

**COURSE**  
**HUMR 5131**  
**INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICS OF**  
**HUMAN RIGHTS:**  
**Autumn 2015**

*Course Outline*

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**LECTURE 1**

**Introduction**

*Tuesday, 25 August*  
*1015-1200*

Structure of the course; seminars & exams. How to Understand and Explain HR. HR as Studied in Anthropology, Political Science, Philosophy and other Disciplines.

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

*Instructor: Stener Ekern*

Nickel 2007 (ch 1); Pitarch 2008 (rec).

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**LECTURE 2**

**Non-Western Approaches to Human Rights with Cases from Japan and Guatemala**

*Tuesday, 1 September*  
*1015-1200*

Se and Karatsu 2004; Ekern 2004

*Aud. 5, DA*

*Instructor: Stener Ekern*

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**LECTURE 3**

**The History of Human Rights. Multiple Routes.**

*Tuesday, 8 September*  
*1015-1200*

Hunt 2007; Iriye 2012.

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

*Instructor: Stener Ekern*

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**LECTURE 4**

**How to Justify Human Rights?**

*Tuesday, 15 September*  
*1015-1200*

Approaches to the justification of human rights (bottom-up/top-down), agency, universality, conflicts between rights, grounding principles

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

*Instructor: Claudio Corradetti*

Nickel 2007 (ch 1-4), Griffin 2008 ch 1 (1.2-1.6-, 2, 3, 3.1-3.5), 4, 6.

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**LECTURE 5**

*Friday, 25 September  
1415-1600*

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

*Instructors: Claudio  
Corradetti and Inga Bostad*

**Philosophical Skepticism about Human Rights**

Bentham and Marx against human rights

(Waldron (ed.) 1987).

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**LECTURE 6**

*Tuesday, 6 October  
1015-1200*

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

*Instructors: Claudio  
Corradetti and Inga Bostad*

**How to Justify Human Rights?**

The co-originality thesis, human dignity, cultural pluralism

Griffin (chap.7;8); Corradetti 2013

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**LECTURE 7**

*Tuesday, 13 October  
1015-1200*

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

*Instructor: Nils Butenschön*

**The Politics of Human Rights.**

Human Rights and International Implementation

Forsythe 2012.

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**LECTURE 8**

*Tuesday, 20 October  
1015-1200*

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

*Instructor: Stener Ekern*

**The Politics of Human Rights.**

Implementation (domestic) and Promotion

Epp 1998; Montgomery 2001 (rec.), Kennedy 2002 (rec.)

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**LECTURE 9**

*Tuesday, 27 October  
1015-1200*

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

**The Politics of Human Rights.**

Commitment and Compliance

Risse, Ropp and Sikkink, 2013; Simmons 2009.

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*Instructor: Stener Ekern*

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**LECTURE 10**

*Tuesday, 3 November  
1015-1200*

**Panel discussion. Current Human Rights Challenges,  
Students prepare questions.**

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

*Panelists: Nils Butenschön,  
Claudio Corradetti, Inga  
Bostad, Stener Ekern*

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**LECTURE 11**

*Tuesday, 10 November  
1015-1200*

**Exam Preparation**

*Seminar Room, CA 30*

*Instructor: Stener Ekern*

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