

To complete a Major in Human Rights, students must complete a minimum of 36 credit hours of human rights courses. The requirements for the Major include the following 9 credit hours:

HMRT-1003. Introduction to Human Rights

HMRT-2013 Research Methods

HMRT-4013. Capstone Seminar

In addition, students must complete at least 6 credit hours in each of the four sub-fields – Foundations, Law, Social Issues, and Practice.

a) Foundations

HMRT 2033. Human Rights in Theory and Practice

HMRT 2043. Non-Western Perspectives on Human Rights

HMRT 3033. Philosophy of Human Rights

b) Law

HMRT-3013. Discrimination and the Law in Canada

HMRT-3063. Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity

HMRT 3113. The Rights Revolution in Canada

HMRT 3123. International Human Rights

HMRT 3543. Human Rights and Foreign Policy

c) Societal Issues

HMRT-2023. Human Rights and Literature

HMRT 3153. Popular Culture and Human Rights

HMRT 3233. Environment and Human Rights

HMRT 3633. 2SLGBTQIA and Human Rights

HMRT 3803. Human Rights of the Child and Seniors

HMRT 3903. Business and Human Rights

d) Practice

HMRT 3073. Human Rights Internship

HMRT 3133. Human Rights Advocacy, Activism, and Social Justice

HMRT 3203. Human Rights Advocacy Through Social Media

HMRT 3503. Moot Court

Students should consult with the Chair of the Human Rights Department to ensure that their program meets all requirements.

The Minor in Human Rights requires the 3 credit hour introductory course and 15 additional credit hours in Human Rights.

i. Honour's students must maintain a GPA of 3.7 in human rights courses.

ii. Students must complete the Thesis Proposal Course a minimum of one year before graduation. Upon completion, approval is required from the Chair of the Program, as well as the proposed thesis supervisor.

### **Completion Requirements**

Students completing an Honours in Human Rights require a total of 54 credit hours in human rights, including the following required 36 credit hours of courses:

HMRT 1003	Introduction to Human Rights
HMRT 2013	Research Methods
HMRT 2033	Human Rights in Theory and Practice
HMRT 3033	Philosophy of Human Rights
HMRT 3113	The Rights Revolution in Canada
HMRT 3013	Discrimination and the Law in Canada
HMRT 3123	International Human Rights
HMRT 3063	Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity
HMRT 3133	Human Rights Advocacy, Activism and Social Justice
HMRT 3603	Thesis Proposal
HMRT 4013	Capstone Seminar
HMRT 4063	Honours Thesis

Students must also complete a minimum of 18 credit hours in elective courses from the following human rights courses. Students should consult the program director if substitution of cross-listed courses is requested.

HMRT 2023	Human Rights and Literature
HMRT 2043	Non-Western Perspectives on Human Rights
HMRT 3073	Human Rights Internship
HMRT 3133	Human Rights Advocacy, Activism and Social Justice
HMRT 3153	Popular Culture and Human Rights

### **HMRT-1203. Global Politics (POLS 1603)**

This course provides an introduction to the concepts of nation and state, sovereignty, forms of government, and political conflict. It does so through consideration of issues in world politics, such as human rights and social justice, ecological imbalance, economic inequalities, war, global governmental institutions and organizations.

### **HMRT-2013. Research Methods**

The purpose of this course is to give students an introduction to research methods used in the study of human rights. The course will include methods of data collection as well as analysis of data. The course will begin with a general introduction to the aims and methods of research projects. Students in this course will do a research project in human rights under the supervision of the instructor. Students will be expected to present periodic reports on the status of their work.

### **HMRT-2023. Human Rights and Literature**

This course will explore various human rights questions through an examination of relevant legal documents paired with literary works from a variety of genres (from drama to memoir) that address each issue. The course is intended to give students an understanding of some of the most pressing human rights issues of the past and today, ranging from slavery to economic inequalities.

### **HMRT-2033. Human Rights in Theory and Practice**

This course covers core theoretical concepts and the enduring debates in human rights theory. It will not only introduce students to the main ideas, major schools of thought, and key disputes but also prepare them to identify and critically analyze the often unspoken underlying theoretical perspectives employed in human rights discourse by scholars and by advocates in their human rights practice. Prerequisite: HMRT 1003: Introduction to Human Rights

### **HMRT-2043. Non-Western Perspectives on Human Rights**

This course will explore philosophic and religious sources outside the Western canon, on which Human Rights discourse can be and has been based. The culture spheres of interest will be the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. This course critically analyzes non-western theories concerning the practice of human rights as a framework for social justice. The course seeks to place Western Human Rights discourse in a global context by drawing attention to ways in which non-Western cultures have addressed questions of individual versus group or state rights, the metaphysical and political sources of rights, and the possibility of universal human dignity.

### **HMRT-2203. Community Economic Development (ECON)**

A course which explores the theory and practice of community economic development. It will include the examination of case studies of successful community economic development. The focus will be on the appropriateness and applicability of the model to the Maritimes.

### **HMRT-2206. The Quest for the Good Life (GRBK 2006)**

This course is designed to approach the perennial issue of The Quest for the Good Life through the thoughtful reading of some of the greatest works in a variety of disciplines. The texts may include ancient and modern, all selected because they speak to and illuminate this theme. Texts will vary from year to year but will include works such as Aristotle's *Ethics*, the *Bible*, Machiavelli's *Rince*, and Camus' *The Plague*.





