



HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL
Carr Center for Human Rights Policy
Measurement and Human Rights (MHR) Program

Human Rights Policy Analysis: Tools and Practices.
Assessing impact, measuring progress

Course Syllabus: prospectus, outline/schedule and readings

Instructor: *Andrea Rossi, MHR program director*
Email: andrea_rossi@harvard.edu
Office: *Rubenstein 207*
Office hours: (Upon appointment)

Class Times: 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Days: see detailed class schedule below
Venue: Carr Center Conference Room (possible changes)

Information and registration (by 13 October)
http://www.hks.harvard.edu/cchrp/mhr/students/mhr_course.php
This is a not-for credit course

Course description:

Organized by the Measurement and Human Rights (MHR) program at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, in collaboration with the HKS Office of Career Advancement and the HKS Mexico Program, the course will address major human rights policy challenges and analysis techniques, with a focus on tools and practices in assessing impact and measuring progress. This MHR course addresses the lack of systematic use of solid research methodology, data collection and analysis in the formulation and evaluation of human rights policies. It explores the challenges and opportunities of consolidated research design and methods, as well as the principles of reliability and validity. The course grapples with the difficulties of defining and measuring human rights impact, and the fact that the population affected by human rights violations often remains hidden or excluded. It focuses on the importance of participatory approaches, and analyzes how data collection and research methods are affected when integrated with human rights principles.

Target audience:

This course is designed for students planning their policy analysis exercises or internships, and/or students interested in pursuing a career working in human rights within NGOs, governments or international organizations. The course aims at enabling participants to undertake rigorous policy analysis of human rights policies, and seeks to encourage participants to develop methodological strategies for the collection and analysis of data.

Format:

Lecture plus practical exercises.
Lectures will be held from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Class Schedule:

- Evidence-based Human Rights Policy 10/15
- Measuring the Unmeasurable: Indicators, Measurements and Indices 10/22
- Research Methods and Data Collection with Marginal and Excluded Populations
- Human Rights Impact Analysis 11/5
- Human Rights Budget Analysis 12/01

The course will be conducted by Andrea Rossi, MHR Program Director, with the participation of guest speakers.

Reading List:

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights; available at:
www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/

Landmann, Todd. *Studying Human Rights*. New York: Routledge, 2006.

Asher, Jana and David L. Banks. *Statistical Methods for Human Rights*. Springer, 2007.

Evidence-based Human Rights Policy

OECD. "Measuring Human Rights and Democratic Governance." *OECD Journal on Development* 9.2. (2008): 374 p.

Jones, Nicola, Ajoy Datta and Harry Jones. *Knowledge, Policy and Power: Six Dimensions of the Knowledge-development Policy Interface*. Overseas Development Institute (ODI), 2009; available at:
<http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?id=3790&title=knowledge-development-policy-interface>

Sano, Hans-Otto. "The Need of Evidence-based Human Rights Research." Danish Institute for Human Rights, (draft) 2009.

McNulty, Judiann; CORE Group, "Positive Deviance / Hearth Essential Elements: A Resource Guide for Sustainably Rehabilitating Malnourished Children (Addendum)", Washington, D.C: August 2005

O'Neil, Tam ; Marta Foresti, Tim Brauholtz and Bhavna Sharma, "DFID's Human Rights Policy", Overseas Development Institute, 2007

Measuring the Unmeasurable: Indicators, Measurement and Indices

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. *Report on Indicators for Promoting and Monitoring the Implementation of Human Rights*, HRI/MC/2008/3, 2008; available at:

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/indicators/docs/HRI.MC.2008.3_en.pdf

Andrews, Matt. "The Good Governance Agenda: Beyond Indicators without Theory." *Oxford Development Studies* 36.4. (2008): 379-407.

Chambers, Robert. "Who Counts? The Quiet Revolution of Participation and Numbers." *IDS Working Papers* 296 (December 2007); available at: <<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/bookshop/wp/wp296.pdf>>

Research Methods and Data Collection with Marginal Populations

Seymour, Sudman, Monroe G. Sirken and Charles D. Cowan. "Sampling Rare and Elusive Populations." *Science*, New Series 240.4855. (May 20, 1988): pp. 991-996.

Chambers, Robert. "Notes for Participants in PRA-PLA, Familiarisation Workshops in 2006." Institute of Development Studies (*IDS*); available at: http://www.ids.ac.uk/UserFiles/File/participation_team/pranotes07jsedit.doc

Estrella, Marisol and John Gaventa. "Who counts reality? Participatory monitoring and evaluation: a literature review." *IDS Working Paper* 70 (1998); available at: <http://www.ntd.co.uk/idsbookshop/details.asp?id=421>

Kish, L. "A Taxonomy of Elusive Populations." *Journal of Official Statistics* 7.3 (1991): 339-347.

Salganik, M.J. and D.D. Heckathorn. "Sampling and Estimation in Hidden Populations Using Respondent-Driven Sampling." *Sociological Methodology* 34 (2004): pp. 193-239.

Human Rights Impact Analysis

Reading list to be announced

Human Rights Budget Analysis (with Paolo de Renzio, University of Oxford, UK)

Robinson, M. "Budget Analysis and Policy Advocacy: The role of non-governmental public action." *IDS Working Paper* 279 (2006); available at: <http://www.ids.ac.uk/download.cfm?file=wp279.pdf>

International Budget Project. "Dignity Counts: A guide to using budget analysis to advance human rights." (2004); available at: http://www.iie.org/IHRIP/Dignity_Counts.pdf

Nelson, D. and A. Norton. "What's Behind the Budget? Politics, Rights and Accountability in the Budget Process." (2002). London: Overseas Development Institute; available at: <http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/1740.pdf>

Andrea Rossi is the Director of the Measurement and Human Rights Program at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy.

Prior to coming to the Carr Center, he was a United Nations officer for more than 8 years, working with UNICEF at New York Headquarters and at the Innocenti Research Center, and with the International Labour Organization in the East Africa Office, Tanzania.

He is an economist with a particular focus on development and applied research. His main areas of interest are applied research methodology, combining qualitative and quantitative methods, applied micro econometrics, and participatory approaches.

He has been teaching courses on: “Evaluation with Hidden and Excluded Population” within the the World Bank International Program on Development Evaluation Training (IPDET) in Canada; “Human Rights Policy” at the Postgraduate School of Economics and International Relations in Milan, Italy, and “Applied Research Methods” at the Essex School of Social Science Data Analysis and Collection in the UK.

The MHR Program promotes the generation and use of evidence in analyzing human rights policies. It aims at framing the discussion on the role of reliable and robust research techniques in collecting solid evidence of human rights violations, and in assessing the impact of interventions more effectively