

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER
CURRICULUM GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW
CERTIFICATE STUDENTS**

This *Curriculum Guide for International Human Rights Certificate Students* is designed to help students select offerings listed under “International Human Rights Certificate Courses” in the Course Schedule of Georgetown University Law Center. Designed primarily to assist candidates for the Certificate in International Human Rights, the *Guide* also may prove useful to other students in selecting courses in this area. The *Guide* complements but does not supersede course registration materials provided in print and on line.

Contents

The *Guide* consists of three parts. Part I provides introductory information. Part II lists the courses that meet the certificate requirements. Part III suggests additional courses outside of the certificate that may prove useful.

Part I: Introductory Information

Academic Counseling

To schedule an appointment to discuss your schedule of courses, please contact John Stephens, Director, LL.M. Academic Services, 202-662-9036 or jts26@law.georgetown.edu. You may also wish to schedule an appointment with Rachel Taylor, Deputy Director of the Human Rights Institute, at rst@law.georgetown.edu.

Course Prerequisites

Some Human Rights courses list one or more courses as prerequisites. If you have taken the listed course at Georgetown or an equivalent course or courses at another school, then you have met the prerequisite and you do not have to request a waiver. If you have trouble registering, please contact the Registrar’s Office at lawreg@law.georgetown.edu and ask for their help in registering.

If you have not taken the prerequisite course or courses but believe you nonetheless possess the requisite knowledge, you will need to request a waiver from the professor. For courses for which you need to request a waiver, if you are registering over the summer, you may tentatively select the course. Please note, however, that you will need to get the professor’s written approval to waive the prerequisite and submit it to the

Office of the Registrar before the end of the first week of classes. Waivers may be sought and obtained via e-mail. You may contact a professor by going to the “Faculty and Administration” section of www.law.georgetown.edu or by contacting our office at (202) 662-9036. If you are trying to reach an adjunct faculty, it is often faster to call our office as they sometimes do not put their contact information on our website.

Requirements of the International Human Rights Certificate:

To obtain a Certificate in International Human Rights Law, students must successfully complete a basic course in *International Law I* (or its equivalent). Human Rights certificate students who received their J.D. from a law school in the United States are required to have taken *International Law I* (or its equivalent) before matriculating in Georgetown’s program or within their first year of the program. Similarly, students who received their basic law degree from a law school outside the United States (“international students” or “foreign educated students”) are required to have taken a basic course in public international law before matriculating in Georgetown’s program or within their first year of the program. This course does not count towards the 10 specialization credits for the program.

Students in the Human Rights Certificate program must also successfully complete the basic *International Human Rights* course. In the fall semester, this course is taught by Gilda Brancato, who is an Attorney Adviser International for the Office of the Legal Adviser in the Department of State. In the spring semester, *International Human Rights* is taught by Georgetown Law Professors David Luban and Jane Stromseth. Certificate students should be aware that more seats are available for graduate students in the fall semester course taught by Professor Brancato. A student who has taken the substantial equivalent of this course during his or her J.D. program may request permission from John Stephens (jts26@law.georgetown.edu) to substitute an elective for this required course.

Finally, students in the Human Rights Certificate program must successfully complete a minimum of 10 academic credits from human rights specialization courses. To find a list of these courses, see page 5 below. You may also find a list of these courses online by going to www.law.georgetown.edu. Click on “Academic Programs,” click on “Curriculum Guide,” and click on the “Schedules” tab. Select the appropriate semester and then select “LLM: International Human Rights Certificate” from the drop-down menu.)

A cumulative minimum grade point average of “B-” must be attained in the courses that are counted toward the International Human Rights Law Certificate. Credits transferred from other institutions and/or graduate programs will not count towards the Certificate. In addition, certain courses or seminars included in the Certificate may be applied to the specialized credits required for the LL.M. in International Legal Studies.

The Academic Bulletin sets forth all degree requirements (in addition to required courses).

Researching Your Course Selections

Students normally begin their course selection process with the Course Schedule, either the online or print version. You may find a list of the “International Human Rights Law Certificate Courses” on page 87 of the April 4, 2007 print edition of the Course Schedule. (The complete Fall Graduate Schedule begins on page 89, and the Spring Graduate Schedule begins on page 101 of this booklet.)

When you see a course that you are interested in, note the meeting time, any prerequisites or recommended courses, and whether the course requires an exam or a paper. You should then review the description of the course, using the online curriculum guide (http://www.law.georgetown.edu/curriculum/tab_courses.cfm). Next, you may wish to click on the name(s) of the faculty teaching the course to get an idea of their background. The Law Center’s adjunct faculty are extremely accomplished and each brings a unique perspective to his or her subject. You may also wish to note if a particular faculty member has had work experience at an organization in which you are interested.

