

Select Bibliography on Teaching the History of Human Rights

Books

Upendra Baxi, *The Future of Human Rights* (New Delhi: Oxford U. Press, 2002).

Raises critical questions about how human rights can survive in a global economy; explores the limits of human rights theories.

Anthony Chase and Amr Hamzawy, eds., *Human Rights in the Arab World: Independent Voices* (Philadelphia: U. of Pennsylvania Press, 2006).

Excellent collection of essays on how governments, political theorists, and activists in Arab societies currently interpret human rights; includes an appendix with documents.

Andrew Clapham, *Human Rights: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford U. Press, 2007).

Concise overview of both the historical development of human rights and recent debates.

Jack Donnelly, *Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice*, 2nd ed., (Ithaca: Cornell U. Press, 2003).

Discusses how human rights should be viewed as universal and also historically contingent; also responds to charges that rights are simply “western norms.”

David Forsythe and Patrice McMahon (eds), *Human Rights and Diversity: Area Studies Revisited* (Lincoln, U. of Nebraska Press, 2003).

Examines the question of how to balance cultural diversity with conceptions of universal rights; a cross-cultural discussion of how rights may be interpreted differently in various societies.

David Forsythe, *Human Rights in International Relations*, 2nd ed., (Cambridge: Cambridge U. Press, 2006).

Overview of how human rights are used in international affairs and foreign policy disputes.

Michael Freeman, *Human Rights: An Interdisciplinary Approach* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2002).

Looks at human rights with an emphasis on various social sciences; also explores the question of whether rights are universal.

Conor Gearty, *Can Human Rights Survive?* (Cambridge: Cambridge U. Press, 2006).

Explores how the meaning of human rights has evolved during the ‘War on Terror.’

Mark Goodale, ed., *Human Rights: An Anthropological Reader* (Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell, 2009). Provocative collection of essays on how anthropologists have attempted to understand the meaning of human rights in different cultures; more analysis of the debates about what is universal or culturally specific about human rights.

Lynn Hunt, *Inventing Human Rights: A History* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2007).

Provocative argument for the role of cultural values, sentimental literature, and the Enlightenment in the emergence of Human rights theories during the 18th century—by a leading historian of the French Revolution.

Micheline Ishay, *The History of Human Rights: From Ancient Times to the Globalization Era* (Berkeley: U. of California Press, 2004).

Examines the historical evolution of ideas about rights, stressing also the role of religious traditions in shaping the conception of rights.

Salma K. Jayyusi, ed., *Human Rights in Arab Thought: A Reader* (New York: I. B. Tauris, 2009)

Excellent recent collection of essays (and some documents) that discuss the history of ideas about human rights in Arab cultures.

Paul Lauren, *The Evolution of International Human Rights: Visions Seen*, 2nd ed., (Philadelphia, U. of Pennsylvania Press, 2003).

Examines the development of legal conceptions of human rights, with attention to key figures who contributed to these ideas.

Bert B. Lockwood, ed., *Women's Rights: A Human rights Quarterly Reader* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins U. Press, 2006).

Recent essays that analyze how women's rights have evolved and remained threatened in the modern world.

Jonathan M. Mann, et. al., editors, *Health and Human Rights: A Reader* (New York: Routledge, 1999).

Essays on how health care is viewed as a human right (or denied as a human right) in various societies around the world.

Julius Mertus, *The United Nations and Human Rights: A Guide for a New Era* (London: Routledge, 2005).

Looks at how the UN attempts to define and foster human rights; includes documents.

Aryeh Neier, *Taking Liberties: Four Decades in the Struggle for Rights* (New York: Public Affairs, 2003).

Discussion of campaigns for human rights in the modern era, by the founder of the influential organization, “Human Rights Watch.”

Kenneth Roth and Minky Worden, eds., *Torture: Does it Make Us Safer? Is it ever OK?* (New York: The New Press, 2005).

Collection of essays questioning the legality, morality and value of torture as an official state policy—a response to recent debates.

