

Programme Specification

Section 1: Basic Data

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| Awarding institution/body | UWE |
| Teaching institution | UWE |
| Faculty responsible for programme | Social Sciences and Humanities |
| Programme accredited by | Not applicable |
| Highest award title | MA Human Rights |
| Default award title | N/A |
| Interim award title | Postgraduate Diploma in Human Rights, Postgraduate Certificate in Human Rights |
| Modular Scheme title (if different) | HLSS Postgraduate Modular scheme |
| UCAS code (or other coding system if relevant) | N/A |
| Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s) | Politics, Law |
| On-going | N/A |
| Valid from (insert date if appropriate) | September 2007 |
| Authorised by... | Approved by PAC Chair's action |
| Date:... | 12.09.07 |

Version Code

1

For coding purposes, a numerical sequence (1, 2, 3 etc.) should be used for successive programme specifications where 2 replaces 1, and where there are no concurrent specifications. A sequential decimal numbering (1.1; 1.2, 2.1; 2.2 etc) should be used where there are different and concurrent programme specifications

Section 2: Educational aims of the programme

- To establish a questioning and intellectually challenging basis for the study of human rights.
- To provide opportunities for the rigorous and critical study of the issues, debates and theories that have emerged in response to developments in human rights.
- To encourage students to evaluate and demonstrate the usefulness of studies and histories of human rights in analysing the contemporary forms and practices of law and governance.
- To equip students to undertake independent and innovative research into human rights in relation to governmental, non-governmental and international campaigns, legal codification and policy-making.
- To encourage students to draw on a range of appropriate disciplines and intellectual traditions to develop critical perspectives on human rights.
- To provide teaching that is informed by the cutting edge research of appropriately qualified members of the Faculty.
- To prepare students for future careers which require postgraduates with a high level of analytical and communication skills and who are able to pursue complex tasks in an independent and self disciplined manner.

Section 3: Learning outcomes of the programme

The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas: ...

A Knowledge and understanding

| Learning outcomes | Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies |
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| <p>A Knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. conceptual frameworks employed in the study of human rights as exemplified in law and legal and political theory; 2. the relationship of human rights to debates about (global) citizenship and (global) democracy; 3. the importance of historical knowledge and processes in the study of human rights; 4. approaches and methodologies for analysing and interpreting types of human rights discourse in relation to their role in the politics of human rights; 5. the evaluation and use of theoretical and interpretative frameworks in rigorous, systematic and imaginative ways; 6. the design and realisation of sustained research projects; 7. in addition and where appropriate to the student's prior expertise, forms of report writing within an exploratory and critical framework. | <p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies:</p> <p>Acquisition of Learning outcome 1 has a primary focus in the lectures and seminars of the core modules 'Theories of Human Rights' and 'International Law and Human Rights' and their required reading.</p> <p>Acquisition of Learning outcomes 2 and 3 has a primary focus in the lectures and seminars of the core module 'Theories of Human Rights' and its required reading.</p> <p>The acquisition of Learning outcomes 4, 5 and 6 is more widely encouraged and developed throughout the programme. It is a primary focus of the Human Rights Dissertation.</p> <p>The acquisition of Learning outcome 7 will take place as appropriate to the individual student in the 'Placement module' in response to the needs of the organisation worked for.</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to undertake further independent reading to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learned, and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.</p> <p>Assessment: <i>Testing of the knowledge base is through</i></p> |

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| | assessed coursework (1-6) and exams; skill 7 is assessed through a placement report. |
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B Intellectual Skills

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| <p>B Intellectual Skills</p> <p>Students should have the ability to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. read academic and other complex texts closely and critically;2. analyse documents of (international) human rights law;3. construct coherent and defensible arguments;4. present complex ideas with clarity in writing, verbally, and by using other media;5. manage and control diverse and complex discursive material ie: locate, select, synthesise, précis and evaluate. | <p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</p> <p>Intellectual skills are developed as an integral part of the leaning and teaching strategies outlined in Section A above.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>A variety of assessment methods are employed. Those centred upon writing test all of these skills. In addition, students' seminar presentations test skills 4 and 5.</p> |
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C Subject, Professional and Practical Skills

