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.

**Programs**

**Undergraduate Program of Study**

**Certificate**

- Certificate in Human Rights

**Courses**

**University of Iowa Center for Human Rights Courses**

**HRTS:2115 Introduction to Human Rights**  
3 s.h.  
Analysis and evaluation of the international human rights program; relationship between human rights and international law. Same as IS:2115.

**HRTS:3905 Topics in Human Rights**  
1-3 s.h.  
Examination of emerging human rights issues from an interdisciplinary and international perspective. Same as IS:3905.

**HRTS:3906 Global Crises and Human Rights**  
3 s.h.  
Exploration of human rights in context of global challenges; multidisciplinary; topics may include military conflict, nuclear war, human trafficking, environmental disasters, and other international human rights crises.

**HRTS:3910 Human Rights Advocacy**  
3 s.h.  
Theoretical foundations and critical issues for international human rights advocacy and international humanitarian movements. Same as IS:3910.

**HRTS:3920 Seminar in Human Rights Praxis: Supervised Internship**  
3 s.h.  
Supervised internship in human rights praxis; focus on field-based advocacy and human rights frameworks.