**2022 Fall**

**[DISS338] Human Rights in a Globalized World**

Korea University College of International Studies

Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am~10:30am

ONLINE LIVE-STREAMING COURSE

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| Prof. Changrok Soh  KU GSIS  Email: crsoh@korea.ac.kr  Office Hours: By Appointment | Prof. Jinwon Lee  The Center for Human Rights and Gender Equity  Email: jwlee99@korea.ac.kr  Office Hours: By Appointment |

**\* This course is team-taught ledy by Professor Soh and Lee.**

1. **Course Overview**

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of human rights in political science. It will take students through an understanding of how the ideas of human rights and discourses about human rights have been structured and discussed in the context of domestic and international politics. Students will also explore how actual human rights norms are acknowledged or rejected, observed or ignored, and promoted or withdrawn at the domestic as well as international level.

This course is organized into two parts. The first half of the course begins with an overview of the concepts and theoretical issues in human rights studies, and the second half focuses on the explanations of different human rights practices across countries looking at various topics related to human rights and considers the conditions favorable for better human rights practices and processes that bring actual changes in human rights practices.

By the end of the course, I aim that all the students will become an expert on at least one human rights issue. Therefore, case study research and presentations are expected throughout this course from everyone as a small group.

1. **Course Requirements**

1) Attendance and Participation

Attendance will be checked each class. You may have 2 free absences but will lose 1 point per absence from the third absence. Active discussions and participations are expected from the students based on the readings and your own perspectives on the raised issues.

2) Class readings

All students will be provided with reading materials available to download on blackboard (KU portal site), in which are expected to be read prior attending lectures.

3) Presentation

All students will be assigned to do a 30-minute group presentation, followed by a group led discussion. The presentation should include not only the important points of the topic but also raise issues and include information from further in-depth research carried out by students.

4) Peer review

The audience will conduct a peer review that will be reflected in the presentation score.

1. **Course Evaluation**

* Class Attendance and Participation: 10%
* Case Study Presentation and leading the discussion: 30% (10% is peer review)
* Midterm exam: 30%
* Final Term Paper: 30%

\* 2 lates=1 absence

\* You can have upto 2 free absences, from the 3rd absence you will lose 1 point per absence. More than 8 absences will lead to a failure of the course.

\* You MUST fulfill all the evaluation criteria, otherwise will fail the course.

1. **Course readings**

* David P. Forsythe, *Human Rights in International Relations*, 3rd ed. 2012
* Debra L. DeLaet, *The Global Struggle for Human Rights: Universal Principles in World Politics*, 2nd ed. 2015.
* Jack Donnelly, *Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice*, 3rd ed. 2013
* Michael Freeman, *Human rights: an interdisciplinary approach*, 2nd ed., Polity Press, 2011.

**\* The listed books above are only a small part of the articles I will request you to read; the other short book chapters and journal articles will be available on Blackboard.**

1. **Course Schedule**

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| Sep 1: | Introduction to the Course |
| Sep 6: | What are human rights? PART I  - Introduction: Thinking about Human Rights (Freeman, Chapter 1) |
| Sep 8: | What are human rights? PART II  - Universal Declaration of Human Rights  - The generations of human rights |
| Sep 13: | History and Origins of human rights  - Origins: The Rise and Fall of Natural Rights (Freeman, Chapter 2)  - After 1945: The New Age of Rights (Freeman, Chapter 3)  - The Development of International Human Rights Law (DeLaet, p. 29 – 34) |
| Sep 15/20: | Defining Universalism and Cultural Relativism  - The Relative Universality of Human Rights (Donnelly, p. 93-103)  - Are Human Rights Universal? (DeLaet, p. 45 – 50) |
| Sep 22: | The UN Human Rights Mechanism  - Global application of human rights norms (Forsythe, Chapter 3) |
| Sep 27: | Charter-based Human Rights Mechanism  - Human Rights Mechanism (Human Rights Report 2012) |
| Sep 29: | Treaty-based Human Rights Mechanism |
| Oct 4: | Role of NGOs and Non-State Actors in promoting human rights  - Non-governmental organizations and human rights (Forsythe, Chapter 7) |
| Oct 6: | Top-down and Bottom-up approaches in Human Rights  - Promoting Human Rights from the Top Down (DeLaet, Chapter 8)  - Promoting Human Rights from the Bottom Up (DeLaet, Chapter 11) |
| Oct 11/13: | Impact of Globalization on human rights  - Globalization and Human Rights (Robert McCorquodale with Richard Fairbrother) |
| Oct 18 | Reading Day |
| Oct 20 | **Mid Term Exam** |
| Oct 20/27: | Gender Equality and Human Rights |
| Nov 1: | Human Rights and Development |
| Nov 3: | Understanding Current Migration and Refugee Issues  - *“The Emergence of New Resettlement Countries: A Human Rights Norm Cascade?”* (Changrok Soh, Minwoo Kim and Youngsoo Yu)  - “*The Refugee Act of Korea: The Limits of Civil Society Influence”* (Changrok Soh and Breda Lund) |
| Nov 8: | Business and Human Rights  - *Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights* (UN OHCHR)  - “*Business and Human Rights Case Study of Korean Companies Operating Overseas: Challenges and a New National Action Plan”* (Changrok Soh and Seunghyun Nam) |
| Nov 10: | Human Rights and New and Emerging Technologies  - *“New Frontiers of Profit and Risk: The Fourth Industrial Revolution’s Impact on Business and Human Rights”* (Changrok Soh and Daniel Connolly)  - *Human Rights, Digital Society and the Law* (Changrok Soh, Daniel Connolly, and Seunghyun Nam) Chapter 6 |
| Nov 15-Dec 13 | Student Presentations |
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**Topics for Student Presentations**

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| * Equality/non-discrimination * Freedom of Speech/Expression * Minority Rights * The right to life * The right to education * Group Rights * The rights of the Refugees and migrants * New Technology and Human Rights * North Korean human rights * Freedom of Religion * Gapgil Culture and Human Rights * Indigeneous Activism for Human Rights * Regional Protection and Human Rights * Freedom from torture, cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment or punishment * The Right to Work |

**\* You may choose the topic of your own interest upon my approval.**

**\* This syllabus is subject to change throughout the semester.**