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International Human Rights Summer School at Oxford
2010 Preliminary Information

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS PRELIMINARY INFORMATION ONLY AND WILL BE UPDATED IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY 2010. IT IS SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION AND CHANGE.

This four-week summer school offers participants the opportunity to follow an intensive programme of university-level study in human rights law within the beautiful surroundings of New College, Oxford. The programme was established by the University of Oxford and George Washington University in 1995 and almost 1000 students from all over the world have attended since that time.

For the 2010 session, the programme assembles an internationally recognised faculty offering courses on the practice, history, philosophy and doctrine of international human rights law. The programme offers an introductory course on the fundamentals of international human rights law, an advanced seminar on human rights advocacy and afternoon electives that address important contemporary issues in the field (see seminar options). In addition to these core courses, the programme will include a lecture series by some of the leading authorities and actors in the field of international human rights law.

Key facts

Length: 4 weeks

Dates: Sunday 11 July - Saturday 7 August 2010

Modes of teaching: Residential summer school in Oxford

Fees: AUD \$10,890

Application deadline: 1 April 2010

Fee includes tuition, written materials, library fees and full-board (3 meals per day) accommodation in New College. Travel is not included.

Private bathroom supplement: \$400

Please note that many of the bedrooms have private bathrooms but such a room can only be guaranteed if the private bathroom supplement is paid.

Applicants are required to pay a non-refundable application fee of \$110. Please note that this fee is part of the overall programme fee, and participants will be invoiced for the remaining amount once they accept any offer of a place.

Applicants who are offered and accept a place on the programme are required to pay the full fee by 1 May 2010. Please note that places cannot be held for applicants whose fees are not paid in full by

this deadline, and under no circumstances will students be admitted to the programme unless fees have been paid in full.

Course aims

The aims of the programme are to develop participants' advocacy and dissemination skills, as well as their formal knowledge of human rights law and the means for its enforcement. More broadly, the programme is intended to prepare students to contribute to the improvement of human rights conditions in their homelands and around the world.

Level and demands

This course is an intensive programme of university-level study and potential applicants should therefore be confident that they are academically and linguistically prepared for such a programme.

If your first language is not English, you must supply evidence of your proficiency before a place can be offered. The University recognises only certain English tests. The accepted tests and minimum scores for this course are listed below.

- * IELTS: an overall score of at least 7.0
- * TOEFL: an overall score of at least 600
- * Computer-based TOEFL: an overall score of at least 250
- * Internet-based TOEFL: an overall score of at least 100
- * Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE): Grade C or above

Who should apply?

The programme welcomes law students, graduate students, lawyers, legal practitioners, staff of international and non-governmental organisations, researchers, members of the armed services and other human rights professionals with a demonstrated interest in human rights.

In 2008, a total of 71 students attended the programme. 41 of these came from the US and 23 from countries including Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Germany, Haiti, India, Italy, Iran, Japan, Jordan, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, The Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Singapore, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. We anticipate these same countries and perhaps more to be represented at the 2010 programme. Anticipated enrollment for the 2010 programme is about 70 participants.

Certificates and credit

All students who satisfactorily complete the programme will be awarded a Certificate of Attendance. To qualify for this, students are required to attend lectures and seminars to the satisfaction of the course tutors. The examinations at the end of the programme are optional but those students seeking credit from the programme will need to sit them.

Oxford itself does not offer credit and therefore those wishing to obtain credit from their home institution for attending the programme must make appropriate arrangements with that institution in advance. AIM Overseas will provide advice and direction as to how to have the program credited to an Australian degree.

Course structure

The programme begins on Sunday 12 July. Programme orientation and library registration are held on Monday 13 July. Classes are held mornings and afternoons from Tuesday 14 - Friday 17 July; Monday 20 - Thursday 23 July; Monday 27 - Friday 31 July; and Monday 3 - Wednesday 5 August. Thursday 6 August is a reading day. Examinations will be held on Friday 7 August and the programme concludes at 09:00 on Saturday 8 August.

