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**LWB206 – Human Rights Law**

<b>Credit points:</b>	10	<b>Mode:</b>	Internal/External
<b>Assumed knowledge:</b>	NIL	<b>Location:</b>	Casuarina Campus
<b>Pre-requisite(s):</b>	N/A	<b>Learning method:</b>	Lectures/Roundtable seminars/Assessments
<b>Year:</b>	2011		
<b>Semester:</b>	One	<b>Unit coordinator:</b>	Jeswynn Yogaratnam
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**Unit Description**

LWB206 is structured for worldly thinking student who has an affinity to legal research and socio-justice issues.

Human Rights Law is different to International Humanitarian Law. Generally, the former applies in time of peace and the latter in time of conflict. However, there are common grounds and we will explore this through studying some of the International Conventions.

This unit is best supplemented with an active self-learning approach. You are primarily responsible for your own learning. The lectures aim to provide only a framework for the understanding of human rights law and an occasion for discussion on selected issues during the Roundtable sessions.

Students who succeed in this unit are those who are self-starters and those who can make the best use of the resources available to them and are prepared to ask questions to seek out the information they need. The independent readings are most important, as they will enable you to comprehend the issues covered in the Roundtable discussions.

Students must take the time to read the assessment tasks as it is designed to scaffold students' understanding of important rights issues discussed throughout the unit. You are strongly encouraged to subscribe to the (free) Human Rights Law Resource Centre website - [www.hrlrc.org.au](http://www.hrlrc.org.au). Take time to navigate through this website to get a feel of some of the more contemporary human rights law issues in Australia and globally.

Should you require any consultation, I have an open door system, so feel free to visit me at my office or drop me a line via telephone or email or even a WIMBA chat.

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<i>Unit Information Template: Version 4.0 13/11/09</i>	<i>Administered: TLQG</i>	<i>Approved: Senior DVC</i>	<i>Next Review: November 2010</i>
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## Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit a student should be able to:

1. Identify and discuss issues arising out of human rights laws in selected jurisdictions;
2. Examine the application of international human rights law in the context of domestic law in Australia and selected jurisdictions;
3. Develop writing and presentation skills required of advocacy on human rights law;
4. Demonstrate the development of a persuasive argument for a specific issues in human rights;
5. Demonstrate research skills required in writing academic research papers.
6. Develop an inner reflective attitude to human rights issues.

## Teaching and Learning Strategies

Resources include:

- Prescribed textbook;
- Book Review – ‘Rugmaker of Mazar E-Sharif’
- Online journals,
- Human Right bodies,
- Selected movies/ documentaries.

The principal learning is the Roundtable session and student preparation for each session. The Roundtable sessions are used to initiate research activity in selected areas. The cases discussed in the Roundtable are chosen to stimulate strong views on specific human rights issues.

During the semester, students are provided with guidelines for developing research papers and presentations. Students select from a pool of topics and work together as a team.

The cases discussed in the roundtable are chosen to stimulate strong views on specific human rights issues.

## Participation

This unit is delivered internally and externally.

### Lectures

All lectures will be archived in WIMBA on a weekly basis on commencement of this unit. There will be relevant learning materials posted under 'Learning Materials' of Learnline to facilitate your self-learning of the topic lectured for the week.

### Seminars:

There will be six (6), 2-hour for Roundtable seminars. This session is assessable and participation is compulsory. Please refer to the Learning Schedule below on the day and time for each Roundtable seminar. Internal students will participate in the Roundtable sessions at CDU which is deemed your tutorials and external students will participate via WIMBA.

## Overview of Assessment

Item	Description/Focus	Value	Relates to learning outcomes
1.	<b>Assignment 1</b> – Short research paper and 10 minute presentation on a selected Human Rights Topic. Please refer to the 'Assessment' section on Learnline for more details.  This is a Group activity.	20% - paper  10% - presentation	1,4
		15%	
2.	<b>Assignment 2 – Book Review: 'Rugmaker of Mazar E-Sharif'</b>  Please refer to 'Assessment' section on Learnline for more details.		1,2,3,4,5
3.	<b>Assignment 3 – Roundtables seminars – 3 marks per session</b> (please note below the weeks allocated for this activity).  Please refer to 'Assessment' section on Learnline for more details.	15%	1,2,3,4
4.	<b>Assignment 4 – Long research paper</b>  Please refer to the 'Assessment' section on Learnline for more details.	40%	1,2,3,4,5

## Resources

### Prescribe text:

Peter Bailey, (2009) *The Human Rights Enterprise in Australia and Internationally* (1<sup>st</sup> ed) LexisNexis Butterworths.

### Recommended textbooks:

- Steiner, Henry and Alston, Philip (2008) *International Human Rights in Context* (3rd ed) Oxford University Press
- Rhona K.M. Smith (2007) *International Human Rights* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed) Oxford University Press
- O'Neill, Nick; Rice, Simon and Douglas, Roger (2004) *Retreat from Injustice: Human Rights Law in Australia* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed) The Federation Press

### Internet Resources

- Human Rights Law Resource Centre:  
<http://www.hrlrc.org.au/>
- United Nations  
<http://www.un.org/>
- Australasian Legal Information Institute:  
<http://www.austlii.edu.au/>

Required textbooks can be ordered from the CDU Bookshop through their website at [www.cdu.edu.au/bookshop](http://www.cdu.edu.au/bookshop)

### Learnline (Online Learning System)

Learnline is Charles Darwin University's on-line learning system.

