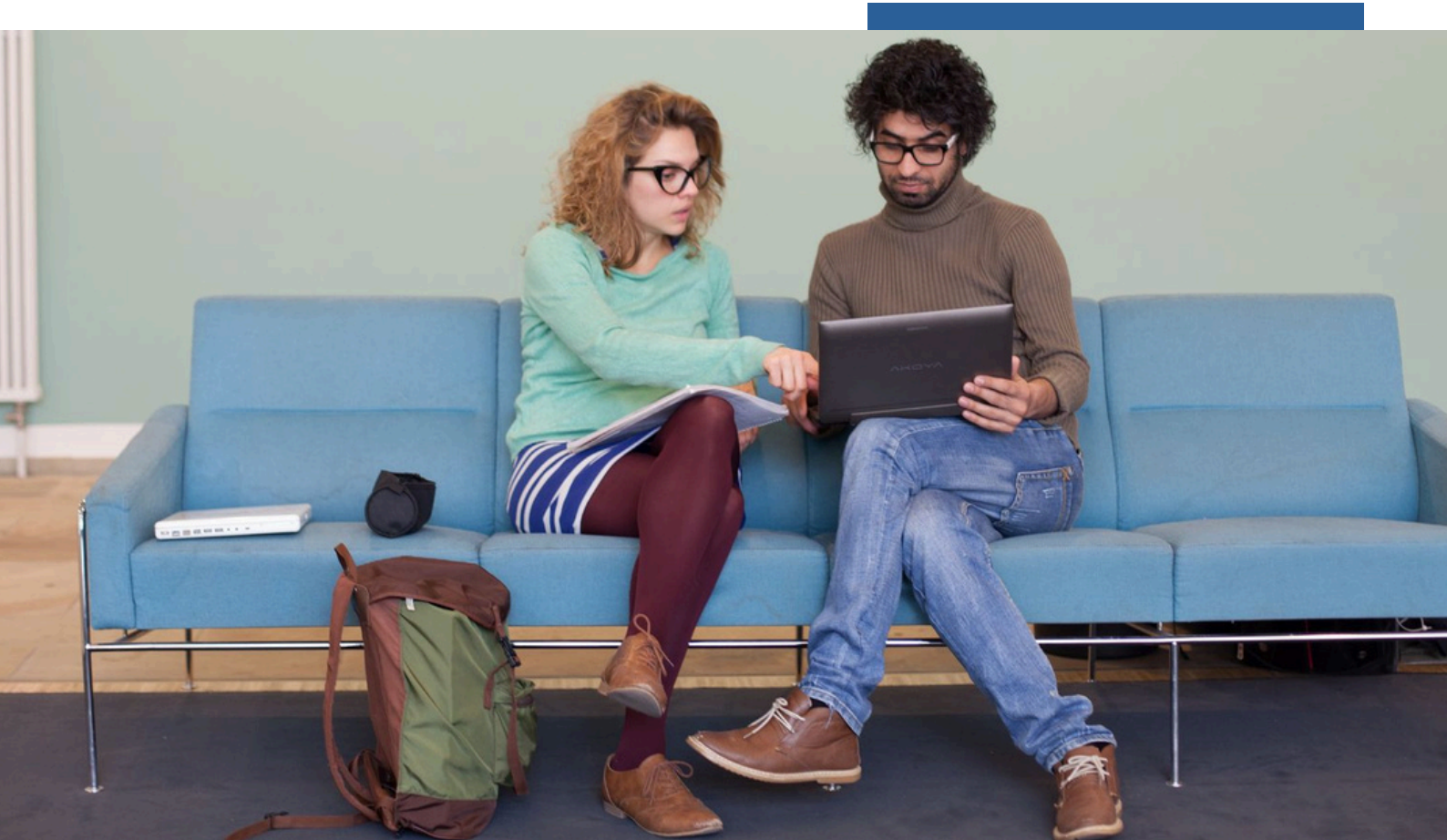


# CERTIFICATE HUMAN RIGHTS




→ PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL



**LEUPHANA**  
UNIVERSITY LÜNEBURG





## Do you want to get fit for the challenges of today's professional world?

In the part-time, compact certificate programmes, you can expect an **interdisciplinary, cross-disciplinary course of study** that is precisely tailored to your needs and limited time.

DEAR PROSPECTIVE STUDENT,

thank you very much for your interest in the certificate programme Human Rights. The programme has been developed to give you a concise overview of the various facets of the fight for more human rights worldwide. Establishing, developing and maintaining human rights is and remains a particular challenge in which many different aspects must be taken into account. In the online-based certificate course with few attendance dates, you will familiarise yourself with current challenges, actors involved, threatened groups, monitoring mechanisms and forms of reporting, among other things, in order to contribute to the protection of human rights with a broad knowledge background. You will work under the guidance of international scholars and practitioners and learn how to develop ideas and make meaningful contributions to social change.

