



Høgskolen i Telemark

Fakultet for allmennvitenskaplege fag

MIDTVEISEKSAMEN MIDTERM EXAM

Course code:	3360 Human Rights
Course name:	Human Rights
Studypoints for course:	10 studiepoeng
Percentage of total grade:	20 %
Hand in by:	March 20, 2013
Exam place:	New York
Language:	ENGLISH
Number of pages incl. coverpage:	2
Special remarks:	Answer both part 1 and 2.
Number of attachments:	None



ENGLISH:

Part 1: The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights outlines a standard of rights that is supposed to be universal for the world. Pick two human rights from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Discuss human rights as absolute or non-absolute, or whether they are proportional. What are the deciding factors for determining individual rights?

Prior to the Declaration, other documents including *The Rights of Man*, to Locke's *Two Treatises of Government*, and even Rousseau's *The Social Contract* shaped modern human rights policies. Select three of the philosophers we have discussed in class. How might they argue absolute rights? Use historical examples and readings to back up your argument.

Part 2: Pick one ritual practiced by any culture in the world which could be perceived as a human rights violation. Describe the ritual, what happens, and why it is performed. Discuss whether this ritual challenges the universalist perspective of human rights and the relativist view of human rights. Consider the particular ritual you discussed. Should limitations and restrictions be placed upon this practice? Conclude by discussing the challenges of universalism and relativism. Use examples from the readings to support your argument and also draw upon part 1 for your answer