From our students

"The flexibility and choice of units was wonderful and allowed me to structure my major by picking units that were of interest to me. By studying Human Rights, I was able to gain a greater insight into how different cultures and societies are shaped, as well as the different values of rights. Through its international focus, Human Rights provided me with a perspective on past, current and future issues, not only in relation to rights, but also in regards to international relationships and conflicts."

Kelly Anderson
Current Student

Human Rights

ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS

The study of Human Rights, explores human rights law, practice and activism, which are among the most widely accepted approaches to addressing harms suffered by humans worldwide.

Human rights issues discussed include torture, hunger, military aggression, ethnic violence, political corruption and discrimination.

Why study Human Rights?
As a student of Human Rights you will examine the nature and legitimacy of human rights claims and the role of human rights in the broader context of international affairs.

You will investigate human rights from a variety of disciplinary perspectives including the history of human rights and the way human rights are implicated in geography, criminology and law. You can also explore critical issues such as:

» Can violations of human rights justify interfering in the domestic affairs of the violating nation?
» What are the rights of asylum seekers; does the world have a responsibility for misplaced peoples?
» Is torture ever justified?
» Do children have the same human rights as adults?

Complementary areas of study
If you are interested in Human Rights you may want to explore other complementary areas of study:

» Law
» Criminology
» Journalism
» International studies
» Philosophy
» History
» International relations
» Sustainability

What are some of the topics Human Rights explores?
In your first year you will study foundation units of Human Rights:

» Human Rights Theory 1
» Human Rights Theory 2

In your second and third year you are able to choose from a wide range of units, which reflect your interests or career aspirations:

» Global governance
» The ethics of global conflict
» Poverty, climate change and international justice
» Democratic theory
» Trauma and memory in the modern world
» Nationality, ethnicity and conflict
» Foreign policy analysis
» Gender and international relations
» Power and poverty: International development in a globalised world

How Human Rights fits into your Arts Degree?
You can take studies in Human Rights as a major or a minor. You can also choose to include Human Rights units as electives within your degree.

Career prospects
A major in Human Rights can help you pursue a career in:

» Politics
» Advocacy
» Non-government organisations
» Journalism
» Government bodies
» Diplomacy

Apart from its relevance to a variety of careers, the study of Human Rights will also be of great intellectual interest to anyone who wants to further their understanding of the most important ideas that influence the world around us.