

OSUN Online Courses Spring 2025

Child Rights Protection

Venera Urbaeva, American University of Central Asia

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 22, 2025 – May 9, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday 5:35 AM - 7:35 AM EDT

Instructor: This course will explore the origins of child rights and the history of development of the main treaty that accords children their rights, the UN CRC. The course will encourage students to understand factors that impact child wellbeing and fulfillment of their rights from a human rights perspective. While diving into theoretical aspects, the course will increasingly focus on the practical application of knowledge gained through this course. This course is part of an [OSUN Network Collaborative Course](#).

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Cinema and Human Rights

Sabine El Chamaa, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 31, 2025 – May 2, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Friday 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM EDT

This course explores the intersection between human rights and cinema through films directed by pioneering filmmakers. Students will acquire the analytical tools to read film as text through an interdisciplinary lens, drawing from readings in film and queer studies, and post-colonial discourses. The historical (and current) role of film in provoking social change is questioned, problematizing the cultural notions of human rights while questioning the ideologies in the politics of representation.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Civic Engagement and Social Action

Erin Cannan, Bard College

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: January 21, 2025 – May 15, 2025

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 10:00 AM - 11:20 AM EDT

What does it mean to be engaged with your community? What can students participating in civic engagement projects learn from others in universities in places like Haiti, Ghana, Kyrgyzstan, Bangladesh and the United States? This course will examine historical, philosophical and practical elements of civic engagement while exploring the underlying question of what it means to be civically engaged in the early 21st century. Together, students will explore issues related to political participation, civil society, associational life, social justice, and personal responsibility, as well as how issues like race and socio-economic status impact civic participation. The class reflects a balance between study and practice of engagement which includes interrogating theoretical notions of civic life while also empowering students to be active participants in the communities in which they are situated. The culminating project asks students to propose a civic engagement project in their home or local community. Speakers and workshop leaders from will be presented by civic leaders, local officials, global not-for-profit leaders, and volunteers from communities proximate to participating OSUN campuses. This course will feature workshops, lectures and seminar discussions including students from all Network Collaborative sessions and the OSUN Online Civic Engagement Course. This course is part of an [OSUN Network Collaborative Course](#). Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Comparative Law in a Changing World

Begaiym Esenkulova, American University of Central Asia

Term: January 13, 2025 – May 7, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 6:00 AM - 7:15 AM EDT

The course is focused on the comprehensive study of comparative law in the 21st century. It provides students with an opportunity to explore how different countries address similar problems in the areas of constitutional law, criminal law, environmental law, and other fields on the national level. The course allows students to go beyond the study of the national law of their countries which is important in an increasingly interdependent world marked by dynamic and rapid changes.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Comparative Philosophy

Casey Doyle, Parami University

Term: February 3, 2025 – May 21, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Monday, Wednesday; 9:00 PM - 10:40 PM EST

This course examines fundamental philosophical questions in metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics through an examination of different philosophical traditions. Our focus will be the “Western” and Buddhist philosophical traditions, with additional readings from Nyaya, Daoist, Africana, and Latin American sources. In addition to engaging with arguments from the text, students examine what philosophy is, what makes a philosophical tradition, and the value of cross-cultural learning.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Compassion and Compassionate Leadership

Tatjana Myoko von Prittwitz und Gaffron, Bard College

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 28, 2025 – May 15, 2025

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 10:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

The cultivation of compassion, both as a concept as well as an embodied principle, can have personal as well as social ramifications. We will examine various notions of compassion, look at inspiring examples of compassionate actions, and reflect how compassion can be an effective practice for inner and outer transformation. Participants should feel inspired to become compassionate leaders themselves, using compassion as a powerful tool to address severe human rights violations.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Creative Economies

Majd Hajjaj, Al-Quds Bard College

Term: February 3, 2025 – May 14, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 12:00 PM - 1:20 PM EDT

