

# Final assignment instructions - HUMR5132-Human Rights Law in Context

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## Assignment

The paper must be typed on a computer and comply with the following requirements.

### Font:

Times New Roman, font size 12 and a line spacing of 1.5.

### Word count

*The length of the home assignment should not exceed 5000 words.*

If the students exceed the word count, the essay will not be sent to grading.

Footnotes should be included in the word count of the main text. Not included in this count: the front page (with name and title etc), summary, table of contents and references (bibliography).

### Template

Students are required to use the **template** which can be found here:

<http://www.jus.uio.no/english/studies/student-services/juriteket/>

The template is named template-assignment, and the format is .rtf.

On the same webpage you will find the *User Guide for Microsoft Word* when writing the term paper. If you still have problems with using the template after reading the user guide, please contact *Juriteket*, (3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Domus Nova); the Law faculty's IT-service for students (information on webpage above).

### Structure

Technically the paper should be as good as possible: well organized in titles and subtitles, footnotes and references. The paper should follow the following recommended structure for each question:

(1) *Table of contents*

(2) *Introduction.*

The introduction is to be placed in the beginning of the paper and should contain the following:

- Interpretation of essay question and formulation of research question, reasons you would give for formulating this/these question/s including a short explanation of the relevant background or context;
- Clarification of terms (or definitions) if necessary

- Presentation of the structure of the text (an overview of the chapters).

(3) *Methodology (optional)*.

If relevant, a discussion of methodological issues that the research question raises and how you want to address these issues, including a description of the main sources that you will use in your assignment (e.g., an overview over applicable legal standards, procedures and sources).

(4) *Main text (body)*

This is the section where you develop the arguments.

(5) *Conclusion*

(6) *Annex: List of references (bibliography) or use of legal style formatting with references in the footnotes.*

The use of footnotes and references in the bibliography should be consistent. Please see guidelines at the end of this document.

The final assignment must be submitted electronically as a PDF-file in Inpera.

### **Formal submission requirements for the assignment**

Please remember:

1. To indicate the course code and examination (HUMR5132 – Home assignment)
2. Title of the home assignment
3. Number of words (by f.ex. using the word count in Word)
4. Page numbering

*Papers handed in after the deadline will not be considered.*

### **Rules about cheating and plagiarism.**

When you take facts, thoughts, ideas, viewpoints and short or long quotations from others and use them in your own work, the sources you have used must be clearly stated. In other words you must not give the impression that others' thoughts, ideas, viewpoints and results are your own if they are not.

For example, using word-for-word or even paraphrasing the language of a UN Report without attributing the source of that language is plagiarism. Using another's idea without attributing the idea to the person who conceived it is also plagiarism.

Avoid quoting long excerpts and articles; short citations are preferred, and instead provide an evaluation of the literature that is necessary to defend your points of view.

Be sure that you are familiar with the use of sources and the rules for citing/quoting from others' work when writing assignments and theses.

<http://www.uio.no/english/studies/admin/examinations/cheating>

UiO uses a plagiarism checking tool as one of several instruments for detecting suspicion of cheating and attempted cheating.

### **Guidelines on quotations, references and bibliographies in the essays**

Entries in a bibliography:

*Books (with one or more authors):*

Cassese, Antonio (2005) *International Law*, 2nd edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

*Edited volumes (with one or more editors):*

Jones, Peris and Kristian Stokke (eds.) (2005) *Democratising Development: The Politics of Socio-Economic Rights in South Africa*, Leiden: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers.

*Articles in journals and edited volumes etc.:*

Alston, Philip (2005) "Ships Passing in the Night: The Current State of the Human Rights and Development Debate seen through the Lens of the Millenium Development Goals", in *Human Rights Quarterly*, vol 27, pp 755-829.

Dembour, Marie-Bénédicte (2003) "The Cases that were not to be: Explaining the Dearth of Case Law on Freedom of Religion at Strasbourg", in I. Pardo (ed.) *Morals of Legitimacy: Between agency and the System*, Oxford: Berghahn.

Marais, Hein (2006), "A plague of inequality", in *Mail and Guardian*, 19 May, 2006.

*Documents etc. found on the Internet:*

Bailliet, Cecilia (2002), *Between Conflict & Consensus: Conciliating Land Disputes in Guatemala*, [http://folk.uio.no/ceciliab/between\\_conflict\\_and\\_consensus.pdf](http://folk.uio.no/ceciliab/between_conflict_and_consensus.pdf) [accessed 27 April, 2006].

The golden rule is to italicise the name that the reader will have to look for, i.e., the name of the book or the edited volume, or in the case of articles, the name of the journal, newspaper, periodical (or edited volume where the article can be found). The name of the article is then placed between quotation marks. The exception is electronic documents; in this case the name of the article will be what you look for.

By and large, legal scholars put the references to books, sources, etc. in footnotes (or endnotes). The second time a book is referred to the footnote in question may be shortened (eg, Cassese, *International Law* ...) and there might be added a reference to the note that

carried the original reference (eg, Cassese, note 4.) There is thus no need to elaborate a separate bibliography at the end of the work.

Other disciplines (particularly social scientists) generally put references in brackets inside the text, at the end of the clause or after the mentioning of the author (eg., "As he points out, this is engendered by the fact that human rights are saturated with what Habermas (1971: 112-13) refers to as a „technocratic consciousness“, which entails (again in Habermas“ words) „a repression of ethics as a category of life“ (Wilson 1997:155).”

***Choose one of these two traditions and be consistent!***

Finally: A good piece of advice is to take a close look at how it is done in an article on the reading list. For those who decide to follow the legal tradition, we recommend:

Føllesdal, Andreas (2006), "Survey Article: The Legitimacy Deficits of the European Union", in The Journal of Political Philosophy, Vol

**See also**

"Write and Cite" at University of Oslo Library pages: <http://www.ub.uio.no/english/writing-referencing/>