
As the United Nations celebrates the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), we will have a unique opportunity to discuss the resonance of human rights discourse today, as well as to consider the historical and political circumstances informing their construction, including voices and perspectives that have been overlooked. Participants will also have an opportunity to tour the United Nations and attend interactive dialogues of the Third Committee of the General Assembly, focusing on social, humanitarian and cultural human rights issues.

The seminar will begin with Dr. Hugo Slim, Head of Policy, ICRC, who will walk participants through the contemporary human rights framework. Participants will collaborate and share ideas with leading practitioners of human rights. Topics will include the right to development, the construction of the UDHR, including Article 29’s duty to the community, the role of NGOs and civil society in creating human rights norms, and the interdependence of civil, political, social and economic rights.

Participants will also engage in seminars directed by scholars and community partners on global and institutional responsibility for contemporary human rights violations and entrenched structural inequalities, alternative conceptions of human rights, law as resistance, politicizing human rights, and considering human rights within a framework of justice.

The seminar will conclude with Dr. Nabeel Hamdi, Prof. Emeritus of Urban Planning, Oxford Brookes University, a pioneer in the field of participatory planning, who will provide participants with the tools to collaborate effectively with community partners and stakeholders. Participants will learn concrete community action techniques and will participate in a hands-on workshop on community action planning, focusing on issues of community identity, the distribution of resources, and attention to local needs in the face of globalization.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Interested students should contact Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox at sujata.gadkar-wilcox@quinnipiac.edu. The workshop cost is $1900. Tuition includes lodging, administrative costs, speaker fees, UN events, receptions and most meals for the conference. For more information on this and other human rights workshops, see www.oxfordconsortium.org
“The greatest impact of the seminar lies in its power to inspire. It inspired me to formulate, ask, and gain answers to questions and ideas I had never even began to think about, or had access to, before the seminar.”

“An entirely different approach to human rights, governance and institutional structures that provide humanitarian aid…”

“So much knowledge, insight, new friendships, opportunities, and perspectives on possible careers…”

“Working with very intelligent students from schools across the country was truly a pleasure. So many of us were coming from different academic backgrounds and disciplines, but also from different cultural, racial and ethnic backgrounds further diversifying the group in terms of perspectives and outlooks. I can say that I gained many new friends from this seminar. This group of talented students will surely do great things in the future.”

“I accomplished my goal of learning how a human rights based approach can be leveraged to help development at the local/community level.”

“I took away an incredible amount of knowledge, the drive to learn more about human rights and development, contacts and connections with other renowned professors/scholars as well as students from all around the United States.”

“I took away many new relationships that I am excited to explore further. I am excited to see all of the great things that the participants will do! I am very refreshed to know that there are other professionals interested in similar approaches to development.”