

730-735 Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples

Level:	Graduate/Postgraduate
Dates & Locations:	2009, This subject commences in the following study period/s: August, - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 24 - 26 contact hours per subject. Total Time Commitment: The time commitment for this subject depends on the candidates background and experience.
Prerequisites:	N.A.
Corequisites:	N.A.
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	N.A.
Coordinator:	Prof Marcia Langton
Subject Overview:	<p>Objectives:</p> <p>A student who has successfully completed this subject should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Have a sound understanding of the international importance of the human rights of indigenous peoples and the reasons for their contested scope # Have a detailed knowledge of the potential and limits of the existing UN human rights mechanisms in protecting the human rights of indigenous peoples, individually and as a group # Have a detailed knowledge of the potential and limits of the International Labour Organization's role in protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, individually and as a group # Understand the importance of international instruments and institutions that are specifically devoted to developing and realising the rights of indigenous peoples # Understand the central role played by indigenous organisations in the international system # Be able to assess the effectiveness of Australia's implementation of its international human rights obligations with respect to indigenous peoples # Be able to compare the Australian approach with other examples of domestic recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples, and assess the effectiveness of different approaches # Have the capacity to examine current issues facing indigenous peoples by reference to international human rights and labour standards # Have developed skills of critical thinking, legal research and academic writing to understand and assess the significance and limitations of the international human rights system for indigenous peoples. <p>Syllabus:</p> <p>Principal topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # The history and current status of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples # The role and work of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues # The work and impact of UN Special Rapporteurs # The development of general human rights norms in their application to indigenous peoples by the human rights treaty bodies, particularly the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination # The development of International Labour Organization standards and the impact of its work domestically # The extent to which Australian governments have incorporated international human rights into policy approaches in relation to indigenous affairs in Australia # The work of the Social Justice Commissioner in utilising human rights law and values in the Australian context

	# Examination of comparative developments and examples such as the United States, Canada and New Zealand.
Assessment:	Research paper 10,000 words (100%) (5 November) (topic approved by the subject coordinator)
Prescribed Texts:	Core subject materials will be provided free of charge to all students. Some subjects require further texts to be purchased. Please visit the subject homepage on the Melbourne Law Masters website by following the link at the bottom of this subject entry.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	Please see the Subject Objectives for this information.
Links to further information:	For the latest information on this subject, please visit: http://www.masters.law.unimelb.edu.au/subject/730735