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| <p>C Subject/Professional/Practical Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identify key questions, issues and debates central to the profession of Human Rights practitioners and to undertake analyses of their implications for the field. 2. provide the option for students to develop practical research and reporting skills to a level appropriate to the expertise in the field. | <p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</p> <p>This skill is acquired accumulatively through seminar discussion, tutorial guidance, and feedback on essays given to students in their special studies and through supervision of the student's dissertation.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <p>Skill 1 is primarily assessed through written work in all modules and the dissertation. Skill 2 is assessed through the Placement report.</p> |
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D Transferable Skills and other attributes

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| <p>D Transferable skills and other attributes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. communicate effectively in writing and verbally; 2. work independently on complex tasks; 3. organise and self-direct substantial projects; 4. access and evaluate bodies of information from diverse sources; 5. manage time and work effectively within given limits; 6. use appropriate information technology effectively for research, presentation, and writing; 7. work as a supportive member of a team or group. | <p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</p> <p>These transferable skills and attributes are developed as an integral part of the learning and teaching strategies outlined in Section A above.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <p>The assessment of the acquisition and use of these skills is entailed across the range of assessment methods used.</p> |
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Section 4: Programme structure

Use next page to provide a structural chart of the programme showing:

- Level and credit requirements
- Interim award requirements
- Module diet, including compulsory/core/optional modules

MA Human Rights – full time

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| ENTRY ↓ | Semester 1 | Compulsory modules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPPN5F-30-M Theories of Human Rights (30) • UJNT5A-15-M International Law and Human rights (15) | Optional modules (Students can take any option with the permission of the Programme Leader and subject to availability) | Interim Awards: PG Cert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit requirements 60 • Other requirements Compulsory modules must be part of the 60 credits. |
| | | Core Modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UJNT5D-15-M International Law and Institutions (15) • UPPNGH-30-M Placement (30) | |
| | Semester 2 | Compulsory Modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | Optional modules (Students can take any option with the permission of the Programme Leader and subject to availability) | Interim Awards: PG Dip <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit requirements: 120 • Other requirements: Compulsory modules of level 1 need to be part of the 120 credits. |
| | | Core Modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | | |
| Subject to the agreement of the Programme Leader a Placement with a relevant Human Rights organisation can be taken either during Semester 1 Semester 2, in the Easter break or in the Summer when the dissertation is being written. Students can also opt to do a Placement throughout the year if they can combine the hours of work with their other commitments. Each student can only take one Placement. | | | | |
| | Summerup to January | Compulsory modules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPPN5J-60-M Dissertation (60) | Optional modules (Students can take any option with the permission of their Programme Leader and subject to availability) | Prerequisite requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum credit/module requirements 120 • other N/A |
| | | Core modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPPNGH-30-M Placement (30) | Awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target/highest: MA Human Rights • Default title: Not applicable for this Award |
| | | | | Credit requirements 180 |

→ GRADUATION

MA Human Rights – part-time year 1

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| Semester 1 | Compulsory modules • UPPN5F-30-M Theories of Human Rights (30) | Optional modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | Interim Awards: Not applicable at this level of the Award |
| | Core modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | | |
| Semester 2 | Compulsory modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | Optional modules (Students can take any option with the permission of their Programme Leader and subject to availability) • UPPN5G-30-M Politics of Human Rights (30) • UPPNGH-30-M Placement (30) | Interim Awards: Not applicable at this level of the Award |
| | Core modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | | |
| Subject to the agreement of the Programme Leader a Placement with a relevant Human Rights organisation can be taken either in the Summer before the MA or in the Easter break or in the summer when the dissertation is written. Students can also opt to do a Placement throughout the year if they can combine the hours of work with their other commitments. Each student can only take one Placement. | | | |
| Summer | Compulsory modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | Optional modules • UPPNGH-30-M Placement (30) | Prerequisite requirements • Not applicable at this level of the Award |
| | Core modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | | Awards: Not applicable at this level of the Award |