Amartya Sen, “Human Rights and Asian Values,” published by the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs (New York, 1997).

Discusses examples of how human rights traditions exist in Asian cultures; human rights is not just something from the West.

Amartya Sen, *Identity and Violence: The Illusion of Destiny* (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2006).

Analysis of how the meaning of rights can take different forms in various cultures, though he defends the concept of human rights.

Stephen Shute and Susan Hurley, eds., *On Human Rights* (New York: Basic Books, 1993).

Collection of writings on the political and moral arguments for human rights.

Rhona Smith and Christina van den Anker, eds., *The Essentials of Human Rights* (London: Hodder Arnold, 2005).

Valuable reference work that summarizes all the main themes and debates that shape the theory and practice of human rights.

Anthony Woodiwiss, *Human Rights* (London: Routledge, 2005).

Discusses changing conceptions of rights from a defense of private property to broader conceptions of social policies to protect disenfranchised groups.

Sources, Documents and Creative Works:

Ariel Dorfman, “Death and the Maiden” (1991).

Provocative play about human rights violations in Chile.

Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, ed. By Clayborne Carson, et. al, (New York: Penguin Books, 1987).

One of the best documentary collections on the American campaign for human rights in the Civil Rights movement.

Terry George, director, "Hotel Rwanda,"

Film about massive abuse of rights in Rwanda in the 1990s.

Micheline Ishay, ed., *The Human Rights Reader: Major Political Essays, Speeches, and Documents from Ancient Times to the Present* (New York: Routledge, 2007).

Useful collection of influential primary sources that have contributed to ideas about human rights in different historical eras and cultures.

Walter Laqueur and Barry Rubin, eds. *The Human Rights Reader*, rev. edition (New York: New American Library, 1990).

Outstanding collection of documents that show the evolution of ideas about human rights from the early modern era to the late 20th century.

"Mississippi Masala," (1992) film by Mira Nair about

An Indian family that flees from rights abuses in Uganda and struggles to adapt to life in the American South.

Some Useful Web Sites:

Amnesty International U.S.A. - <http://www.amnestyusa.org/educate/page.do?id=1102117>

Includes access to U.N. and Amnesty International documents, lesson plans, and curriculum guides. New York City

Human Rights Education Associates Resource Center - http://www.hrea.org/index.php?base_id=101&language_id=1

A clearing house for educational information on human rights. Includes lesson plans to teach human rights. http://www.hrea.org/erc/Library/First_Steps/index_eng.html

Human Rights Watch - <http://www.hrw.org/>

Web site for an organization that advocates for human rights around the world; excellent resource for information on contemporary issues (from health to refugees to torture, etc.) in all parts of the world. New York City.

Internet Modern History Sourcebook, Fordham University - <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1918wilson.html>

Woodrow Wilson's "Fourteen Points Speech" (1918) - <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1918wilson.html>

Abbreviated version, listing his views of national rights for self-determination of nations; abbreviated version

National Constitutional Center - http://constitutioncenter.org/ncc_home_Landing.aspx
The Text of the US Constitution in easy to print electronic format at the Constitution Center; good source for the Bill of Rights and Later Amendments; follow links. Philadelphia.

National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior - <http://www.nps.gov/index.htm>

Frederick Douglass National Historical Site - <http://www.nps.gov/frdo/index.htm>

Information on Douglass's life and a good selection of materials for teaching about Douglass. Washington, D.C.

Seneca Falls National Historical Site - <http://www.nps.gov/wori/index.htm>

Valuable site for information on the Women's Rights convention in 1848 and includes "Declaration of Sentiments," and other historical documents, biographies, etc. Seneca Falls, NY.

United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights - <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>

Following this historic act the Assembly called upon all Member countries to publicize the text of the Declaration and "to cause it to be disseminated, displayed, read and expounded principally in schools and other educational institutions, without distinction based on the political status of countries or territories." Includes comments from world leaders; follow links. New York City.