Law, Human Rights, and Social Change

Selected aspects of U.S. law, legal institutions, and traditions are surveyed, with a view toward understanding how they respond to and effect social change. The course examines landmark court cases, such as Miranda v. Arizona, Roe v. Wade, and Brown v. Board of Education, that demonstrate how the judicial branch of government affects everyday life and develops, shapes, and enforces social policy. We also consider how the United States is, or is not, influenced by international treaties such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the Geneva Convention. Students are introduced to and practice legal skills, such as case law analysis, advocacy, issue analysis, fact/evidence selection and relevance, and the ability to examine and argue both sides of an issue. Prerequisite: COR115.

Course Number: PAX327
Unit: 3.0
Program: Peace Studies