Course content

The programme offers an introductory course on the fundamentals of international human rights law, an advanced seminar on human rights lawyering and afternoon electives that address important contemporary issues in the field. In addition to these core courses, the programme will include a lecture series by some of the leading authorities and actors in the field of international human rights law. Previous speakers have included Mr Geoffrey Nice, Principal Trial Attorney at the ICTY and Professor Juan Méndez, President of the International Center for Transitional Justice, New York and NY Special Advisor to the Secretary General (UN) on the Prevention of Genocide. The programme also offers a human rights film series, a careers panel and a series of meetings with faculty members on their own work.

Seminar options

In the mornings, students choose between the following two courses:

- * Fundamentals of International Human Rights Law
- * Human Rights Lawyering

In the afternoons, students choose one of the following four electives:

- * International Criminal Law
- * Human Rights and the Marketplace
- * War, Peace and Human Rights
- * The International Rights of Women

You will be asked to choose your seminar options as part of the application process that AIM Overseas will guide you through. For the afternoon seminars you will be asked to select 2 preferences and your first preference will always try to be accommodated. It may not be able to confirm your class choices until after the payment deadline.

Seminar descriptions

Fundamentals of International Human Rights Law

Dr Oloka-Onyango and Ms Patricia Sellers

Combining lectures by eminent authorities in the field with small group workshops, this course is an introduction to the law of international human rights. Lecture topics include: the historical and philosophical origins of human rights; the sources of human rights law; civil and political rights; economic, social and cultural rights; human rights institutions, including the UN, European, African and Inter-American systems; humanitarian law and intervention, and human rights in domestic courts. Each day the lecture is followed by a small group workshop that develops a central theme or issue from the morning's lecture using cases, international instruments and other materials. This course is for students with no prior training in international human rights law. Evaluation will be by written examination (75%) and class participation (25%).

Human Rights Lawyering

Professor Ralph Steinhardt

This course examines and assesses the role of lawyers in the articulation and enforcement of international human rights law. The course opens with a critical analysis of the recurring issues of human rights litigation in domestic courts and international tribunals. Students also explore the lawyer's unique role in non-governmental organisations. The final segment of the course will address selected current topics in international human rights law and advocacy (e.g. the "War on Terror;" the impact of new technologies on human rights advocacy). Student performance will be evaluated by examination (75%) and by written exercises and class participation (25%). To enrol in the course, students must either have completed a substantial introductory course in international human rights law or have substantial experience as a

lawyer or human rights practitioner, in which case the course prerequisite may be waived by the instructor.

International Criminal Law

Professor Geoff Gilbert

This course starts with an intensive introduction to international law that places international criminal law in its context, examining its interplay with international human rights law, the international law of armed conflict and international refugee law. The course then briefly explores the nature of international crimes and accountability. The first major section of the course looks at jurisdiction in international law: domestic jurisdiction in its various forms and then the jurisdiction of the various international, hybrid and internationalized criminal courts and tribunals. That leads on to how states obtain jurisdiction over transnational fugitive offenders – extradition, collusive deportation, abduction and other irregular forms of rendition. At all times, the interplay with international human rights law has to be borne in mind. The final section of the course focuses on obtaining jurisdiction over those accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide before turning to the substantive content of genocide and crimes against humanity. Student evaluation will be based on written examination.

Human Rights and the Marketplace

Mr David Petrasek

As part of the contemporary controversy of the human rights impacts of private actors, this course examines the role of the multinational corporation in zones of armed conflict, where human rights abuses can be common. After an initial orientation to basic norms of corporate social responsibility (and the institutions for enforcing those norms), the course will consider and assess such issues as (i) the evidence of corporate complicity in human rights abuses in situations of conflict; (ii) the extent to which companies may be held liable for their direct actions and/or their links to state and non-state actors that are responsible for abuses; and (iii) the limits on the scope and efficacy of international human rights law in this and related settings. Student evaluation will be based on written examination.

War, Peace and Human Rights

Professor Liz Griffin

This course provides students with a practical understanding of the challenges to ensuring respect for human rights in conflict and post-conflict situations. The course commences with an examination of the protection of human rights during times of war. Students examine the law governing resort to the use of force and the international legal regime applicable during times of armed conflict. The course then turns to focus on the protection of human rights in post-conflict situations. Particular attention is paid to the role of UN peace support operations and the successes and failures of operations in areas such as Kosovo, Afghanistan, East Timor, Iraq and Sudan. The final part of the course focuses on human rights field operations and protection strategies. Students will gain an understanding of the key skills that underpin human rights investigations in post-conflict situations. This course is taught by way of lectures, seminars and simulated exercises. Students will be assessed through their participation in class (20%) and a written exam (80%).