### **HMRT-3133. Human Rights Advocacy, Activism and Social Justice**

This course introduces students to the theory and practice of non-courtroom-based human rights advocacy and activism. As such it complements other practitioner-oriented offerings in the program, helping to prepare students for careers in human rights by providing practical tools for application in a variety of contexts - as individual advocates/activists, working in a particular human rights agency, NGO or community-based non-profit, or for broader human rights/social movement building. Recommended preparation: HMRT 1003: Introduction to Human Rights

### **HMRT-3153. Popular Culture and Human Rights**

This course will explore the treatment of human rights themes and issues in popular culture paired with the basic human rights legal instruments that constitute the human rights framework. The Medium used to examine representation of human rights themes and issues may vary from year to year but will focus on such vehicles as television, film, graphic novels, and music. Prerequisite required: HMRT 1003.

### **HMRT-3203. Human Rights Advocacy through Social Media (COPP)**

This course explores how the rise of social media has both advanced and hindered the protection of human rights by examining how social media provides a platform for instantaneous global information-sharing, rendering it increasingly difficult for state or business interests to shield human rights abuses from public scrutiny. Topics are examined through several case studies. Prerequisites: HMRT 1003: Introduction to Human Rights.

### **HMRT-3206. Justice (GRBK 3306)**

This course will explore the nature of human community and the question of justice. Themes to be addressed will include an individual's responsibility to others, the role of community in promoting human happiness, the manner in which we are both limited and fulfilled by justice, and the relationship of justice and law. Texts will vary from year to year, but may include works such as: Plato's *Republic*, Aquinas's *Summa Theologica*, Sayers' *God and Night*, Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, Cary's *Tragedy of Macbeth*, Marx's *The German Ideology*, and King's *Letter from Birmingham Jail*. Prerequisites: GRBK 2006, or permission of the instructors.

### **HMRT-3213. Environment & Society III: Policy, Power & Politics (ENVS 3013)**

The modernist view is that knowledge leads to rational decisions. From an environmental perspective, however, this idea is seriously challenged. Never has society known so much about ecological and climate change; yet collective responses to these changes have failed to reverse the downward trends. This course examines this dynamic by examining the politics of the environmental crisis, and in particular the power struggles between those resisting change and those promoting alternative visions of a sustainable society. We consider how those alternative visions translate into public policy and how citizens can engage to make this happen. Prerequisites: ENVS 1013 and ENVS 2023, or permission of the instructor.

### **HMRT-3216. Freedom (GRBK 3506)**

This course will examine the nature of freedom in the context of human life and community. Questions to be addressed will include: To what extent are human beings free by nature? Should political communities promote freedom? What might be appropriate limitations on our freedom? Texts may include Sophocles' *Oedipus at Colonus*, Plato's *Republic*, Aquinas' *On Free Will*, Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*, and Hegel's *The Philosophy of Right*. Prerequisite: GRBK 2006.

**HMRT-3223. Environmental Praxis (ENVS 3023)**

This course explores how alternative visions of the future translate into political action at the international, national, provincial, community, and personal levels. This involves an analysis of alternative theories of the nature of social change. A component of this course may be service learning. Prerequisites: ENVS 1013 and ENVS 2023, or permission of the instructor.

**HMRT-3233. Environment and Human Rights (ENVS)**

This course will explore the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on the realization of human rights, focusing on those in the economic, social, and cultural realm, including the right to a clean environment, clean air, water, food, and health. The long-term impact of climate change will also be examined in the context of trends in migration and human security. Prerequisite required: HMRT 1003.

**HMRT-3243. Human Rights in International Relations and Foreign Policy (POLS 3503)**

This course considers human rights in international relations. It focuses on how the emerging human rights regime is affecting the practice of traditional state sovereignty. Special attention will be paid to the political and philosophical arguments around such issues as universal human rights versus cultural relativism, and the problems associated with humanitarian intervention.

**HMRT-3253. Model United Nations (POLS 3613)**

This course will prepare students for participation in a Model United Nations, either Canadian or American sponsored. In a model UN simulation, students represent an assigned country's foreign policy on assigned issues on the UN agenda. The course will begin with an examination of the UN and its procedures. Subsequent topics will include researching the assigned UN issues and the assigned country's policy on them; preparation of working papers and motions, and strategies for effective conference participation. Fund raising for the trip required: half credit course, but meets first and second terms; limited enrolment.

**HMRT-3263. Sex, Science & Gender (STS 3303)**

This course examines how scientific research, in the late 19th and 20th centuries, has shaped common conceptions of sex behaviour and how this scientific knowledge has also been shaped by cultural conceptions of gender roles and "normal" behaviour.

**HMRT-3273. Feminism and Techno- B(del Unit)5 sNeo5TS 3303)**







### **HMRT-4923. Collective Memory, Culture and Texts in Argentina (SPAN)**

This course will explore the connections between collective memory, history and culture in Argentina. It explores the cultural production of the post-dictatorship Process of National Reorganization (1976-1983) through essays, fiction, and film. These texts and films reconstruct not only history but also those identities denied by official history. We will define concepts such as official history, Other History, and collective memory in order to understand the discursive fields from which history and memory are reconstructed.