social systems for the purposes of making war. It also explores how wars change societies, technologically, socially, and structurally. Note: Students who have taken STS 1403 will not receive credit for STS 2403.

HMRT-3013. Discrimination and the Law in Canada
This course will focus on domestic human rights codes and human rights commissions. Special attention will be given to the New Brunswick Human Rights Code and the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission.

HMRT-3033. Philosophy of Human Rights
This course will introduce students to philosophical questions concerning the foundations of human rights. What are human rights based on? What makes something a human right? Are human rights universally and permanently valid or is the notion of human rights merely a construct of modern Western culture? The course will familiarize students with alternative theoretical answers to these and other related questions.

HMRT-3063. Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity
This course will examine strategies to prevent, investigate and punish genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. Students will explore the protection of victims and their fundamental rights in emergency situations, the rights and duties of relevant stakeholders, and the role of international law in addressing grievous human rights violations.

HMRT-3073. Human Rights Internship
This course will provide students with exposure to the practice of human rights by completing a supervised internship with a local non-governmental organization. Students will be required to complete a detailed exit report and research paper that encourages them to reflect on the relationship between that experience and their formal human rights studies.

HMRT-3113. The Rights Revolution in Canada
This course will examine the impact of the Charter on rights and freedoms in Canada. After an introductory discussion of the Bill of Rights and the development of the Charter, instruction will focus on a large number of Supreme Court decisions interpreting the meaning of the Charter's provisions.

HMRT-3123. International Human Rights
This course explicates the principal international and regional systems in place for the protection and promotion of human rights, including the Inter-American, European, African, and United Nations systems. Students will study the most important human rights instruments, such as the International Bill of Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights, and the American Convention on Human Rights.

HMRT-3133. Activism and Social Justice
This course will identify and explore the operations of the main non-governmental organizations at the international and domestic levels in the field of human rights. Theoretical consideration shall be given to the role of these organizations in the practice of freedom.
The practical work of various human rights groups will be considered. Students will be expected to participate in the work of a given human rights group during the course.

HMRT-3203. Human Rights Advocacy through Social Media (COPP)
This course explores how the rise of social media has both advanced and hindered the protection of human rights by examining how social media provides a platform for instantaneous global information-sharing, rendering it increasingly difficult for state or business interests to shield human rights abuses from public scrutiny. Topics will be examined through a number of case studies. Prerequisites: HMRT 1003 - Introduction to Human Rights.

HMRT-3206. Justice (GRBK 3306)
This course will explore the nature of human community and the question of justice. Themes

to be addressed will include an individual's responsibility to others, the role of community in promoting human happiness, the manner in which we are both limited and fulfilled by justice, and the relationship of justice and law. Texts will vary from year to year, but may include works such as: Plato's *Republic*, Aquinas' *Summa Theologica,* Sayers' *Gaudy Night*, Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, Cary's *Tragedy of Mariam*, Marx's *The German Ideology*, and King's *Letter from Birmingham Jail*. Prerequisites: GRBK 2006, or permission of the instructors.

HMRT-3213. Environment & Society III: Policy, Power & Politics (ENVS 3013)
The modernist view is that knowledge leads to rational decisions. From an environmental perspective, however, this idea is seriously challenged. Never has society known so much about ecological and climate change; yet collective responses to these changes have failed to reverse the downward trends. This course examines this dynamic by examining the politics of the environmental crisis, and in particular the power struggles between those resisting change and those promoting alternative visions of a sustainable society. We consider how those alternative visions translate into public policy and how citizens can engage to make this happen. Prerequisites: ENVS 1013 and ENVS 2023, or permission of the instructor.

HMRT-3216. Freedom (GRBK 3506)
This course will examine the nature of freedom in the context of human life and community. Questions to be addressed will include: To what extent are human beings free by nature? Should political communities promote freedom? What might be appropriate limitations on our freedom? Texts may include Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*, Plato's *Crito*, Aquinas' *On Free Will*, Shakespeare's *Coriolanus* and Hegel's *The Philosophy of Right.* Prerequisite: GRBK 2006.

HMRT-3223. Environmental Praxis (ENVS 3023)
This course explores how alternative visions of the future translate into political action at the international, national, provincial, community, and personal levels. This involves an analysis of alternative theories of the nature of social change. A component of this course may be service learning. Prerequisites: ENVS 1013 and ENVS 2023, or permission of the instructor.

HMRT-3243. Human Rights in International Relations and Foreign Policy (POLS 3503)
This course considers human rights in international relations. It focuses on how the emerging human rights regime is affecting the practice of traditional state sovereignty. Special attention will be paid to the political and philosophical arguments around such issues as universal human rights versus cultural relativism, and the problems associated with humanitarian intervention.

HMRT-3253. Model United Nations (POLS 3613)
This course will prepare students for participation in a Model United Nations, either Canadian or American sponsored. In a model UN simulation, students represent an assigned country's foreign policy on assigned issues on the UN agenda. The course will begin with an examination of the UN and its procedures. Subsequent topics will include researching the assigned UN issues and the assigned country's policy on them; preparation of working papers and motions, and strategies for effective conference participation. Fund raising for the trip required: half credit course, but meets first and second terms; limited enrolment.

HMRT-3263. Sex, Science & Gender (STS 3303)
This course examines how scientific research, in the late 19th and 20th centuries, has shaped common conceptions of sex behaviour and how this scientific knowledge has also been shaped by cultural conceptions of gender roles and "normal" behaviour.

HMRT-3273. Feminism and Techno-Science (STS 3503)
Examines a variety of feminist perspectives on science and technology which suggest that scientific authority (particularly in the biological and life sciences) rationalizes and normalizes gender stereotypes and inequalities, and also marginalizes women from its institutions. The content and positions of various perspectives (as well as counter-arguments) are studied for their political, philosophical, and epistemic assumptions. Prerequisite: at least 9 credit hours in STS or permission of the instructor.