This course explores the evolution of cultural and creative industries, focusing on cultural heritage, community engagement, and creative economies in a global and digital context, while focusing on Palestine and the Middle East. Key topics include challenges posed by colonization, the music industry's value chain, talent management, international festival

management, and museum curation. Students will gain essential knowledge and skills for careers in these dynamic sectors.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Earth Observations in Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals

Viktor Lagutov, Central European University

Civic Engagement Certificate, Sustainability and Social Enterprise Certificate

Term: January 10, 2025 – March 21, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Friday 3:50 AM - 5:30 AM EDT

The aim of this course is to provide both theoretical understanding and practical introduction to the use of remote sensing technologies for monitoring and analysis of environmental and societal processes, contributing to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The course provides an overview of alternative earth observation and geospatial data collection systems. It is based on a “learn-by-doing” approach: instructors-led theoretical sessions followed by students’ individual work.

Prerequisites: Basic knowledge of mapping and visualization of geospatial data is expected from course participants. For CEU students, the course “Geospatial Technologies for Environmental Professionals (GST)” is enough. For other OSUN students – similar courses or evidence of some basic relevant skills and knowledge.

Credits: 2 US / 4 ECTS

Education for Sustainable Development

Amadeus DeKastle, American University of Central Asia

Global Education Development Certificate, Sustainability and Social Enterprise Certificate

Term: January 31, 2025 – April 25, 2025

Level: 400-Level

Day/Time: Friday 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM EDT

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) endeavor to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. As educators, it is important that we are not just “aware” of these goals, but that we can appropriately integrate them into our classrooms. Not just superficially, but in a way that pervades our entire teaching philosophy. This class will introduce the SDGs and model various ways of incorporating them into your classroom.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Environmental Ethics

Daniel Adsett, American University in Bulgaria

Sustainability and Social Enterprise Certificate

Term: January 20, 2025 – May 2, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Friday 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

This course investigates the ethics of human-environment relations. Why should we be concerned about nature? Are we distinct from our environment? Do we have an obligation to maintain our environment in a particular way? What kinds of duties do we have towards animals and other creatures? These and other questions will be addressed throughout this course as we consider how we best ought to live in a world that surrounds us, precedes us, and will outlast us.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Epistemology of Conspiracy Theories

Bruce Matthews, Bard Early Colleges

Term: January 28, 2025 – May 20, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 10:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

This interdisciplinary course explores the rise of conspiracy theory and disinformation as a current manifestation of the perennial struggle between truth and power. As an antidote to the idea we now live in a 'post-truth' world we employ epistemology, a foundational branch of philosophy that asks how do you know what you think you know is true? We examine Plato on the Noble Lie, Alfarabi on hierarchies of truth, Machiavelli and Chanakya on perception and power, as well as works of Lyotard, Baudrillard and Orwell's 1984. We explore theories of manipulating consent in politics and commerce, along with historical conspiracy case studies, concluding with student research on current instances of narrative manipulation.

This course is part of an [OSUN Network Collaborative Course](#).

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Ethical Leadership

Brian Mateo, Bard College

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: January 27, 2025 – May 19, 2025

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 10:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

This course explores approaches to ethical leadership not just in the abstract, but as a discipline that is focused on action. As an approach to thinking through ethical leadership, the course is structured around the concerns explored in Dr. Mary Gentile's Giving Voice to Values framework. Students will read case studies, develop their own, and share with peers from across the globe, from New York to Bangladesh, Myanmar, Ghana and Colombia. This course is part of an OSUN Network Collaborative Course.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Ethics of Big Data and Artificial Intelligence

Chrys Margaritidis, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 27, 2025 – May 20, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Friday 10:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

The course provides a forum to discuss a selection of topics on the ethical aspects of Big Data and AI through mainly contemporary literature in the areas of ethics, law, and technology. Students debate case studies on Big Data and reach conclusions regarding the relevant ethical issues. In examining these cases, we will also discuss principles and problems of broader ethical significance. Topics discussed include democracy, trust, identity, privacy, knowledge/information and mass surveillance.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Freedom of Expression

