Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should <u>not</u> be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

JURI 680
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course studies the creation of the international human rights system and its influences in international relations. It highlights the Christian foundations of human rights norms and principles. It specially focuses on the concept of human dignity and the *imago Dei* (image of God) as the foundation of human rights law. It analyzes international declarations and resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Council. It shows the importance of the defense of fundamental human rights, such as the right to life, the right to family and the right to religious freedom.

RATIONALE

The purpose of the course is to provide the student with the biblical bases for international human rights and to discuss the on-going debate over issues of universality, culture, and rights of individuals. The topics will cover basic concepts in international human rights law, the United Nations and regional human rights systems, causes and remedies for violation of human rights, and humanitarian interventions. The course will help the student to develop skills that link theory with practice in order to become effective human rights advocates.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment

B. Internet access (broadband recommended)

C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Identify the vast body of law as well as how it is created and applied in domestic courts.

B. Evaluate fact-finding methodologies on human rights issues.

C.   Critically assess the mechanisms and effectiveness of international and regional human rights protection as well as other means of monitoring and enforcing human rights.

D.   Assess the norms and compliance/accountability mechanisms that exist in relation to particular categories of rights and/or violators of human rights.

E.   Apply analytical skills to questions and appraise human rights policies and practices at the international and national levels.

F.   Evaluate the roles of state and non-state actors in the promotion and enforcement of human rights.

G.   Engage in scholarly research, analysis, and writing on the subject of international human rights.

V.   COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A.   Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B.   Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C.   Discussion Board Forums (3)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread of at least 500 words in response to the provided prompt for each forum. The student must support his/her assertions with at least 3 citations from peer-reviewed journals in current Bluebook format. In addition to the thread, the student is required to create replies of at least 300 words to 2 other classmates' threads. For each reply, at least 1 citation in current Bluebook format must be included. Acceptable sources include the course textbooks, applicable treaties, the Bible, scholarly articles, and links to websites of relevant international organizations.

D.   Research Paper

The student will submit a 15-page research-based paper in current Bluebook format that focuses on a topic of the student's choice. The Research Paper will be completed in the following stages:

1.   Title and Abstract

The student will choose a topic with a title and write a 1-paragraph abstract of no more than 150 words. The abstract must include at least 5 journal references related to the topic. The topic must be approved by the instructor before the student proceeds with the research.

2.   Outline

The outline must contain specific issues the student would like to discuss in the paper. The instructor will provide a sample outline as a guideline.

3.   Draft

The student will submit a draft of at least 10 pages on research completed. While the draft does not have to be a completely researched paper nor fully edited at the time of submission, it still must show substantial research on the topic by the use of biblical and article references.

4.   Final

The student will submit the completed Research Paper. The paper must include at least 10 peer-reviewed references in addition to the course textbooks and the Bible. The paper must be well-edited and checked for grammar and spelling errors.

Note: LL.M students must add an additional 2500 words of writing in their final paper. This is a Pass/Fail component of this assignment. This is not required of the JM students.

E.   Group Project

The student will be placed in a group at the beginning of the course. Each group will choose from a list of approved regions and develop a funding proposal. Each group will then create a 12–15-slide PowerPoint presentation with notes on the bottom of each slide consisting of 250–350 words as well as share its proposal with the class.

F.   Reading Quizzes (3)

Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes and contain 10 multiple-choice and true/false questions as well as 1 short essay question. Each quiz will have a 1-hour time limit.

G.   PowerPoint Presentation Quizzes (8)

The student will review the weekly PowerPoint presentations and complete the quizzes embedded within them.

VI.   COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A.   Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums	
Thread (3 at 50 pts ea)	150
Replies (3 at 40 pts ea)	120
Research Paper	
Title and Abstract	40
Outline	30
Draft	80
Final	200
Group Project	150
Reading Quizzes (Modules 2, 4, 6)	150
PowerPoint Presentation Quizzes (Modules 1–8)	80
Total	1010

B.   Scale

A = 940–1010   A- = 920–939   B+ = 900–919   B = 860–899   B- = 840–859
C+ = 820–839   C = 780–819   C- = 760–779   D+ = 740–759   D = 700–739
D- = 680–699   F = 0–679

C.   Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

JURI 680

Textbooks: Weissbrodt et al., *International Human Rights: Law, Policy, and Process* (2009).
Weissbrodt et al., *Selected International Human Rights Instruments and Bibliography for Research on International Human Rights* (2010).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Weissbrodt et al. (2009): chs. 1, 4, 15 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Research Paper: Title and Abstract PowerPoint Presentation Quiz 1	10 0 40 10
2	Weissbrodt et al. (2009): chs. 5–6 Weissbrodt et al. (2010): Selected Readings 1 presentation	DB Forum 1: Thread Reading Quiz 1 PowerPoint Presentation Quiz 2	50 50 10
3	Weissbrodt et al. (2009): chs. 10–12 Weissbrodt et al. (2010): Selected Readings 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 1: Replies Research Paper: Outline PowerPoint Presentation Quiz 3	40 30 10
4	Weissbrodt et al. (2009): ch. 3 Weissbrodt et al. (2010): Selected Readings 1 presentation	DB Forum 2: Thread Reading Quiz 2 PowerPoint Presentation Quiz 4	50 50 10
5	Weissbrodt et al. (2009): chs. 4, 9 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 2: Replies Research Paper: Draft PowerPoint Presentation Quiz 5	40 80 10
6	Weissbrodt et al. (2009): chs. 5, 8, 17 1 presentation	DB Forum 3: Thread Reading Quiz 3 PowerPoint Presentation Quiz 6	50 50 10
7	Weissbrodt et al. (2009): chs. 7, 13–14 Weissbrodt et al. (2010): Selected Readings 1 presentation	DB Forum 3: Replies Group Project PowerPoint Presentation Quiz 7	40 150 10
8	Weissbrodt et al. (2009): ch. 17 1 presentation	Research Paper: Final PowerPoint Presentation Quiz 8	200 10
		TOTAL	1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.