

UNIVERSIDADE CATÓLICA PORTUGUESA
INSTITUTO DE ESTUDOS POLÍTICOS

BA Program

Human Rights: Past Traditions and Contemporary Challenges

Professor: Mónica Dias

Fall Semester 2021/22 (5,5 ECTS)

PROGRAM

- 1 – The current context: Human Rights in a New World (dis-)order:
Globalization and Identity, Risk Society and Mobility, Geopolitics and Global Governance.
The Threats to HR today Timothy Snider: On Tyranny
- 2 – Past Traditions: Seminal Readings on Human Rights throughout History
The importance of Sofocles' *Antigone* today
Basic Documents on HR: From Magna Charta to the UDHR
- 3 – Two traditions of Rights: The French and the English proposals in the 18th Century
- 4 – Human Rights and International Law in the XIX Century
- 5 – The Human Rights Charter of the UNO (and Regional Charters)
- 6 – The International Criminal Court
- 7 – Humanitarian Interventions & International Law
- 8 – Migrations and Rights of Refugees
- 9 – Religion & Human Rights
- 10 – Open Society, New Social Media & Human Rights
- 11 – Human Rights and its Critics today
- 12 – The Final Debate: Are Human Rights local or universal?

All topics are analyzed and discussed based on theoretic debates, reports and case studies.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ALSTON, Philip (2011), *The United Nations and Human Rights*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- ARENDDT, Hannah (1957) [1951], *The Origin of Totalitarianism*, New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company.
- BELLAMY, Alex (2010), *Global Politics and the Right to Protect*. London: Routledge.
- COICAUD, J.-M., Michael. W. Doyle e A.-M. Gardner (eds.) (2003), *The Globalization of Human Rights*, Tokyo: United Nations University Press.
- CLAPHAM, Andrew (2014), *Human Rights*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- DONNELLY, Jack (2013), *Universal Human Rights*, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
- DUNNE, T. E N.J. Wheeler (eds.) (1999), *Human Rights in Global Politics*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- EL-HAGE, Youssef K. (2004), "Human Rights: A Western Christian Invention?" in: *Theological Review*, nº 25 (2): 3-19.
- ISHAY, Micheline R. (2004), *The History of Human Rights*, Berkeley: University of California Press.
- MARITAIN, Jacques (1943), *The Rights of Man and Natural Law*, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

- MILL, John Stuart (2002) [1859], "On Liberty" in: J. Schneewind (ed.), *The Basic Writings of John Stuart Mill*, New York: Modern Library.
- MOECKLI, Daniel et al (2018), *International Human Rights Law*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- NICKEL, James W. (2006), *Making Sense of Human Rights*, London: Blackwell.
- RAMCHARAN, B. (2002), *The Security Council and the Protection of Human Rights*, The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff.
- REIFF, Niamh (2009), *Woman's Human Rights*, Cambridge: Polity Press.
- The Human Rights Reader*

During the seminar, the students will be given specific complementary working materials (reports, newspaper articles, papers, book chapters) in pdf format.

METHODOLOGY AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- Teaching:** Theoretical-practical approach
- Evaluation:** Attendance and Participation in Seminar Work (Readings and Comments*): 20%
Portfolio (Research Case Study): 20%
Final Test (January)*: 60%

*For each working session, the different reading assignments will be previously announced and all students are expected to prepare these texts in order to participate in the following analysis and discussion. Within these assignments, there will be oral presentations as well. These assessment elements will be reviewed in case the Seminar is taught online.

**Plagiarism excludes the student from evaluation.