In this document, you receive some basic information about the programme, its goals, subjects and organisation. Further information on updates and events as well as our online application you find on our website.

You are very welcome to arrange an individual consultation with us via telephone ([+49.4131.677-2942](tel:+4941316772942)) or e-mail ([gahr@leuphana.de](mailto:gahr@leuphana.de)) to answer all questions regarding the programme.



**Dr. Iryna Shkura**  
Study programme coordinator



**Ingo Auhagen**  
Study programme coordinator



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# STRENGTHENING HUMAN RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD

Protecting and strengthening human rights is one of the greatest global challenges of our time. Political, economic and social developments repeatedly create new hurdles for the protection of fundamental rights, while international mechanisms for promoting and enforcing them are constantly evolving.

The English-language **certificate programme in Human Rights** provides a thorough grounding in key human rights principles, monitoring and reporting systems, and current challenges in the field of human rights and business. This interdisciplinary, Master's-level continuing education programme combines theoretical foundations with practical approaches, enabling participants to actively promote the protection and advancement of human rights. The certificate programme is online-based with only few attendance dates.

## AT A GLANCE

Degree	Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) or optionally a certificate of attendance
Credit Points	15
Length of study	2 semesters
Language	English
Start date	September
Application deadline	July 31st
Costs	2,460 Euro total plus the current semester fees of c. 210 Euro per Semester (Semester fees only apply if you decide to acquire ECTS)
Admission requirements	Completed first university degree, at least one year of relevant professional experience, advanced knowledge of English
Programme Directors	Prof. Dr. Till Patrik Holterhus, MLE., LL.M. (Yale)

# FUTURE-ORIENTED QUALIFICATION

For professionals working in the field of human rights – whether in NGOs, companies, international organisations or state institutions – this training offers valuable knowledge for strategically addressing human rights challenges and deriving concrete measures. Participants acquire practical skills in monitoring and reporting human rights violations, implementing human rights due diligence in companies, and protecting particularly vulnerable groups.



Organisations benefit from employees who are able to design processes that comply with human rights, integrate ethical responsibility into their work and thus contribute to the reputation, compliance and social impact of their company or institution in the long term. In addition, the international network of this training programme opens up new opportunities for collaboration and interdisciplinary exchange in a globally significant field.

# COURSE OF STUDY

The certificate programme is offered every year and comprises a workload of 15 ECTS credits, which can be completed within two semesters. In total, you will complete three specialist modules: one compulsory module and two elective modules from three available. The certificate programme is delivered mostly online with few attendance dates. The wide range of e-learning options and intensive student support guarantee a well-organised digital learning environment that is tailored to your needs. This allows you to optimally combine the courses with your professional activities.



**Would you like to view the semester schedule so you can compare it to your personal calendar?**

No problem, please contact us and we will send you the current plan.



Pre- and post-processing documents for the synchronous events as well as for your self-study are made available to you via our online learning platform. You can engage with your fellow students and teaching staff around the world in forum discussions, webinars and group work spaces. The platform is also used to submit assessments and for preparing and revising classes.

# MODULES AND CONTENTS

## Gahr F1 INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS (COMPULSORY MODULE)

This introductory module offers a comprehensive overview of the evolution and the critical frameworks of human rights. Students will explore both universal and regional human rights systems, with an emphasis on European mechanisms. Key topics include the study of foundational treaties, case law, and the role of major organizations like the UN and the EU in shaping human rights discourse.

Emphasizing freedom of expression, the course invites rigorous analysis of the multi-layered approach to protecting and promoting human rights. Through this, students will cultivate a nuanced understanding of the challenges and dynamics within the field of human rights today.

ECTS: 5

## Gahr F3 HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTING AND MONITORING MECHANISMS (ELECTIVE MODULE)

Module 3 delves into the monitoring and reporting mechanisms that uphold human rights at international, regional, and national levels. Students will explore the role of the United Nations' instruments in fostering accountability and the essential interplay between legal frameworks and political will in enforcing human rights standards.

The curriculum highlights the function of diverse human rights stakeholders in ensuring compliance and discusses practical monitoring and advocacy strategies, equipping students to actively participate in the promotion and protection of human rights.

ECTS: 5



## Gahr F5 BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS (ELECTIVE MODULE)

Module 5 explores the intricate relationship between the global economy and human rights, emphasizing the influence of multinational corporations and financial institutions. Students will delve into the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, Corporate Social Responsibility, and sustainable practices within the economic sector. Critical attention is given to the role of businesses in conditions of conflict and the heightened responsibilities they hold.

