Course Enrolment Guide 2008

Graduate Certificate in Human Rights

Institute of Legal Studies
(Faculty of Arts & Sciences)

Contact Details:

Course Co-ordinator: Professor Frank Brennan sj AO

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1. How to use this Guide

This Course Enrolment Guide 2008 provides you with information on the units you will require to complete your course; and when and where the units will be offered in 2008.

Steps to enrol in units for 2008

1. Read Section 2. ‘Program Information’ for information on course structure and unit sequence. Take note of any prerequisite or co-requisite requirements before selecting particular units.

2. Refer to the unit listings in Section 3. ‘Units Offered in 2008’ to select your units. Take note of the study period in which units are offered.

3. You must refer to ‘Enrolment Information 2008’ on the ACU intranet for information on how to complete your enrolment via Student Connect*. ‘Enrolment Information 2007’ also provides information on study period definitions, modes of study, campus locations, dates for each study period and census dates.

4. Log on to Student Connect* and enrol.

Contacting the Institute of Legal Studies

Michael Dean will be available to assist new students with enrolment; successful applicants will be advised by email of the mode and day and times of consultation. Please provide the Institute of Legal Studies with an email address – you can email the Institute on ils@acu.edu.au.

It is strongly recommended that you do not enrol without first consulting Michael Dean, as an incorrect enrolment will not allow you to graduate. Please contact the Institute if you require further information.

IMPORTANT

This guide contains valuable information that will be useful throughout your course of study. It is advised that you:

- Download and print the complete guide
- Keep it in a safe place with other enrolment documents
- Read it carefully before enrolling, and if you subsequently need to make changes to your enrolment.

* Student Connect is a web interface allowing students to complete their ACU National enrolment online.
2. Program Information

**Entry to the course:**

Applicants will require a bachelors degree in any discipline or equivalent. Relevant work experience may be taken into account in assessing a candidates’ suitability for the Course, in the absence of a bachelors degree. Applicants without a degree will be asked to demonstrate to the Course Coordinator his/her capacity to undertake the course successfully.

**Aims and major objectives of the courses:**

The courses are designed for people working in areas involving human rights and social justice, in NGOs, in development agencies and in the community as well as for lawyers or other interested people with a concern for social justice and human rights issues, who wish to develop their understandings of human rights and the law. The courses explore the legal framework of human rights and the organisations and mechanisms by which human rights are monitored and enforced nationally and internationally. Importantly, the courses provide for the study of the theory and philosophy of human rights and/or of Catholic social teaching as well as advancing informed dialogue on current debates and issues, such as human rights and terrorism or the rights of Indigenous peoples, especially in Australia and the South Pacific. The interdisciplinary nature of the Courses is one of their key strengths. The courses also provide opportunities for research and for the development of skills in presenting well-informed and clearly articulated presentations and arguments.

Students will be encouraged to bring their own experience to the course, and to share that experience with other students.

**Graduate Attributes**

At the conclusion of either the Graduate certificate in Human Rights or the Graduate Diploma in Human Rights, students are expected to have achieved the following graduate attributes:

**Intellectual**
- Critical analytical abilities to research and interpret legal and other documentation on human rights;
- The ability to be a reflective lifelong learner, open and receptive to new ideas;
- The capacity to contribute informed, well-reasoned and principled commentary to current debates on human rights;
- An awareness of different cultural, political and legal perspectives on human rights;
- An understanding of the spiritual, philosophical and religious dimensions of human rights.

**Professional**
- Relevant knowledge and skills to meet professional requirements;
- Commitment to professional ethical standards;
- Skills in communicating effectively with people from different professions, cultural backgrounds and disciplines;
- Skills in integration of theoretical knowledge into practical applications in the workplace.

**Values**
- Respect for the dignity and rights of individuals from all cultures, beliefs and backgrounds;
- A commitment to empathy for individuals and to service to others;
- Willingness to defend human rights and to strive to influence and effect social change to that end;
- Commitment to the values of the University.
COURSE STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN HUMAN RIGHTS

This course comprises four one-semester length units, and includes two compulsory core units. The Campus and mode of offering for each unit is set out below. The Graduate Certificate in Human Rights comprises 40 credit points (cp) made up of four 10cp units, two core units and two electives.

Units offered in the Graduate Certificate in Human Rights

Graduate Certificate in Human Rights

Core Units:

Choose one of:

LEGL508 Australian Human Rights or (10 CP)
LEGL507 International Human Rights (10 CP)

And choose one of:

PHIL507 Philosophy of Human Rights or (10 CP)
THEL604 Catholic Social Thought (10 CP)

Elective Units:

The two remaining Elective Units may be chosen, subject to prerequisites or incompatibility from the list of units set out in the Schedule.

