Human Rights and Social Justice

This section presents the requirements for programs in:

- **M.A. Human Rights and Social Justice**

Program Requirements

M.A. Human Rights and Social Justice (4.0 credits)

Requirements - Thesis pathway:

1. 0.5 credit in:		0.5
HRSJ 5901 [0.5]	Critical Approaches to Human Rights and Social Justice	
2. 0.5 credit in:		0.5
HRSJ 5902 [0.5]	Critical Methodologies in Human Rights and Social Justice	
3. 1.0 credit in 5000-level HRSJ courses or approved graduate courses from outside of the department. No more than 1.0 credit in Directed Studies may be used to fulfil degree requirements.		1.0
4. 2.0 credits in:		2.0
HRSJ 5909 [2.0]	Thesis	
Total Credits		**4.0**

Requirements - Research essay pathway:

1. 0.5 credit in:		0.5
HRSJ 5901 [0.5]	Critical Approaches to Human Rights and Social Justice	
2. 0.5 credit in:		0.5
HRSJ 5902 [0.5]	Critical Methodologies in Human Rights and Social Justice	
3. 2.0 credits in 5000-level HRSJ courses or approved graduate courses from outside of the department. No more than 1.0 credit in Directed Studies may be used to fulfil degree requirements.		2.0
4. 1.0 credit in:		1.0
HRSJ 5908 [1.0]	Research Essay	
Total Credits		**4.0**

Requirements - Coursework pathway:

1. 0.5 credit in:		0.5
HRSJ 5901 [0.5]	Critical Approaches to Human Rights and Social Justice	
2. 0.5 credit in:		0.5
HRSJ 5902 [0.5]	Critical Methodologies in Human Rights and Social Justice	
3. 3.0 credits in 5000-level HRSJ courses or approved graduate courses from outside of the department. No more than 1.0 credit in Directed Studies may be used to fulfil degree requirements.		3.0
Total Credits		**4.0**

Admission

The normal requirement for admission to the M.A. Human Rights and Social Justice is a B.A. Honours degree with a minimum B+ average in human rights or social justice or a related field, and demonstrated English proficiency.

Applicants possessing an undergraduate honours degree from other fields of study may be admitted with additional requirements which will be specified on the offer of admission.

Regulations

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See the General Regulations section of this Calendar.

Human Rights and Social Justice (HRSJ) Courses

HRSJ 5302 [0.5 credit]
Sexuality, Gender and Social Justice
Draws on sexuality studies, Trans studies and other interdisciplinary fields of critical scholarship to analyse sex, gender and sexuality as governing relations, their intersection with other systemic power relations (e.g. colonialism, capitalism), and resistance efforts grounded in social justice politics.

HRSJ 5303 [0.5 credit]
Critical Race Theory
Discourses of global racism against Black, Indigenous, and people of colour; ongoing colonization, social criminalization, and gendered and racialized immigration policies examined from grounded theory and practice of anti-racist work.

HRSJ 5304 [0.5 credit]
Narratives of Human Rights
Ways in which literature and other narrative modes (media, memoir, documentary, film, art, music) engage with the political landscapes around issues of human rights and social justice; the role of these narratives in representation, spectatorship, and power.

HRSJ 5305 [0.5 credit]
Population Health and Human Rights
This course connects progressive thinking about the distribution of diseases among different historically situated groups of people with critical ideas about human rights and social justice. It injects political and historical thinking into dominant ideas and understandings of disease etiology and causes of ill-health.
Seminar

HRSJ 5306 [0.5 credit]
Terrorism and Islamophobia
Post-9/11 Islamophobia in the West and resulting human rights concerns around issues of terrorism, surveillance, exclusion, and anti-immigrant sentiments. Political contexts at play in the social construction of terrorism through popular media and language.

HRSJ 5502 [0.5 credit]
Global Indigenous Knowledges
Indigenous Peoples' contributions to world knowledges through community resistance and resurgence, social movements, community arts, and scholarship. How colonialism, capitalism, and patriarchy normalize plundering, dispossession and epistemic violence and impact Indigenous and non-human life.

HRSJ 5503 [0.5 credit]
Social and Environmental Justice
Global, domestic and international socioenvironmental issues examined through perspectives of anti-colonial, decolonial justice and grassroots praxis. Topics may include corporate mining, food sovereignty, environmental violence(s), green capitalism, Indigenous feminisms, and climate injustices.

HRSJ 5504 [0.5 credit]
Citizenship and Political Violence
How political violence produces, destabilizes, and transforms various regimes of citizenship, including formal citizenship and socio-cultural conceptions legitimating group membership. Legal, socio-cultural, and spatial practices of making and unmaking citizens in the execution of political violence.

HRSJ 5505 [0.5 credit]
Global Labour Justice
Exploration of the changing world of labor with a focus on workers' struggles and the neoliberal assault on the global working class; the conjoining struggles of global north and south workers and their quest for social justice and self-determination.

HRSJ 5506 [0.5 credit]
Global Childhoods
Investigation of the political, economic, health, and social experiences of childhood and youth as a global community and as producers of knowledge in context of settler colonial structures. Topics may include global migration, climate crisis, education, labour, political violence, health, community practices, and accessibility.

HRSJ 5901 [0.5 credit]
Critical Approaches to Human Rights and Social Justice
Selected topics related to anti-colonial/decolonial scholarship aimed to dismantle and destabilize conceptualizations of human rights and social justice discourses. This seminar examines knowledges that resist legalistic ideals of human rights and social justice in their struggle towards transformative justice and politics.

HRSJ 5902 [0.5 credit]
Critical Methodologies in Human Rights and Social Justice
Methodologies and epistemologies related to research practices grounded in anti-colonial and decolonial knowledge, theories, and methods. Students may be asked to apply these acquired skills to conduct research in the field and communities.

HRSJ 5905 [0.5 credit]
Practicum
Grounded in experiential learning principles and community engagement practices, students work with partnering institutions and organizations or social justice initiatives and movements to situate their scholastic knowledge of rights-based advocacy and struggles to achieve social justice. Graded SAT/UNS.

HRSJ 5908 [1.0 credit]
Research Essay
Examination of an approved topic in an area of specialization of either the Institute faculty or associated faculty from across the University. Students will have a supervisor and a second reader.

HRSJ 5909 [2.0 credits]
Thesis

HRSJ 5910 [0.5 credit]
Directed Studies
Directed study on selected topics may be arranged with a faculty member or visiting scholar with permission of the Institute.