The International Rights of Women

Dr Kelly Askin

This course examines the legal regime for the guarantee of women's international human rights. The starting point for the course is the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women. It will also cover regional human rights bodies. Additional topics to be addressed include violence against women, economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights

of women, reproductive rights, and redressing gender crimes under international law. Each student's performance will be evaluated by class participation and a written examination.

Teaching staff

Kelly Askin (BS, JD, PhD) is Senior Legal Officer in the Open Society Justice Initiative, a post she has held since 2004. Dr. Askin has also served as a legal officer to the judges of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda from 2000-2002 and has also served as an expert consultant, legal advisor, and international law trainer to prosecutors, judges, and the registry at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the Serious Crimes Unit in East Timor, the International Criminal Court, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, and the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia. She has lectured in over 65 countries and has published dozens of articles and book chapters on various aspects of international criminal law, international humanitarian law, and gender justice. Her books include *War Crimes Against Women: Prosecution in International War Crimes Tribunals* (1997) and the three volume treatise *Women and International Human Rights Law* (1999, 2001, 2002, co-editor). She serves on the board of several organizations, including the Executive Board of the American Branch of the International Law Association, the International Judicial Academy, International Criminal Law Services, the International Law Student's Association, and the International Journal of Criminal Law.

Geoff Gilbert (LLB, University of Leicester; LLM, SJD, University of Virginia) is Professor of Law at the University of Essex. He is a former Head of the Department of Law and former Director of the LL.M. in International Human Rights Law. He was part of the University of Essex Human Rights Centre research programme on human rights in situations of acute crisis that was carried out on behalf of the Department for International Development (DfID). He has carried out human rights training on behalf of the Council of Europe and UNHCR in the Russian Federation (Siberia, the Urals and Kalmykskaya), Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia & Montenegro and Kosovo. He is an expert consultant on refugees and terrorism for UNHCR. He is the Editor in Chief of the International Journal of Refugee Law. His specialisms are international human rights law, the protection of refugees in international law, and international criminal law.

Elizabeth Griffin (BA London; LLM Essex) is Director of the Human Rights Centre and Adjunct Associate Professor at the UN University for Peace. She has extensive experience as a human rights practitioner investigating and reporting on human rights violations. She has worked for the United Nations (initially at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and then with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo) and as a Researcher for Amnesty International in Afghanistan and Kosovo. Prior to joining the UN University for Peace, Elizabeth lectured in international human rights law at the University of Essex, UK. Elizabeth is currently engaged in teaching and research in the field of international human rights and humanitarian law and the law governing peace support operations.

Joe Oloka-Onyango (LLB, Makerere University; LLM, SJD, Harvard). Prof. J. Oloka-Onyango is the Director of the Human Rights and Peace Centre (HURIPEC) and former Dean of Law at Makerere University in Uganda. He has been Visiting Professor at a number of universities around the world, particularly in Africa and the United States, and is involved with several international human rights organizations. He was a member and Special Rapporteur on Globalization and Human Rights of the United Nations (UN) Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and is a Trustee of the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. His areas of teaching interest and research include International Human Rights Law, Refugee Law, Gender and the Law and Constitutional Law and History, and he has written extensively on these and other topical subjects.

David Petrusek (BA, University of Waterloo; LLB Osgoode Hall, York University; LLM, London School of Economics). Special Adviser to the Secretary-General, Amnesty International. He has worked extensively on human rights, humanitarian and conflict resolution issues, including from 1990-

96 with Amnesty International, from 1997-98 with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, from 1998-2002 at the International Council on Human Rights Policy, where he helped to found and direct the research program, and from 2003-2007 as Director of Policy at the HD Centre, a private, Swiss foundation engaged in conflict mediation. He has taught international human rights and humanitarian law courses in Canada, Sweden and the United Kingdom, and has worked as a consultant or adviser to several NGOs and UN agencies. In 2009 he published with co-author Irene Khan, *The Unheard Truth: Human rights and poverty*.