→ GRADUATION

MA Human Rights – part-time, year 2

ENTRY
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| Semester1 | Compulsory modules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UJNT5A-15-M International Law and Human rights (15) | Optional modules (Students can take any option with the permission of the Programme Leader and subject to availability) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UJNT5D-15-M International Law and Institutions (15) • UPPNGH-30-M Placement (30) | Interim Awards: PG Cert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit requirements 60 • Other requirements Compulsory modules need to be part of those 60 credits |
| | Core modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | | |
| Semester2 | Compulsory modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | Optional modules (Students can take any option with the permission of the Programme Leader and subject to availability) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPPNGH-30-M Placement (30) • UJNT5H-15-M International Refugee Law (15) • UJNT8E-15-M International Humanitarian Law (15) | Interim Awards: PG Dip <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit requirements 120 • Other requirements Compulsory modules need to be part of those 120 credits |
| | Core modules Not applicable at this level of the Award | | |
| Year out | Subject to the agreement of the Programme Leader a Placement with a relevant Human Rights organisation can be taken at any point during the MA, including the Easter break or in the summer when the dissertation is written. Students can also opt to do a Placement throughout the year if they can combine the hours of work with their other commitments. Each student can only take one accredited Placement. | | |
| Summerup to January | Compulsory modules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPPN5J-60-M Dissertation (60) | Optional modules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no optional modules at this level of the award. | Prerequisite requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum credit/module requirements 120 • other N/A |
| | Core modules Not applicable at this level of the Award. | | Awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target/highest MA Human Rights • Default title N/A Credit requirements 180 |

→ GRADUATION

Section 5: Entry requirements

Applicants normally have a first or upper second class honours degree in a relevant field or equivalent experience. Prospective students with a good lower second degree need to have academic ability and strong references.

Section 6: Assessment Regulations

- a) **MAR** YES
- b) **Approved MAR variant (insert variant)**
- c) **Non MAR**

Section 7: Student learning: distinctive features and support

- Practical induction to the programme and its resources.
- A period of intellectual orientation at outset of programme including a detailed and tailored library induction.
- Students are given instruction and support in the use of internet and other online resources.
- Students are assisted to extend their acquisition and reflectivity in relation to information literacy skills.
- There is a dedicated award website, and module tutors will make extensive use of UWEonline sites to support teaching. Students will also have access to the Politics community and several post-graduate electronic platforms.
- Detailed module handbooks.
- Dedicated office hours for all teaching staff, student email system, trained counsellors for pastoral and student advisers for academic support.
- Specialist AV and IT resources and technical support.
- A range of staged teaching and learning strategies and forms of assessment.
- Teaching led by leaders in research in Human Rights.
- Support and encouragement of independent learning and research.
- Involvement in Human Rights Research events.
- Events organised by the Faculty and School in addition to timetabled modules.
- Invitation to School research seminars.
- Graduate School with dedicated computer, printing and photocopying facilities, silent study areas and common room. (Conifers, St. Matthias Campus)
- Award Specific Career Workshops.

Section 8 Reference points/benchmarks

- *Subject benchmarks (QAA Units Politics and Law)*
- *University teaching and learning policies:*
- *staff research projects:*
- *employer interaction/feedback in response to Placement modules:*

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found in module specifications. These are available on the University Intranet.

Programme monitoring and review may lead to changes to approved programmes. There may be a time lag between approval of such changes/modifications and their incorporation into an authorised programme specification. Enquiries about any recent changes to the programme made since this specification was authorised should be made to the relevant Faculty Administrator.