



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2024

### 8,474: International Human Rights in Practice

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Written work, Digital, Individual work individual grade (75%)

Examination time: Term time

decentral - Active participation, Analog, Individual work individual grade (25%)

Examination time: Term time

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8,474,1.00 International Human Rights in Practice](#) -- English -- [Burri Nina](#)

#### Course information

##### Course prerequisites

There is no specific prior knowledge required. However, previous participation in lectures on international law or human rights is an asset.

Participants should be prepared to participate actively in the class discussions.

##### Learning objectives

1. Students will know the basic concepts, the most relevant treaties and mechanisms of international human rights protection.
2. Students will understand tools and techniques for human rights investigations and different approaches to human rights litigation.
3. Students have a solid knowledge of various ways NGOs, individuals and groups can and do seek to have their rights recognized, restored and fulfilled.
4. Students are able to analyse past and current rights struggles and critically examine the human rights dimensions of ongoing public debates.
5. Students will know different profiles of practitioners and organizations working in the field of human rights.

##### Course content

This course examines basic concepts of international human rights protection with a focus on practice: It covers investigation tools and techniques (e.g. open source intelligence, interviewing witnesses) as well as different approaches to litigation (e.g. strategic human rights litigation). Through the use of practical examples and case law from a variety of jurisdictions and thematic areas, students will familiarize themselves with challenges and opportunities of human rights practice.

The purpose of the course is to acquaint students, on an advanced level, with fundamental concepts and questions of human rights practice, and to analyze its strengths and weaknesses.

##### Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design



The course 'International Human Rights in Practice' will focus on two main aspects:

1. Investigating human rights violations (from basic investigation standards to open source intelligence) and
2. Litigating human rights violations (from mass atrocities to climate change).

A detailed structure of the course will be made available on StudyNet in February 2024.

## Course literature

Please find below some recommended books on human rights, strategic litigation and human rights investigations. However, it is not compulsory to buy a book as we will be using texts, podcasts and videos from many different sources.

- Steven Wheatley, *The Idea of International Human Rights Law*, Oxford University Press, 2019
- Daniel Moeckli, Sangeeta Shah, Sandesh Sivakumaran, *International Human Rights Law*, Oxford University Press, 2018
- Walter Kälin, Jörg Kunzli, *The Law of International Human Rights Protection*, Oxford University Press, 2019
- Helen Duffy, *Strategic Human Rights Litigation - Understanding and Maximising Impact*, Hart Publishing 2018
- Philip Alston and Sarah Knuckey, *The Transformation of Human Rights Fact-Finding*, Oxford University Press, 2016
- San Dubberley, Alexa Koenig and Daragh Murray, *Digital Witness - Using Open Source Information for Human Rights Investigation, Documentation, and Accountability*, Oxford University Press, 2020

## Additional course information

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## Examination information

### Examination sub part/s

#### 1. Examination sub part (1/2)

##### Examination modalities

Examination type	Written work
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Written work
Examination mode	Digital
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	Off Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	75%
Duration	--

##### Examination languages

Question language: English  
Answer language: English

##### Remark

Term paper on a human rights case.



## Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

## Supplementary aids

Term paper on a human rights case. Details will be published and discussed in class.

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## 2. Examination sub part (2/2)

### Examination modalities

Examination type	Active participation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Synchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	25%
Duration	--

### Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

### Remark

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## Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

## Supplementary aids

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## Examination content

All materials discussed in class and listed in StudyNet.

## Examination relevant literature

The literature relevant to the exam will be discussed in class.

## Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes



precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 13 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 25 January 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 18 March 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 13 (Monday, 25 March 2024);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: Starting with de-registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 08 April 2024).