

PSS 453: HUMAN RIGHTS

Course Objectives:

1. To enable students to understand foundations of the idea of human rights.
- 2 To analyze the trends and contemporary challenges to human rights.
3. To understand the general affinities and divergences in sources, substance and application of rights in international, regional, constitutional and domestic contexts.
4. To acquaint the students to the major national and international texts and provisions governing human rights and the mechanisms for monitoring and enforcing human rights.

Course Outcomes:

The course will equip students to –

1. Grasp the issues and debates in Human Rights and comprehend the forces at work shaping the Human right regimes and implementation in national and international setting.
2. Analyse the challenges and requirements for effective implementation of Human Rights.
3. Have necessary knowledge and skills for analysing, interpreting, and applying the Human Rights standards and sensitise them to the issues.
4. Shoulder responsibilities in future as human right advocates/ activists/trainers/scholars in Government and Non-Government agencies at National and International arena.

UNIT 1: Frame work

- 1.1 Defining Human Right, Introduction, Nature and importance; Features, Rights and Duties – Co-relation.
- 1.2 Understanding Human Rights-Natural right, moral right, legal right Perspectives; Cultural relativism
- 1.3 Theories of Human Rights: Naturalist and Positivist.
- 1.4 Classification of Human Rights



UNIT 2: Foundation

- 2.1 UDHR 1948, ICCPR (1966), ICESCR (1966)
- 2.2 Historical Development: Magnacarta, Petition of Rights, Bill of Rights, French Revolution.
- 2.3 Vienna Declaration 1993, ICERD (1965), CEDAW (1979), CRC (1989), CRSRPRSR (1967).
- 2.4 Indian Constitutional Perspectives: Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles of State Policy.

UNIT 3: Human Right- Advocacy and Protection

- 3.1 Role of NGOs: Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Greenpeace, PUCL, PUDR.
- 3.2 Media and Human Rights; Principles of Human Right training
- 3.3 Nation and State Human Rights Commissions in India, Protection of Human Rights Act, (1993); PIL
- 3.4 Judiciary and Human Rights

UNIT 4: Issues and Concerns

- 4.1 SCs / STs, Women and Children
- 4.2 Refugees, Physically Challenged, Transgender; Domestic Violence.
- 4.3 Death penalty; Euthanasia.
- 4.4 Education, Food security, Climate change; Inclusive development.
- 4.5 Challenges to Human Rights.