Kseniya Shtalenkova, European Humanities University

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: March 3, 2025 – May 28, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday 8:10 AM - 11:20 AM EDT

This course provides an introduction to debates about freedom of expression. What is 'freedom of speech'? Is there a right to say anything? Why? The course investigates who has had this right, where and why, and what it has had to do in particular with politics and culture. What powers does speech have, and for what? Debates about censorship, dissidence and protest, hate speech, the First Amendment and Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of

Human Rights are obvious starting points, but the course also explores some less obvious questions: about faith and the secular, the rights of minorities, migration, surveillance, speaking and political agency, law and politics, social media, and the force(s) of words. In asking about the status of the speaking human subject, the course looks at how the subject of rights, and indeed the thought of human rights itself, derives from an experience of claiming, speaking, and speaking up. These questions are examined, if not answered, across a variety of philosophical, legal, journalistic, and political texts, with a heavy dose of case studies (many of them happening right now) and readings in contemporary critical and legal theory. Taught in parallel with OSUN partner institutions where many assignments and activities are shared, and students work jointly with peers at other schools. This course is part of an [OSUN Network Collaborative Course](#).

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

From Long War to Short Peace: Russian History and International Politics Since 1985

Victor Apryshchenko, Bard College

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: February 3, 2025 – May 20, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time:

Monday 9:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

Marking the last decade of the 20th century, Russia's interest in global partnerships and reformist desires were a welcome, but short-lived phenomenon. This class aims to explore the country's (questionably) sudden return to imperialist ambitions and Cold-War-style isolation from an analytical perspective, and the role of civil society institute in the shaping of that dynamic.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Global Issues in the Health of Women, Children and Adolescents

Judy Lewis, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 15, 2025 – April 9, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 7:45 AM - 9:00 AM EDT

This public health course focuses on women's health issues across the lifespan, including children and adolescents. The course will discuss gendered roles of women, origins of patriarchy and need for a broader perspective. Global south countries will receive greater attention. Global health indicators will be used to compare countries with a particular emphasis on Afghanistan. A gendered perspective will be used to examine the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

GlobalEd Colloquium: Education and Development in a Global Era

Tamo Chattopadhyay, American University of Central Asia

Global Education Development Certificate

Term: January 30, 2025 – April 17, 2025

Level: Masters-Level

Day/Time: Thursday 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM EDT

This colloquium style course will feature talks by invited speakers - practitioners and advocates of educational development from around the globe, scholars from across the OSUN network – and challenge students to reimagine the possible. The COLLOQUIUM builds on the conceptual foundations of the GLOBALED CORE Course and encourages participants to consider what can be done to disrupt the status quo that leaves behind millions of children worldwide in a vicious cycle of poverty and under-education. This course is part of an [OSUN Network Collaborative Course](#).

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Heritage as A Human Right

Uzi Baram, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 28, 2025 – May 20, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 8:30 AM - 9:50 AM EDT

Is there a right to cultural heritage? Increasingly, heritage is a key concept in the social sciences. This course explores the concept of heritage, examines case studies of heritage preservation and tourism, and discusses the politics of the past in locations of war and violence as well as heritage that unites peoples in terms of human rights.

Prerequisites: Background in human rights, peace studies, anthropology, or allied fields.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

International Criminal Law

Mariya Zharylouskaya, European Humanities University

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 8, 2025 – June 30, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday 1:30 PM - 4:40 PM EDT

The course provides the theoretical background of international criminal law and the practical application of ICL by international tribunals and based on modern challenges (the Russian aggression against Ukraine, the war between Israel and Palestine, mass crimes against humanity in Africa, etc.). The students will understand the concept of individual criminal responsibility; the types and structure of international crimes; correlation between individual criminal and State responsibility, etc.

Prerequisites: English B1 (written and spoken).

