**EHR 3201 Human Rights in Africa**

**Course description**

The course is expected to deal with the following issues: the international influences on human rights in Africa, like: the effects of colonialism, independence struggles, neo-colonialism, imperialism, racism, debt burden, peripherisation of Africa, etc. The human rights practices on the African continent, like the issues of ethnicity, illiteracy, conflicts, poverty, wars, genocide, corruption, rebel activities, political instability and economic mismanagement. The course will also study the African charter on human rights, African diplomacy, Africa's economics, educational, cultural, socio-economic, political and international issues and the way forward for Africa.

**Course Objectives**

The course will enable the students to understand the human rights effects of pre-colonialism, imperialism, post colonialism, globalization, Neo-liberalism, poverty, armed conflict, ethnicity, corruption, bad governance on the African continent. Students will also be helped to understand the human rights practices in Africa in terms of complying with international human and regional rights instruments, promotion and protection of civil political, economic, social and cultural rights, Promotion and protection of gender rights and the legislative protection of human rights.

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of the course, students will:

1. Know the human rights effectives of International influences on Africa.
2. Be able to critique the impact of bad governance on human rights practices in Africa
3. Be able to assess the complying with international and regional human rights instruments
4. Be able to assess the promotion and protection of human rights on the African continent
5. Be able to assess the legislative protection of Human rights in Africa
6. Know the gender challenges of human rights promotion and protection in Africa.

**Course outline**

1. Human rights in Pre-colonial Africa
2. Colonialism and Human rights
3. Human rights in post Independent Africa
4. Neo-liberalism and Human rights in Africa
5. The promotion and protection of civil and political rights in Africa
6. The promotion and protection of economic, cultural and social rights in Africa
7. Poverty and human rights in Africa
8. Gender and human rights in Africa
9. The right to education in Africa
10. Compliance with human rights obligation of the African Union
11. Human rights and good governance in Africa
12. Africa and promotion of Third generation rights
13. Democracy and human rights in Africa
14. Economic development and human rights in Africa
15. The legislative protection of human rights in Africa

**Methodology**

The facilitator(s) will employ the following methods; Guest speaker, lectures with discussion, Class discussion, small group discussion, Report back Session, values clarification exercise, explanations, Video tapes.

**Assessment Mode**

Take home exercise 15%

Practical exercise test 15%

End of semester examination 70%

**Reading list**

Busia, 1994 *Gender Violence and Women’s Human Rights in Africa*, CWGL

Chinedu O., 2007 *The African human rights System*, Cambridge University Press

Fanon F., 2004 *The Wretched of the Earth*, United States of America, Library of Congress

Maina C.P, 1997 *Human Rights in Africa*, New York, Greenwood Press

Otto Sano H. & Gudmundur A., 2002 *Human Rights and Good Governance, Building Bridges*, London, Martinus Nijhoff

Shivji, I.G, 1989 The Concept of Human Rights in Africa, Oxford: African Books Collective.

Viljoen F. 2007 *Human Rights in Africa: National and International Protection*, Oxford University press

Waylen, G., 1995, *Gender and Third World Politics*, Milton Keynes: Open University

Press

Walter Rodney, 1981 *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*, Howard University Press