Human rights purport that all people deserve to live life with dignity; that human beings are owed the protection of these rights simply because they are human. Universal human rights apply to all equally and without discrimination. They encompass civil and political rights; economic, social, and cultural rights; and apply to both individuals and groups. The rights set forth in human rights doctrines, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, are interrelated, interdependent, and indivisible.

The curriculum for the Certificate in Human Rights introduces students to human rights theory and practice by providing students with the opportunity to understand human rights law, history, and philosophy; explore specific, pressing human rights topics in-depth from interdisciplinary perspectives; identify solutions to global challenges; learn how to translate human rights theory into effective advocacy; and strengthen one’s ability to communicate successfully with academic and nonacademic audiences.

The Certificate in Human Rights is administered and awarded by the College of Law.