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

International Environmental Law and Sustainable Development

Begaiym Esenkulova, American University of Central Asia

Food Studies Certificate, Human Rights Certificate, Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate, Sustainability and Social Enterprise Certificate

Term: January 14, 2025 – May 8, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 7:25 AM - 8:40 AM EDT

As the number of pressing environmental problems around the world is increasing, there is a growing need to understand the legal framework for environmental protection. The objective of this course is to provide students with sound knowledge of international environmental law and explore its nexus with sustainable development goals.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Introduction to Research Techniques: Applied Statistics

Xavier Prudent, Bard College

Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate, Sustainability and Social Enterprise Certificate

Term: January 24, 2025 – April 25, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Friday 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM EDT

You will learn how to use some of the most basic and widespread statistics methods in research. You will learn how to understand and apply them, from hand computation to computer computation using SPSS and Microsoft Excel.

Prerequisites: Bachelor-level mathematics. Knowledge of functions, fractions, integrals, algebra. Minimum English level: intermediate. Access to a desktop or laptop computer.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Kleptocracy: The Global Political-Economy of Grand Corruption

Daniel Calingaert, Bard College

Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate

Term: January 27, 2025 – May 12, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 8:30 AM - 9:50 AM EDT

This course explores the causes, manifestations, and consequences of kleptocracy (rule by thieves), both in diverse country contexts and internationally. It examines how kleptocracy emerged and has operated in Afghanistan, Russia, South Africa, and elsewhere and enriches select elites and their networks at the public's expense. The course then delves into the international enabling environment for grand corruption and the effects of kleptocracy on democratic governance and political stability.

Prerequisites: Principles of Microeconomics or other economics course; and Introduction to Political Science or Comparative Politics or equivalent.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Leadership, Writing & Public Speaking for Social & Environmental Justice

Jennifer Browdy, Bard College at Simon's Rock

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: January 28, 2025 – May 6, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 10:35 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

Drawing on the writings and speeches of inspiring global leaders in a range of fields, students will learn how to use heartfelt, persuasive rhetorical strategies, in both writing and public speaking, to strongly, and skillfully communicate their vision of social and environmental justice. Students will come away from this course with a toolkit of skills and tactics for

inspiring others, and a portfolio of their own efforts to write and speak out on issues they care about.

Prerequisites: None, but written and oral English proficiency is required.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Leading Change for Sustainability

Tomas Mora Selva, Bard College

Sustainability and Social Enterprise Certificate

Term: January 27, 2025 – May 20, 2025

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM EDT

This is a cross-institution course where student teams develop and advance proposals for organizational innovation within the university: local food, day-care, decarbonization.

Students interact weekly with other OSUN campuses, combined with weekly in-person labs.

Topics include understanding why change often fails, key factors that drive successful change, the role of the change facilitator, and tools for designing and facilitating processes that bring forth group intelligence. This course is part of an [OSUN Network Collaborative Course](#).

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Literatures of the Roma (Gypsies)

Anita Tarnai, Bard College

Term: January 27, 2025 – May 20, 2025

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 10:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

The course provides an opportunity for students to examine stereotypes associated with the Roma in literature and film as well as engage with primary resources (poetry, prose, essays, art) produced by Roma authors and also drawn from collective forms of Romani art (fairy tales and songs). Students will explore themes of “the other,” identity, class, race, gender, location (and dislocation) and time, and the often overlooked experiences of Romani slavery and the Holocaust, amongst others.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Mafia States and Patronal Democracies

Bálint Madlovics, Central European University

Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate

Term: February 5, 2025 – May 14, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 8:30 AM - 9:50 AM EDT

This course offers a comprehensive framework for understanding current trajectories of democratization and autocratization, emphasizing informality, grand corruption, and populism. The course's focus is the political, economic, and social landscape of post-communist regimes (Central Europe, post-Soviet countries, and China), while providing an outlook for other regions. The course examines recent events like the Russia-Ukraine war and its impact on de- and re-democratization tendencies.