In this unit, Learnline will be used to:

- provide important announcements about the unit
- distribute lecture slides, and other study
- access feedback from tasks and grades for assessable work
- provide a communication point where you contribute to discussions as part of your assessment, and to interact with other students in the unit

You will need to connect to the Internet to access it, at <http://learnline.cdu.edu.au/>

Access to Learnline may not be available until Day 1 of Semester.

If this is your first time using Learnline, click on 'Student Learnline Support' in the left-hand navigation panel BEFORE logging in.

It is recommended that all students have access to regular and reliable broadband access to complete unit requirements.

### e-Reserve

e-Reserve allows electronic copies of journal articles, book chapters and lecturer notes that have been recommended by a lecturer as part of their course reading requirements. You can access e-Reserve at <http://www.cdu.edu.au/library/ereserve/index.html>.

This site is password protected. Your CDU student login will provide you access. You can then search for items by Lecturer, Unit Code, Title, Author, keyword, Year or Date if you have that information.

### Learning Schedule

Duration / Module	Topics	Required readings or student learning activities to be completed	Assessments Due/Seminars
Week 1	<p><b>Introduction to LWB206:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Expectations of this unit; and</li> <li>2. Explaining the content of Unit Outline</li> </ol> <p><b>Lecture 1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The United Nations</li> <li>• Structure of the United Nations System</li> <li>• UN Charter bodies and their roles in enforcement of human rights</li> <li>• UN Treaties</li> <li>• The International Bill on Human Rights</li> <li>• Part I – Universal Declaration of Human Rights</li> <li>• Part II – International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (and the two Optional Protocols annexed thereto) (ICCPR)</li> <li>• Part III – International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</li> </ul>		
Week 2	<b>Indigenous Rights &amp; Racial Discrimination</b>		<p>Monday - Submission of group list</p> <p>Roundtable 1</p>
Week 3	<b>Rights of Refugees</b>		<p>Monday - Submission of working plan for Assignment 1</p>
Week 4	<b>Rights of Prisoners and Anti-terrorism Laws</b>		<p>Roundtable 2</p>
Week 5	<b>The Bill of Rights Controversy – a case for Australia?</b>		

	<b>Semester Break</b>		
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>Presentation of Assignment 1</b>		<b>Monday, Submission of Assignment 1 – Short Research Paper</b>  <b>Held during lecture slot for internal students and for external students during an agreed time slot in Week 6 via WIMBA</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>Right to Self-determination</b>		<b>Roundtable 3</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>New emerging rights: Same sex Rights &amp; Environmental Rights</b>		<b>Feedback week for Assignment 1</b>
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Women’s’ Rights &amp; Right’s of Child</b>		<b>Roundtable 4</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Freedom of Expression</b>		<b>Roundtable 5</b>  <b>Friday, Submission of Assignment 4</b>
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>Freedom of Religion</b>		<b>Friday, Submission of Assignment 2</b>
<b>Week 12</b>			<b>Roundtable 6</b>
<b>Weeks 13 &amp;14</b>			<b>Feedback for Assignments 2 &amp; 4</b>
<b>Roundtable</b>	<b>Topics discussed</b>		
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Nuremberg Trial / Role of UN in War Crimes/War Criminals</li> <li>• Indigenous Rights – focus on the 2007 intervention in the NT</li> </ul>		

2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refugee Rights</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prisoners' Rights and Anti-terrorism Laws</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same sex Rights and Environmental Rights</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women's' Rights &amp; Right's of Child</li> </ul>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Freedom of Religion</li> </ul>

#### Assessment Item :

Please refer to 'Assessment' section on Learnline for details on all assignments.

Please download Assignment Cover Sheet here:

<http://www.cdu.edu.au/library/access/AssignmentSubmission.html>

#### CDU Graduate attributes

CDU graduate attributes refer to those skills, qualities and understandings that should be acquired by students during their time at the University regardless of their discipline of study. (See <http://www.cdu.edu.au/teachingandlearning/gradattributes.html>).

In this unit, the following graduate attributes are developed: : <delete graduate attributes that are not included in this unit of study or edit as required>

Attribute	Description	Learning outcomes
Acquisition	Can identify, retrieve, evaluate and use relevant information and current technologies to advance learning and execute work tasks.	1-6
Application	Is an efficient and innovative project planner and problem solver, capable of applying logical and critical thinking to problems across a range of disciplinary settings and has self-management skills that contribute to personal satisfaction and growth.	1,2,3,5.
Creativity	Can conceive of imaginative and innovative responses to future orientated challenges and research.	2,4,5
Knowledge base	Has an understanding of the broad theoretical and technical concepts related to their discipline area, with relevant connections to industry, professional, and regional and indigenous knowledge.	1,2,3,4,5
Communication	Demonstrates oral, written, and effective listening skills as well as numerical, technical and graphic communication skills in a cross generational environment.	1-6.
Team work	Has a capacity for and understanding of collaboration and co-operation within agreed frameworks, including the demands of inter-generational tolerance, mutual respect for others, conflict resolution and the negotiation of productive outcomes.	1,4,5
Social responsibility	Is able to apply equity values, and has a sense of social responsibility, sustainability, and sensitivity to other peoples, cultures and the environment.	4,5,6
Flexibility	Can function effectively and constructively in an inter-cultural or	1,3,6

global environment and in a variety of complex situations.

Leadership	Can exercise initiative and responsibility, taking action and engaging others to make a positive difference for the common good.	3,4,5,6
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