HMRT-3283. Science, Religion, and Galileo's Trial (STS 3063)
Examines the complex interactions between Western science and the Judeo-Christian religious tradition in the ancient, medieval, and early modern periods culminating with a close study of Galileo's trial by the Inquisition in 1632 to reveal how variable and complex interactions between science and religion have been characterized at different times by conflict, cooperation, separation, understanding, misunderstanding, dialogue, and alienation. Prerequisite: STS 2243 or permission of the instructor.

HMRT-3433. World Literature in English: West Indies and Africa (ENGL)
An introduction to the range of literary expressions of writers from the non-Western cultures of the West Indies and Africa. The major genre studied is the novel, though poetry and essays are also examined. The focus of the course is to study the concerns of the colonized, those who were swept up by British expansion in the 18th and 19th centuries. (Categories: National or Regional, Cultural Studies).

HMRT-3503. Moot Court (POLS 3403)
Moot court cultivates advanced analytical skills while developing leadership qualities in students with an interest in human rights. Students learn how to develop and deliver oral legal arguments by competing in a Supreme Court simulation where they answer questions from a panel of judges. Students focus on Supreme Court precedent surrounding two different issues each year. Students are required to have permission of instructor to register for the course. No other prerequisites are required.

HMRT-3513. Moot Court
Moot court cultivates advanced analytical skills while developing leadership qualities in students with an interest in human rights. Students learn how to develop and deliver oral legal arguments by competing in a Supreme Court simulation where they answer questions from a panel of judges. Students focus on Supreme Court precedent surrounding two different issues each year. Students are required to have permission of instructor to register for the course. No other prerequisites are required.

HMRT-3523. Moot Court
Moot court cultivates advanced analytical skills while developing leadership qualities in students with an interest in human rights. Students learn how to develop and deliver oral legal arguments by competing in a Supreme Court simulation where they answer questions from a panel of judges. Students focus on Supreme Court precedent surrounding two different issues each year. Students are required to have permission of instructor to register for the course. No other prerequisites are required.

HMRT-3543. Human Rights and Foreign Policy
This course considers human rights in international relations and foreign policy from the point of view of constraints on sovereignty. With background from the 19th and 20th centuries up to WWII, it concentrates on the promotion and protection of human rights

in the post-war period. Topics covered include: the UN system of human rights and the international and domestic politics of human rights as evidenced in foreign policy, Canadian in particular.

HMRT-3603. Thesis Proposal
The purpose of this course is to guide students interested in writing an honours thesis through their initial research process. Students will develop a thesis statement, examine their methodology, conduct a literature review and write a substantial annotated bibliography. Classes will be held throughout the term to assess progress towards the completion of the proposal. A completed thesis proposal is required before moving on in the honours program.

HMRT-3633. Gender Expression, Sexual Orientation, and Human Rights (GEND)
This course explores the socially constructed customs and structures of society that enable the legal regulation of gender identity and sexual orientation. Topics such as gender expression, access to health care and legal protections for sexual minorities will be approached through a variety of material and media, such as academic works, case studies, historical and legal texts, literary works, and film.

HMRT-3803. Human Rights of the Child
This course examines the legal human rights structures in Canada and internationally, as they apply to children and adolescents in unique and rapidly evolving ways. The primary focus is on domestic human rights legislation under provincial and federal human rights Acts. Various legal regimes, both local and international, related to immigration/refugee law, privacy law, health law, criminal law, education law, Aboriginal law, child welfare law, and other areas will be surveyed.

HMRT-3903. Corporate Social Responsibility
This course looks at the social responsibility of corporations. Students will explore equitable employment practices, the right to a healthy work environment, equal pay for equal work, protection from discrimination, harassment, and exploitation, and the right to form and join trade unions. This course explores strategies for preventing such violations, the extent to which businesses are legally obligated to respect human rights, and the type of recourse and remedies available when rights are violated.

HMRT-4013. Capstone Seminar
This course will consist of an in-depth investigation of one or more human rights problems. The specific topic will change from year to year. Students will be expected to examine the issue(s) in light of their knowledge of the basic instruments, institutions, and ideas relevant to human rights as well as their understanding of the fundamental questions of value that surround contemporary social issues. The course is normally reserved for students in their final year of the human rights Major.

HMRT-4023. Independent Study
Students may undertake studies under the direction of a member or members of the program with the permission of the Director. The course is limited to students with a proven academic record.

HMRT-4043. Special Topics in Human Rights
The content of this course changes from year to year reflecting the strengths of faculty or the scholar occupying the Chair in Canadian Citizenship and Human Rights.

HMRT-4063. Honours Thesis
This course is the written component of the honours program and is an extended research paper on a topic written under the supervision of a thesis director. Students must have completed HMRT 3603, Thesis Proposal, with a minimum grade of B to take HMRT 4063. Upon completion, the thesis is defended in front of the student's thesis committee as well as invited member of the human rights faculty.

HMRT-4923. Collective Memory, Culture and Texts in Argentina (SPAN)
This course will explore the connections between collective memory, history and culture in Argentina. It explores the cultural production of the post-dictatorship Process of National Reorganization (1976-1983) through essays, fiction, and film. These texts and films reconstruct not only history but also those identities denied by official history. We will define concepts such as official history, Other History, and collective memory in order to understand the discursive fields from which history and memory are reconstructed.

HMRT-5503. Teaching for and About Human Rights
This course is offered during the human rights summer institute designed for pre-service teachers, practicing teachers, and professionals in related fields. The course introduces participants to the various rights, instruments, and issues relevant to the classroom and provides opportunities for teachers and others to increase their knowledge base in the human rights field.