Prerequisites: No prerequisites. Having studied comparative politics, economics or sociology is useful but not required.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Muslim Women Write: Social Equality and Cultural Representation

Elizabeth Lowry, American University of Afghanistan

Global Education Development Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 27, 2025 – May 8, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Thursday 11:30 AM - 12:50 PM EDT

Focusing on Muslim women's writing, this course immerses students within a rich literary landscape comprised of essays, journal articles, autobiographies, fiction, and poetry. By engaging with literature representing multiple genres and geographic regions, we consider Muslim women's experiences and how (often from the margins), they make their voices heard across the world.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Navigating Global Conflict Zones: Exploring Anthropology, Psychology, and Literature Perspectives

Felix Kaputu, Bard College at Simon's Rock

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 27, 2025 – May 7, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 10:05 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

This course explores global conflict zones through anthropology, psychology, and literature, offering a comprehensive understanding of the human experience in conflict areas. It covers the representation of conflict in literature, psychological impacts, and cultural dimensions. Students engage with diverse voices, gaining nuanced insights into geopolitical tensions. The course is ideal for international relations, psychology, and cultural studies students.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Not Home At Home

Zahid Rafiq, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 29, 2025 – May 14, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday 8:00 AM - 10:20 AM EDT

When we leave the places we call home we long for them but what do we long for when we are home and yet no longer at home? We shall explore through literature the estrangement between people and the worlds they 'belong' to, caused at times by politics, or by the dawning of certain facts, or sometimes by people not conforming to the 'values' of home. We shall also interrogate the ideas of home, world and self, engaging with home as body, as place, as a person/people, and as hope and illusion.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Philosophy and Gender

Anna Ezekiel, Parami University

Term: February 3, 2025 – May 22, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 12:40 AM - 2:20 AM EDT

What is gender? What are sex and sexuality? What role does the gendered body play in the practice of philosophy? This course takes a cross-cultural approach to the philosophy of gender while considering the gendered nature of the world's philosophical traditions. Students explore how philosophy has always been gendered, from the very beginning. And they will explore critiques of the gender assumptions built into philosophy from ancient times to the present day.

Prerequisites: Parami students: PHIL 201 Introduction to Political Philosophy. Other OSUN students: equivalent.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Philosophy of Law

Kamila Mateeva, American University of Central Asia

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 14, 2025 – May 10, 2025

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 6:00 AM - 7:15 AM EDT

Philosophy of law, as a branch of philosophy that investigates the nature of law in its relation to human values, attitudes, practices, and political communities. The course provides insight of nature of law, its philosophical foundations, its origin, and functions. Studying it would let students understand the purpose of law, difference between law and ethics, correlation between natural and positive law theories and its reflection within the legal system of state and role in the society.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Playwriting: Writing Your Truth

Aimée Michel, Bard College at Simon's Rock

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: January 28, 2025 – May 6, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 10:05 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

We all have stories to tell but often lack the tools with which to tell them. Theater invites us to share our stories and learn from each other. In this playwriting workshop style class we will read plays from around the world and learn the tools to write our own stories into plays. Over the course of the semester we will be writing dramatic scenes. Writing experience is helpful but not necessary but courage to write and speak your truth is!

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Political Rhetoric: The Art of Persuasion

Bugra Güngör, American University of Central Asia

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 14, 2025 – May 8, 2025

Level: 400-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM EDT

This course demonstrates current debates in rhetoric and persuasion in political competition. Firstly, we will discuss the basic concepts, methods, influences, and framing in political discourse. Next, we will move to the sentiment, emotions, and answer how politicians persuade (or dissuade) their audience thanks to these two factors. Finally, we will see theoretical underpinnings of political rhetoric and discourse in light of various empirical cases like the US presidents and the EU leaders.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Regenerative Practices: Ecovillage Design and Permaculture