Patricia Viseur Sellers (BA, Rutgers; JD, Pennsylvania). Special Legal Advisor to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. From 1994-2007, Professor Sellers was the Legal Advisor for Gender Related Crimes and Senior Acting Trial Attorney in the Office of the Prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. In that capacity, she advised teams of investigators and trial attorneys on the prosecution of sex-based crimes under the tribunals' Statutes and pertinent doctrines of humanitarian law. Prior to her work as an international prosecutor, Professor Sellers served at the Directorate General for External Relations at the European Commission, the Ford Foundation in Rio de Janeiro, and the Philadelphia Defender Association. She is a former co-chair of the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Conference of Black Lawyers.

Ralph G. Steinhardt (AB, Bowdoin; JD Harvard), Co-Director of the Programme, Arthur Selwyn Miller Research Professor of Law and International Relations, George Washington University Law School, Visiting Senior Research Fellow at Yale Law School. For twenty-five years, Professor Steinhardt has been active in the domestic litigation of international human rights norms, having represented various human rights organizations and individual human rights victims, before all levels of the federal judiciary, including the US Supreme Court. He is the founding Chairman of the Board of the Centre for Justice and Accountability, an anti-impunity organization specializing in human rights litigation. He has also served as an expert witness in cases testing the civil liability of multinational corporations for their complicity in human rights violations. Professor Steinhardt is the author of numerous books and articles, including most recently "Corporate Responsibility and the International Law of Human Rights: The New Lex Mercatoria" (2005); "The Role of Domestic Courts in Enforcing International Human Rights Law" (2004); and *International Civil Litigation* (2002).

Accommodation

Students will be accommodated and take their meals in New College, Oxford. Founded by William of Wykham in 1379, it is one of the largest, best known and most beautiful of the Oxford colleges. The college is located in the centre of Oxford, close to the St Cross Law Faculty Building, where classes are held and in which the Bodleian Law Library is located.

Students are accommodated in single study bedrooms at New College. Many of the bedrooms have private bathrooms but such a room can only be guaranteed if the supplementary private bathroom fee is paid.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are provided every day in the College dining hall.

Libraries

Students will be enrolled as readers at the University's main reference library, the Bodleian, which includes the Bodleian Law Library. The Law Library is located in the St Cross Building where classes are held for the programme.

Computing facilities

Computing facilities are provided at New College. Internet access is provided in all bedrooms for students wishing to bring their own laptops.

Students with disabilities

The department's aim is to treat all participants equally and welcomes applications from people with disabilities. Individuals' needs are taken into account as far as possible, providing reasonable adaptations and assistance within the resources available. We ask that people let us know of any disability or special need (confidentially if required) so that we can help them participate as fully as possible.

Students with mobility difficulties may find areas of Oxford difficult to access as it is an ancient city with a number of very old buildings which were designed in an age less sensitive to issues of disability. Similarly, students may also find that the age and layout of New College means they are not able to access all areas of the college. However, ground floor bedrooms and a lift to the dining hall are available and the Department will do as much as possible to assist students with special requirements.

All of the teaching rooms used for the programme are equipped with facilities that improve access for students with disabilities including lifts, access ramps and hearing loops. The Department can also provide reading materials in alternative formats (such as Braille or large print) and can arrange special examination provision.

Cancellation

If you wish to cancel you must inform the Programme Administrator in writing. The following cancellation policy applies:

- * all cancellations received prior to 1 June 2010 - Oxford retains the application fee; other fees will be refunded
- * all cancellations received between 1 June and 15 June 2010 - Oxford retains 60% of the fees paid
- * all cancellations received after 15 June 2010 - no refund.

In that no refunds are offered after 15 June 2010, we strongly recommended that applicants take out vacation cancellation insurance, and should consult their travel agent and/or insurer for information and advice. Please note that Oxford University Department for Continuing Education does not offer any insurance cover.

Alterations and cancellations

Funding

Unfortunately, neither the University of Oxford nor the George Washington University can provide funding for this course. Participants are encouraged to contact the following institutions who have funded applicants in previous years or have provided assistance in searching for funding:

- * The British Council in your home country
- * The British Embassy or High Commission in your home country
- * Agencies within the United Nations (primarily for their employees)

Participants are encouraged to apply to these institutions as early as possible.

How to Apply

Apply online at www.aimoverseas.com.au

AIM Overseas will then guide you through the remaining steps for admission to the program.