

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI - 600 086

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

SYLLABUS

(Effective from the academic year 2019-2020)

INDIAN CONSTITUTION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

CODE:19SW/PE/IH23

CREDITS:3

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TOTAL TEACHING HOURS:39

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

- To provide a perspective and foundation for a human rights culture among students
- To create awareness on the Indian legal system, rule of law, human rights
- To create awareness on the Indian legal system in relation to human rights
- To enable students to work for the promotion and protection of rights of the marginalized groups

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the course, the students will be able to

- Understand the concept and evolution of human rights.
- Demonstrate knowledge of human rights laws and its application in safeguarding human rights
- Appreciate the role of governance in enforcing Human rights
- Develop attitude and skills to advocate for and work for the promotion and protection of human rights of the marginalised groups

Unit 1 (7 Hours)

Introduction to Human Rights

- 1.1 Concept of human rights
- 1.2 Categories of human rights
- 1.3 Foundation of human rights.
- 1.4 Evolution of human rights
- 1.5 International Human Rights Law and its application.

Unit 2 (8 Hours)

Understanding Law and the State

- 2.1 Indian Constitution: Significance of the Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles
- 2.2 Human rights protection and enforcement.
- 2.3 Writ jurisdiction and Public Interest Litigation.
- 2.4 The Indian Legal System, Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code and Civil Procedure Code.

- 2.5 The relationship between human rights, democracy, sustainable development, equality, sovereignty, secularism and non-discrimination.
- 2.6 Human rights in relation to illegal detention.

Unit 3 (8 Hours)

Union Government and State Government

- 3.1 President- Election, Election powers and functions
- 3.2 Cabinet-Parliament- composition, Powers and functions of both the houses
- 3.3 Process of lawmaking-speakers and Committees
- 3.4 Supreme Court of India –compositions, powers
- 3.5 State Government-Role of Governor –state Cabinet, State Legislature
- 3.6 High Courts-Amendment to Indian Constitution

Unit 4 (8 Hours)

Law and Strategies

- 4.1 Protection of the environment, consumer protection, local governance Empowerment, Right to Information.
- 4.2 Human Rights struggles and the Human Rights Movement in India.
- 4.3 Statutory Commissions
- 4.4 Human Rights Courts for protection of rights, advocacy for human rights

Unit 5 (8 Hours)

Human Rights of various groups

- 5.1 Sectoral Rights: Rights of Children, Women, Transgender, Marginalised Groups, Coastal Communities, Domestic Workers
- 5.2 Minorities, Unorganised Labourers, Urban Poor
- 5.3 Transgender Persons and Rights of the Displaced, Disabled and Elderly
- 5.4 Strategies and skills for Human Rights Advocacy

BOOKS FOR STUDY

- Chandra, U. *Human Rights, India*. Allahabad Law Agency, 2000.
- Krishna V.R. Iyer. *Human Rights and Inhuman Wrongs*. United Kingdom: B.R., 2001.

BOOKS FOR REFERENCE

- Kumar Arvind. *Encyclopaedia of Human Rights, Violence and Non Violence, Vol.1*. Human Rights and Social Movements. New Delhi: Anmol, 2001
- Parmar Lalit. *Human Rights*. New Delhi: Anmol, 1998.
- Sharma R.S. *Human Rights Development*. New Delhi: Common Wealth, 1997.

JOURNALS

The International Journal of Human Rights ISSN 1364 - 2987

WEB RESOURCES

- www.troniefoundation.org
- www.humanrights.com/
- ww.youthforhumanrights.org
- www.humanrights.gov
- www.amnesty.org
- <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Pages/WhatareHumanRights.aspx>
- <http://nhrc.nic.in/>
- <http://www.ipc.in/>

PATTERN OF ASSESSMENT

Continuous Assessment Test:

Total Marks: 50

Duration: 90 minutes

Section – A 5 x 2 = 10 marks (All questions to be answered in 50 words each)

Section – B 2 x 10 = 20 marks (2 out of 3 questions to be answered in 600 words each)

Section – C 1 x 20 = 20 marks (1 out of 2 questions to be answered in 1200 words each)

One Compulsory Continuous Assessment Test will be conducted

Two components will be conducted for 50 marks (25 marks each) –Assignment/ Seminar
Presentation/ Case study/ Group presentation etc.

No End-Semester Examination