Olga Tarabashkina, American University of Central Asia

Civic Engagement Certificate, Sustainability and Leading Change Certificate

Term: January 21, 2025 – May 8, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 9:15 AM - 10:30 AM EDT

The Regenerative Practices: Ecovillage Design and Permaculture is a sustainable and regenerative solutions design thinking course. It immerses students into fundamentals of regenerative global thinking and movement i.e. permaculture design of landscapes, community lands, parks, suburban areas, and ecovillage design for better social, economic and ecological management of resources. The design of this course was born out of the experiences of long-existing communities and cutting-edge educators.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Reproductive Health and Human Rights

Helen Epstein, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 27, 2025 – May 12, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Monday 9:00 AM - 11:20 AM EDT

Seven hundred years ago, a radical shift in attitudes towards the family emerged in societies around the world that continues to affect human psychology, relationships and identity to this day. Scholars call it the Demographic Transition and its consequences include political turmoil, romantic upheaval, intellectual and artistic movements, and both better health and new diseases. We'll explore the causes and effects of the Demographic Transition in societies around the world.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Storytelling with Statistics

Polina Dolmatova, American University of Central Asia

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: January 15, 2025 – May 7, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday; Friday 5:35 AM - 6:50 AM EDT

course teaches students to transform data into compelling, culturally responsive narratives. It emphasizes global learning by helping students recognize their roles in contributing to solutions based on data and its statistical interpretation in both local and global contexts. Students develop statistical skills, intercultural competence, and teamwork. Topics include descriptive statistics, data visualization, with a focus on ethical storytelling and its impact on diverse communities.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Technology and Human Rights in Twenty-First Century

Jana Lozoska, Al-Quds Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: February 4, 2025 – May 13, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM EDT

The UN Commissioner for Human Rights (September, 2021) has called for an urgent action in dealing with the threats that artificial intelligence poses on human rights. In the similar manner the Report by the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression (2018, A/73/348) has stressed out that artificial intelligence is a challenge and a threat for human rights. The course's main aim is to focus on the limits and threats of technology to human rights on the one hand, and possibilities on the other.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Understanding International Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism

Mirko Tasic, American University of Central Asia

Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate

Term: January 13, 2025 – May 7, 2025

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 6:00 AM - 7:15 AM EDT

This course offers a comprehensive exploration of terrorism as a historical phenomenon and a contemporary challenge. Students will gain a critical understanding of the different definitions and approaches to studying terrorism, including the identification of terrorist groups, analysis of terrorist strategies, and examination of governmental responses to counter-terrorism.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Universal Human Rights: Ideas and Challenges

Chiahao Hsu, National Sun Yat-sen University

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 18, 2025 – June 3, 2025

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Monday 9:10 PM - 12:00 AM EDT

Human rights are a complex and debated concept, with questions surrounding their natural and universal nature or social and contextual construction. Despite this, there is broad agreement on the most recognized human rights, including civil and political, economic and social, and cultural rights. Studying human rights history and practice can deepen understanding of their importance and develop critical thinking and analytical skills for applying them to real-world issues.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Visual Language of Hate and Dominance

Konstantin Gaitanzi, European Humanities University

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate, Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate

Term: March 1, 2025 – May 30, 2025

Level: 400-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

The course is focused on history and practices of military propaganda in European poster design. The aim of the course is to impart to students the knowledge and competencies related to the history and practice of the propaganda poster, linking it to the European experience of authoritarianism and totalitarianism in the 20th century.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Why Do Women Kill? Women's Rights in Global Context

Jannat Kovalchuk, American University of Central Asia

Human Rights Certificate

Term: January 13, 2025 – May 10, 2025

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Thursday 7:00 AM - 9:35 AM EDT

It is intended to introduce students to the history of the development of women's rights, its domestic and international regulation and covers historical aspects of different time periods, general overview of the criminal law and respective issues, international conventions and confrontation of domestic and international law. It reviews and discusses the current situation with women's rights internationally and in several countries as examples.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS