Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Challenging Poverty, Vulnerability and Social Exclusion Course Syllabus

Module 1: Why Does the World Need Human Rights?
1.1 Human Rights and Why We Need Them
1.2 From Economic Growth to People-Centered Development
1.3 The “Rise of Rights” in Development
1.4 Creating Human Rights
1.5 Are Rights Enough?

Module 2: International Legal Frameworks, Institutions and Development
2.1 Underlying Concepts of International Law
2.2 United Nations Institutions
2.3 International Law and Standards
2.4 Regional Systems for Human Rights
2.5 Social Inclusion

Module 3: International Human Rights Frameworks
3.1 Special Rights for Some
3.2 Convention on the Rights of the Child
3.3 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
3.4 International Rights Treaties
3.5 Limitations of Existing Standards

Module 4: Underlying Frameworks for Social Inclusion
4.1 Subject vs Object in Law
4.2 Equality of Opportunity
4.3 Affirmative Action
4.4 Autonomy as Protection
4.5 Law and Combatting Inequality

Module 5: Contested Rights and the Co-option of the Rights Discourse
5.1 Hierarchy of Rights
5.2 Collective vs. Individual Rights
5.3 Co-option of Rights
5.4 Intellectual Property Rights

Module 6: Gendered Poverty and Inequality
6.1 Poverty and Wellbeing
6.2 Gender Inequality
6.3 Households as Sites of Inequality
6.4 Gendered Experience of Poverty
6.5 Attacking Gender Inequality Within Development

Module 7: Gendered Rights and Violence
7.1 Women’s Rights
7.2 Sexual and Reproductive Rights
7.3 Violence and Legal Frameworks
7.4 Gender in the UN Human Rights Framework
7.5 Root Causes and Lived Realities
7.6 Social Communication for Social Change

Module 8: Social Exclusion: Minorities and Indigenous Peoples
8.1 Minorities and Indigenous Peoples
8.2 Issues Facing Minorities and Indigenous Peoples
8.3 Social Exclusion by Continent
8.4 Overcoming Structural Inequalities
8.5 Combatting Social Exclusion

Module 9: Advocating for the Vulnerable
9.1 Vulnerability and “Natural” Disasters
9.2 Gendered Experiences of Disaster
9.3 Social Protection: Problematizing Conditional Cash Transfers
9.4 Culture v. Rights: The Case of Female Genital Mutilation
9.5 Equalizing the Encounter: Free Prior Informed Consent

Module 10: From Exclusion to Inclusion: Responding to Crisis and Conflict
10.1 Humanitarian Response to Crisis
10.2 “Do No Harm”: The Rise of “New Humanitarianism”
10.3 International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
10.4 Democratization and Political Participation: The Situation Room
10.5 Responding to Crisis: Mediating for Peace

Module 11: New Directions: Rights and the SDGs
11.1 Sustainable Development and Rights
11.2 A Vision of Rights for the Future
11.3 Pathways to Sustainable Development and Human Rights
11.4 Human Rights and the Economy
11.5 The SDGs and Beyond