

Unit Description Topic 1: Rights

In this topic, students will explore how rights can be understood through a philosophical analysis of the concept, drawing on a range of associated social and political ideas and philosophers. Students will apply this knowledge and understanding to a discussion of contemporary application and codification of rights.

In this topic, students will:

- *define and use terminology relating to the origin and nature of rights and responsibilities, including human nature, right, duty, obligation, civil disobedience, natural law, authority, property the nature, composition and purpose of argument, as listed in Unit 1*
- *explain the nature, composition and purpose of philosophical arguments about the existence/source of various rights, including:*
 - *natural law theory,*
 - *social contract theory*
 - *labour theory of property*
 - *the harm principle*
 - *the veil of ignorance*
- *interpret and analyse philosophical arguments, ideas and information about the existence of rights in order to*
 - *identify the components of arguments, including premises and conclusions*
 - *identify hidden premises or assumptions*
 - *translate and symbolise propositions using logical operators*
 - *identify and distinguish between any necessary and sufficient conditions*
 - *classify arguments, e.g. inductive/deductive, argument type*
 - *identify any formal or informal fallacies*
- *generate questions and theses regarding issues such as*
 - *whether or not there are natural or human rights that exist independently of law*
 - *what limits, if any, should be placed on governmental power*
 - *the recognition of previously unrecognised rights, e.g. marriage equality*
 - *the recognition of non-human rights, e.g. animal rights, environmental rights*

Unit Objectives

Unit objectives are drawn from the syllabus objectives and are contextualised for the subject matter and requirements of the unit. Each unit objective must be assessed at least once.

Students will:

1. *define and use the terminology of argumentation to communicate, with attention to accuracy and precision, terms relating to argument composition, nature and purpose in order to demonstrate an understanding of meaning*
2. *explain concepts, methods, principles and theories of reasoning based on the methodology of philosophical inquiry*
3. *interpret and analyse arguments, ideas and information relating to effective reasoning from a variety of sources and through a variety of media*
4. *organise and synthesise ideas and information for the purposes of constructing and evaluating arguments*
5. *evaluate claims and arguments inherent in a range of theories, views and ideas with reference to validity, soundness and strength of argument*
6. *create responses that communicate ideas and arguments relating to fundamentals of reason.*

- *the status of documents such as a bill of rights, the Universal declaration of human rights or the Declaration of the rights of the child*
- *organise information in order to*
 - *arrange premises and conclusions into standard argument form*
 - *produce a written argument*
- *synthesise ideas and information about rights, including philosophical arguments and criticisms thereof*
- *evaluate claims and arguments inherent in philosophical theories, views and ideas about rights in terms of their credibility, validity, soundness or strength*
- *evaluate the role of reason in discourse about rights*

Assessment Plan:

Task	%	Objectives to be assessed	Conditions	Date
Summative Extended Written Response: Analytical Essay 1500 – 2000 Words	25	1. define and use the terminology of argumentation to communicate, with attention to accuracy and precision, terms relating to argument composition, nature and purpose in order to demonstrate an understanding of meaning 2. explain concepts, methods, principles and theories of reasoning based on the methodology of philosophical inquiry 3. interpret and analyse arguments, ideas and information relating to effective reasoning from a variety of sources and through a variety of media 4. organise and synthesise ideas and information for the purposes of constructing and evaluating arguments 5. evaluate claims and arguments inherent in a range of theories, views and ideas with reference to validity, soundness and strength of argument 6. create responses that communicate ideas and arguments relating to fundamentals of reason.	Formative Internal Extended Response – Analytical Essay	Week 9