

MIDTERM ESSAY HUMR 5130 AUTUMN 2010

Deadline: 25 October, 2010, at 1200 hrs.

ANSWER ONE OF THE QUESTIONS PRESENTED BELOW

1) Are Human Rights Universal?

Discuss the claim "human rights are universal". Clarify in what senses of the term it may be reasonable to claim that human rights are, or are not, universal. Present arguments pro et contra and include your own position on this question/these questions. In your discussion, also address whether some human rights can be seen as universal whereas other human rights cannot.

2) Interrelations Between Different Human Rights Norms.

"Human rights are interrelated; they may support one another but they may also come into conflict with each other." Discuss this claim, and give examples of how various human rights may be mutually supportive and/or may come into conflict with each other. You may use, for instance, the freedom of religion or belief (eg ICCPR Art 18) or the freedom of expression (eg ICCPR Art 19).