Note: the Graduate Diploma in Human Rights is not offered for commencing students in 2008.
### 3. Units Offered in 2008

#### SEMESTER 1

**18/02/2008-20/05/2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code / Number</th>
<th>Unit Title</th>
<th>Location - Delivery Mode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEGL507</td>
<td>International Human Rights</td>
<td>North Sydney On Campus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SEMESTER 2

**28/07/2008-24/10/2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code / Number</th>
<th>Unit Title</th>
<th>Location – Delivery Mode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEGL511</td>
<td>International Human Rights</td>
<td>North Sydney On Campus Intensive mode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL510</td>
<td>Terrorism and Human Rights</td>
<td>North Sydney on Campus in Intensive mode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL507</td>
<td>Philosophy of Human Rights</td>
<td>North Sydney over four Saturdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEL604</td>
<td>Catholic Social Thought</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Schedule

Description of all units available as electives for the Graduate Certificate/Graduate Diploma in Human Rights
(all units are 10cp)

Please note that not all units will be available for study in each semester. Some units are subject to a minimum number of students enrolling. Some units may be offered on more than campus or in different modes in the same semester.

EDAC525 CITIZENSHIP AND HUMAN RIGHTS
Prerequisites Nil

Citizenship has many dimensions and meanings for people, depending upon their class, gender, ethnicity and age. The most obvious meaning of citizenship relates to the formal and informal ways in which we belong to a society or nation: a nationality marked by a passport; the right to certain social and economic ‘goods’ such as education, social security, healthcare; and a shared system of values that are common and bind us as social beings. Citizenship, however, is not primarily a passive role. Citizens in a democracy must participate actively. This unit will provide knowledge and skills required for the education of responsible citizens.

HUMA500 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: SPECIAL STUDY
Prerequisites Nil

This unit allows students to enrol in postgraduate level study for purposes of professional development, reflecting the needs of a particular group or organisation, and will generally have a focus on the mission and institutional identity of the group or organisation. It is intended to allow, at postgraduate level, a unit of professional development designed to meet a specific purpose and is normally undertaken by flexible delivery as non-award study.

LEGL507 INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
Prerequisites Nil
Incompatible if taken as a Core Unit

This unit provides students with a broad overview of the international law relating to human rights. It provides an outline of the UN system for the protection of human rights and makes a special study of the emerging changes with the 2006 institution of the UN Human Rights Council. It provides a special focus on East Timor and Cambodia, the two countries in the region to have received closest attention from the UN human rights agencies.

LEGL508 AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS
Prerequisites Nil
Incompatible if taken as a Core Unit

This unit provides non-lawyers with an interest in human rights with access to the domestic law governing human rights in Australia. It also provides lawyers with the social and political context for the contemporary debate about the need for a bill of rights in Australia, and the shortcomings in Australian law for the adequate protection of minorities, including Indigenous Australians, asylum seekers and refugees. This unit also provides NGO workers, concerned citizens and those employed by church agencies with the learning needed to contribute to public dialogue and action enhancing human rights in Australia, including freedom of religion.
LEGL509 HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL NGOs  
Prerequisite: LEGL507 International Human Rights

This unit provides students with a practical understanding of the role of international NGOs in the protection and advocacy of human rights. It will include case studies of international NGOs' interventions in countries suffering gross human rights violations. It will also focus on the strategic campaigns of international NGOs that adopt particular issues to advocate internationally. There will be a particular focus on the role played by international NGOs in advocating the establishment of the new UN Human Rights Council and now in the Council itself. The unit will use Australian case studies wherever possible to illustrate both the work of international NGOs with Australian affiliates and the work of international NGOs on Australian human rights issues.

LEGL510 TERRORISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS  
Prerequisites Nil

Since 11 September 2001, there has been an increased need for government to find appropriate ways of providing public security in the face of terrorism while also protecting human rights. This unit surveys developments in the European Union, the United States of America and Australia. Legislation passed to cope with the terrorist threat and the reviews which have been conducted of such legislation will be examined. What does it mean to speak of a war against terror? Are there legal safeguards which ought to apply no matter what the level and uncertainty of threat?

LEGL511 INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS  
Prerequisite: LEGL507 International Human Rights

This unit provides students with a practical understanding of the role of international human rights mechanisms, including the new UN Human Rights Council, the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council and the human rights treaty monitoring committees. It will include case studies of the work of these mechanisms, focusing in particular on Australian experiences. The unit will provide students with knowledge and skills in the use of these mechanisms at a local level to address local human rights issues and situations.

LEGL512 AUSTRALIAN MIGRATION LAW  
Prerequisites Nil

This unit will introduce students to the sources of migration law in Australia. It will examine in detail Australia’s immigration system, legislation and policy and assist students in the interpretation of immigration law. Students will also develop their understanding of the history of immigration in Australia, and will be introduced to the various visas within the Australian immigration system, their respective requirements and application procedures.

