**EHR 1202 Evolution of Human Rights**

**Course description**

The course will involve a survey of human rights from vague norms to international treaties and conventions, examine history surrounding the writing of the Magna Carta (1215), the petition of Right (1628). Revolutions including the English Revolution of 1688 and the writing of the English Bill of Rights, The American Revolution and other revolutions will be considered. Besides, the major events like Trans-Atlantic Treaty, the first World Wars, the Paris conference, the San Francisco Conference, and the implementation of Human Rights, Internationalization of Human Rights, and the implementation of Human Rights Charter and other related conventions, protocols and treaties will be studied.

**Course objectives**

This course will enable the student to understand the historical, philosophical and social dynamics behind the evolution of human rights norms. Students will be helped to understand the evolution of international human rights standards such as the UDHR, ICCPR, ICESCR, CEDAW, optional protocols as well the challenges of human rights implementation both at international, regional and domestic levels.

**Learning objectives**

By the end of the course, students will:

1. Know the international bill of rights
2. Know the historical, philosophical and social dynamics behind the evolution of international human rights.
3. Know the legal and institutional challenges in the implementation of International human rights

**Course outline**

1. Visions: The birth of human rights
2. Early international efforts
3. Entering the 20th century: Visions and revolutions
4. Rights between wars: opportunities and challenges
5. World war II: Visions and proposals
6. The UN charter of Human rights
7. The Universal Declarations of human rights
8. International bill of human rights
9. Implementing International human rights

**Methodology**

The facilitator(s) will employ the following methods; Tutorials, lectures, guided exercise, expert talks, study trips, Individual presentations, group discussions, brain storming.

**Assessment Mode**

Take home exercise 15%

Practical exercise test 15%

End of semester examination 70%

**Reading list**

Buergenthal, et al, 2003, *International Human Rights in a Nutshell*, West Publishing Co

Conde H. V., 2004, *A Hand book of international Human Rights Terminology*, University of Nebraska Press.

Lauren Gordon, 2003, *The Evolution of International Human Rights*, University of Pennsylvania Press.

Smith R.K., 2007, *Text Book on International Human Rights*, Oxford University Press.

Steiner and Alston, 2007, *International Human Rights in Context*, Oxford University Press.