Engaging with current developments and methodologies, students will learn to analyse and address the human rights impacts of international business activities, preparing them to contribute to the discourse on corporate accountability in a globalized world.

ECTS: 5

## Gahr F7 HUMAN RIGHTS NORMS AND PRINCIPLES (ELECTIVE MODULE)

Exploring the intersection of human rights governance and globalization, this module addresses the tailored rights of women, children, migrants, and persons with disabilities. Students will analyse the international standards governing these rights, confront the challenges in their enforcement and implementation, and examine the impact of global dynamics on vulnerable populations.

Through case studies and critical discussions, the course aims to equip students with a nuanced understanding of the practical applications and the broader implications of human rights in a globalized world.

ECTS: 5



All modules can also be taken individually if interested. If you pass the exams, the ECTS credits earned can later be credited to degree programmes, e.g. to the Master Governance and Human Rights.



# FORMS OF PARTICIPATION FOR YOUR FURTHER EDUCATION

If you successfully complete all the modules for the certificate with an examination, you will receive your university certificate at the end of the programme: the Certificate of Advanced Studies. This certificate attests to the acquisition of specialist knowledge at university Master's level and is worth a total of 15 credit points. However, you also have the option of waiving the exams without acquiring credit points. At the end of the course, you will then receive a certificate of attendance confirming your participation in the training programme.



If you decide to participate in the regular certificate programme, you will enrol as a student and can take advantage of benefits such as student discounts. If you choose the certificate participation option, you will only have to pay the tuition fees and no semester fees.





## APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

The certificate programme begins in September each year. You have until 31 July to submit your application digitally using our application tool.

To meet the admission requirements for the certificate programme, you need

- a completed university degree
- at least one year of relevant professional experience
- advanced knowledge of English (e.g. TOEFL internet-based with at least 92 points)



To the  
application  
website





You must submit the following application documents with your online application by the deadline:

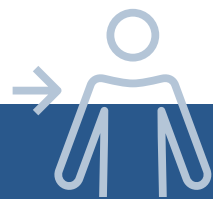
- Curriculum Vitae in tabular form
- Certified certificate of the university degree, if available
- Proof of English
- Proof of at least one year of professional experience (also voluntary or part-time)

After you submit your application, we will review your documents and you will usually receive official notification in August. During the admission process, we will keep you informed of the individual steps and are always available to answer your questions.

It is also possible to take individual modules and to have them credited to the course at a later date, or to opt for the certificate participation. You can register for the modules, subject to availability, up until the start of the module in question.

At the beginning of your studies, you will receive all the information you need about the programme and have the opportunity to meet your fellow students and lecturers.

**Do you have all the documents you need?  
We look forward to receiving your application!**



Are you unsure whether you fulfil the admission requirements or whether your documents are sufficient? We will be happy to advise you!

# FEES AND FINANCING

The following fees apply for participation in the part-time Certificate Human Rights:

- Tuition fees: €2,460
- Plus semester fee: approx. €210 (per enrolled semester, not for the certificate participation option)

At the beginning of your studies, you determine the payment method in consultation with the coordinator. Instalment and special payments are possible. We will invoice you for the tuition fees based on the information you provide. The semester fee is charged in advance by the university during enrolment.

It is also possible to attend individual modules.



Due to the currently applicable legal regulations in Germany, you can claim costs related to your studies against tax. Please feel free to ask your tax advisor!



Studying is not only to your own advantage. Investing in your professional development can also be beneficial for your employer. A discussion with your superiors can provide clarity here. Some students negotiate individual financing models with their employers. These can vary from offers of support for flexible working hours to granting days off for study purposes or full financing of studies. We will be happy to issue the invoices for the tuition fees directly to your employer if they cover (a portion of) the costs.



Arrange a personal consultation appointment by email and get answers to your questions about student financing:  
[psfinanzierung@leuphana.de](mailto:psfinanzierung@leuphana.de)



Is it worth the financial investment in a part-time certificate programme? What costs can I expect and how can I best manage them? There are many questions regarding the financing of a part-time course of study.

Before you start your part-time studies at the Professional School, we recommend that you create an individual financing plan. It may also be worth looking at possible scholarships and grants.



Information on  
funding and  
financing





## CONTACT



### **Programme Coordinator**

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### **INDIVIDUAL COUNSELLING**

on campus, virtually via telephone or Zoom) to evaluate whether the content of the programme meets your expectations. For a counselling interview, please select an appointment in our [booking portal](#).

To the appointment  
booking



### **INFO DAY PART-TIME STUDY**

Twice a year, we present the Certificate Human Rights at the [Leuphana Professional School's Info Day](#).

Dates and  
registration



### **DATES AND EVENTS**

You can find the latest dates for (online) info events on our [website](#) at any time.

Dates and  
registration