LEGL513 LEGAL RESEARCH METHODS  
Prerequisites Nil

The unit assists students to understand a range of concepts and techniques associated with both qualitative and quantitative methods of research that are applicable when undertaking legal research. Students will be able to evaluate the best method of doing particular types of research and apply some of these techniques in workshop activities and projects. Students will also learn how to reference material correctly using an accepted legal citation method.
LEGL514 RESEARCH PROJECT
Prerequisites NIL

The Research Project involves independent study under supervision. It is expected to be a substantial piece of research in which a student must demonstrate an ability to conduct an independent research study, making appropriate theoretical connections, and adding to an existing body of knowledge. Each candidate is under the supervision of a member of University staff member.

LEGL515 APPLIED STUDY IN HUMAN RIGHTS
Perquisites Nil

In this unit students investigate social justice and human rights issues and examine them with respect to national and international human rights laws. The unit contributes to the research knowledge and skills of students, as well as developing in depth knowledge of the scholarship and practice of human rights law.

LEGL516 HUMAN RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
Prerequisites Nil

This unit provides students with a good understanding of significant human rights issues distinctive to Indigenous peoples in Oceania, especially Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia. It provides an overview of the individual human rights of Indigenous men and women who often happen to be amongst the most disadvantaged citizens. It also provides an understanding of the unique collective rights of Indigenous persons (such as land rights and self-determination) and the unique entitlements of Indigenous groups to seek rectification of past wrongs, including the separation of children and the non-payment of wages. Students are encouraged to read Indigenous writers and to critique the arguments for distinctive treatment of Indigenous groups as well as government policies of assimilation and integration.

PHIL507 THE PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN RIGHTS
Prerequisites Nil
Incompatible if taken as a Core Unit

The purpose of this unit is to encourage students to become philosophically reflective about the central concepts (such as 'genocide' and 'crimes against humanity') necessary to understanding the Western tradition of human rights. Humanity has come to understand itself by coming to understand, with some precision and attention to distinctions, the crimes of which it is capable. It therefore matters that we give the right names to those crimes. To encourage students to see that this matters and why it matters is one of the main purposes of the unit. That purpose will not be realised, however, unless students also apply a philosophically critical gaze on fundamental conceptions about the nature of rights, justice and law and on the assumptions and theories of what it means to be human that inform those conceptions.

THEL604 CATHOLIC SOCIAL THOUGHT
Prerequisites Nil
Incompatible if taken as a Core Unit

This unit is an exploration of the development of Catholic Social Thought as a critical reflection on and response to the social teaching found mainly in a series of papal encyclicals, dating from 1745 onwards. The unit draws on biblical, theological and sociological disciplines. Biblical foundations are examined, with an emphasis on themes of justice. The unit will include concepts typical of Catholic Social Thought, such as the dignity of the person, the common good, solidarity, subsidiarity and equality.
THEO658 FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
Prerequisites Nil

An exploration of the way in which ethics, primarily from the Christian perspective, acts as a guide and exercises a critique in questions of contemporary social justice. The first part of the unit will focus upon social ethics, devoting special attention to the development of Christian social ethics, but also considering the ethical traditions of other major religions and secular ethics. Principles of social ethics will then be applied to a number of important social issues which face those working in the rapidly changing context of the contemporary world.

THEO684 THEOLOGY AND RECONCILIATION
Prerequisites Nil

This unit views the notion of reconciliation through a number of lenses. A scriptural overview of reconciliation is given. The unit also provides an overview of reconciliation in the teaching and practice of the Christian churches. Distinct processes of personal and social reconciliation are outlined. There is specific focus on reconciliation in the Australian context. Christian theologies and spiritualities of reconciliation are described in relation to strategies which promote the ministry of reconciliation. Finally, reconciliation is studied under its diverse liturgical forms.

THEO647 ISSUES IN CHRISTIAN ETHICS
Prerequisites Nil

Students will examine the question of the specific nature of Christian morality and critically evaluate traditional and contemporary theories of the development and formation of conscience. They will apply the results of their studies to specific problem areas of contemporary society.

Delivery Modes:

- **On Campus** - Offered face-to-face or with a WebCT component at any one of the six ACU National campuses.
- **On Site** - The unit is offered face-to-face at any location other than one of the six ACU National campuses.
- **Distance** - The unit is offered wholly through the provision of printed material to the student. These units may include a WebCT component but the printed material is the primary source of teaching.
- **Online** - The unit is offered wholly through ACU National Online.
- **Mixed mode** - The unit is offered as a combination of distance and either on campus or on site delivery modes.