This course provides a theoretical and historical introduction to human rights, on the premise that a sound understanding of contemporary practice and debates requires grounding in their historical and theoretical roots and foundations. In order to accommodate the large enrollment for this course, it is being taught this year in a hybrid format. I will run a slightly abbreviated “lecture” class for about 2 ½ hours, with a short break in the middle. Each week there will also be a smaller session with a TA for 75 minutes. In several weeks, one reading is marked by a dagger (†). This will be the starting point for discussion in the breakout session.

Grades will be based on takehome mid-term and final exams. Participation in class (quality not quantity) will be taken into account when determining whether or not to round up on the final grade, and, in exceptional circumstances, may even raise (but not lower) the final grade by a "+". Readings by class follow. Do not attempt to do more than the required reading. Recommended reading is listed largely for future reference. In general, it is preferable to do the reading in the order listed in the syllabus; many weeks that will make your life substantially easier.

Class 1: Introduction
The English Bill of Rights
Declaration of Independence of the United States of America
The Bill of Rights of the United States of America
French Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen
Universal Declaration of Human Rights
Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Class 2: Rights and Human Rights
Jack Donnelly, UHR2e, ch. 1, 2.
Martha Nussbaum, "Capabilities and Human Rights," in Hayden.
† Steven Lukes, "Five Fables about Human Rights," in Hayden.

Recommended:
Peter Jones, Rights.
Tara Smith, Moral Rights and Political Freedom, ch. 1-5.
Maurice Cranston, *What are Human Rights?*.
Morton E. Winston (ed.), *The Philosophy of Human Rights*.

**Class 3: Human Rights and Western Liberalism**

**Class 4: Economic and Social Rights**
† Donnelly, *UHR2e*, ch. 11.

**Class 5: Self-Determination and Group Rights**
Johannes Morsink, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, ch. 3.
James Crawford, "The Rights of Peoples: 'Peoples' or 'Governments'," in Patrick Hayden (ed.), *The Philosophy of Human Rights*.
† Will Kymlicka, "The Good, the Bad and the Intolerable: Minority Group Rights," in Patrick Hayden (ed.), *The Philosophy of Human Rights*.

**Class 6: Cultural Relativism**
The literature on human rights and cultural relativism is immense. I am well aware that there is too much reading for this week, but …
A. Required Reading
Read any three articles from §B.

B. Non-Western Conceptions of Human Rights
Ralph Buultjens, "Human Rights in Indian Political Culture," in Thompson.
UHR2e, ch. 5.

C. Recommended Reading


Norani Othman, "Grounding Human Rights Arguments in Non-Western Culture: Shari'a and the Citizenship Rights of Women in a Modern Islamic State," in Bauer and Bell.


**Class 7: Debating Human Rights in China**

Marina Svensson, Debating Human Rights in China, ch. 4-7, 9-12.

**Class 8: Human Rights and Private Wrongs**


**Class 9: Challenges to Human Rights**


Micheline Ishay, History of Human Rights, ch. 5.


Anthony J. Langlois, The Politics of Justice and Human Rights, ch. 5
Recommended:
Costas Douzinas, *The End of Human Rights*.
Michael Ignatieff, *Human Rights as Politics and Idolatry*.
Mary Ann Glendon, *Rights Talk: The Impoverishment of Political Discourse*.
Ian Shapiro, *The Evolution of Rights in Liberal Theory*.
Henry B. Veatch, *Human Rights: Fact or Fancy?*

**Class 10: The Dark Sides of Virtue**