Finally, some students find it helpful when selecting courses to consult student evaluations of faculty and courses that have been offered in previous years. The evaluations are available online at <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/curriculum/evaluations/>. A university NetID is required to log in and view these evaluations, and NetIDs were mailed to admitted students in the first half of June. These numerical evaluations rank faculty and courses on a number of criteria that take the form of statements like “The instructor taught the course well.” Responses can range from 5 (the most favorable evaluation) to 1 (the least favorable evaluation). The tabulations indicate the number and percentage of enrolled students who provided responses to each question and provide an average score for each course. Hard copies of these evaluations are also available for your review at the circulation desk of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library or in the Graduate Programs Office.

Papers, Seminars, and Writing Requirements

International Human Rights Certificate students are not required to write any papers for the certificate program or the LL.M. degree. However, students are strongly encouraged to take at least one course – preferably, more than one – that will hone their legal writing skills. Clear and persuasive legal writing is the single most important ingredient for success in practice. Further, getting a paper published or winning a writing competition can be very helpful to your career. Courses that require a paper or registering for Graduate Independent Research are the two best vehicles to this end.

The Law Library has produced a helpful guide to researching Human Rights Law; it is available online at: <http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/intl/guides/HumanRightsLaw.cfm>. You may find it helpful to refer to this guide when looking for a paper topic or for sources. There are also additional International Law guides on related subjects (e.g., Immigration and Human Rights, War Crimes, and the International Criminal Court) here: <http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/research/index.cfm>.

Finally, the Writing Center offers a number of resources on honing your writing skills here: <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/writingcenter/>. You may also make an appointment with a senior writing fellow (generally a J.D. student who is a “Senior Writing Fellow”) to discuss a paper that you are working on and get suggestions to improve clarity and organization. Both the law librarians and the Writing Center can act as a resource to help you find an appropriate publication or writing contest for your submission.

Part II: Courses That Count Towards the Certificate

The following courses count towards the required number of credits for students pursuing a certificate in International Human Rights.

Fall Semester 2007	Spring Semester 2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contemporary Issues in Human Rights • Establishing the Rule of Law After Conflict • Foreign Relations Law • Global and National Approaches to Reproductive Health and the Law • Health and Human Rights • Human Rights Advocacy Seminar • International and Comparative Law on the Rights of Women • International Courts and Tribunals • International Criminal Trials and the Application of Human Rights Standards • International Human Rights Law • International Migration and Development • Refugee Law and Policy • Restorative Justice in International Human Rights: A New Paradigm • Social Welfare and Economic Liberty in Constitutional and Human Rights Law <p><i>J.D. COURSES IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS:</i></p> <p><i>If space is available, these courses may be taken for International Human Rights Certificate course credit, except as noted.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Issues in National Security and Civil Liberties Seminar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Issues in International Human Rights Seminar • AIDS Law and Ethics Seminar • Contemporary Issues in Human Rights • Development Law • Immigration Law and Policy • Immunity Under International Law • International Criminal Law • International Criminal Law Seminar • International Human Rights • International Human Rights Colloquium • International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Courts • International Law and the Beginning of the 21st Century • International Trafficking in Persons • International Women’s Human Rights Seminar • Law and Development • Law of 9/11 in War Crimes Prosecutions • National Security and Civil Liberties • Refugee and Humanitarian Emergencies: Advanced Research Seminar • Rule of Law and Justice Sector Reform in Latin American and Eastern Europe • War and Peace Seminar: New Thinking about the Causes of War and War Avoidance <p><i>J.D. COURSES IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS:</i></p> <p><i>If space is available, these courses may be taken for National Security Law Certificate course credit, except as noted.</i></p> <p>International Criminal Law Seminar: Tribunals</p>

This list is available via the Georgetown Law website. Go to www.law.georgetown.edu, click on “Academic Programs,” click on “Curriculum Guide,” and click on the “Schedules” tab. Choose the appropriate semester, and select “LLM: International Human Rights Certificate” from the drop-down menu.

Further information on these courses can be gleaned from the course descriptions available online. Additional questions as to whether a particular course fits well in one’s course of study or other goals can be addressed to John Stephens at jts26@law.georgetown.edu

Part III: Additional Courses of Interest

Many courses that do not count towards the certificate can be vital additions to your course of study. These courses may not focus exclusively on International Human Rights issues, but may nonetheless be interesting and important for students interested in human rights-related issues. Please visit the online curriculum guide for the course descriptions of any of the below courses which interest you.

Fall Semester 2007	Spring Semester 2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparative Constitutional Rights• International Law Seminar: Use of Force and Conflict Resolution• Law and Measures against International Terrorism• Law of War Seminar• Managing National Security• National Security Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparative Constitutional Law• Failed States Seminar: Legal, Conceptual, and Practical Challenges• Governance of Non-Profit Organizations• International Criminal Law Seminar: Tribunals and Crimes• International Law Seminar: Accountability and Development• International Organizations and Global Health Law• Political and Lobbying Activities of Tax-Exempt Organizations• Law of War Seminar• Laws of Terrorism Seminar