

PA 5886: Master of Human Rights Cohort Seminar Spring 2018 Schedule

Instructor: Barbara A. Frey

Day & Time: T 3:30 to 5:20

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Location: 125 Blegen Hall

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Office/Hrs: 235 Social Sciences (Tues 11 am or by appointment)

Course Description:

This 1-credit seminar will provide an opportunity for members of the 2019 cohort to engage with issues and people in the field of human rights. In our first semester, we met with a cross-section of human rights professionals who shared their experience in areas such as diplomacy, domestic human rights commissions, leadership styles, press conferences, presentation skills and quantitative research. Our goal this semester is to continue to build the strengths of each student, so that he/she feels confident and prepared to pursue human rights work outside the classroom. We will work on interview skills and resume construction. We will discuss fact-finding, negotiations, United Nations work, and revisit self-care. We will continue to feature guest experts from the community of practice to share their expertise on these particular skill sets.

January 16, 2018

Internships and Professional Development

Guest: Chris Buckley, *Associate Director of Career Services, Humphrey School.*

Chris will join us to talk about internships, internship funding and professional development in general. Please bring your resumes to class with you.

January 30, 2018

Guest: Professor Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, *United Nations Special Rapporteur for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights while Countering Terrorism*

Professor Fionnuala Ní Aoláin is a University Regents Professor; holder of the Robina Chair in Law, Public Policy, and Society; and faculty director of the Human Rights Center at the Law School. She is concurrently a professor of law at the University of Ulster's Transitional Justice Institute in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and is co-founder and associate director of the Institute.

Her teaching and research interests are in the fields of international law, human rights law, national security law, transitional justice, and feminist legal theory. She has published widely in the fields of emergency powers, conflict regulation, transitional justice, and sex-based violence in times of war and continues to write extensively on theoretical aspects of transition.

Reading: Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism:

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Terrorism/A_72_43280_EN.pdf

February 13, 2018

Advocacy: Social Justice, Racial Equality

Guest: Nekima Levy Pounds

Nekima Levy-Pounds is a civil rights attorney, former law professor, political activist, legal scholar, and national expert on issues at the intersections of race, public policy, economic justice, public education, juvenile justice, and the criminal justice system. She previously served as a Professor of Law at the University of St. Thomas Law School for thirteen years, where she founded and directed the Community Justice Project, an award-winning civil rights legal clinic.

Currently, Nekima is owner and principal consultant of Black Pearl, LLC, a multi-faceted company that provides business consulting, talent management, and media management services. In 2017, she was named 100 People to Know by TwIn Cities Business. In 2016, she received the Distinguished Service Award from the Governor's Commission on Martin Luther King Day. In 2015, she was named one of "40 Under 40" by Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal. In 2014, she was named a "Minnesota Attorney of the Year" by Minnesota Lawyer and recognized as one of "50 Under 50 Most Influential Law Professors of Color in the Country" by Lawyers of Color Magazine. She previously served as president of the Minneapolis NAACP and as an advisor to Black Lives Matter Minneapolis. She ran for Mayor of Minneapolis in 2017.

Readings: TBD

February 27, 2018

Negotiations

Guest: Margaret Anderson Kelliher

Margaret Anderson Kelliher is the president and CEO of the Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA). Prior to MHTA, Anderson Kelliher served in the Minnesota legislature, including two terms as Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives. Characterized as the "calm inside the storm" by the Star Tribune, Anderson Kelliher is recognized as a strong, pragmatic leader. As House Speaker, she guided passage of a nation-leading renewable energy standard, built a broad coalition to enact Minnesota's first comprehensive transportation funding bill in 20 years, and was a champion of Minnesota's Angel Investment Tax Credit. Anderson Kelliher chairs Governor Dayton's Broadband Task Force, as well as the Minnesota Ballpark Authority Board of Commissioners. She has a BA in political science from Gustavus Adolphus College and a Master's in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Readings: Ms. Anderson Kelliher will be discussing negotiations. Reading TBA.

March 20, 2018

Social Media as an Advocacy Tool

Guest: Sarah Super, Founder of Break the Silence

Sarah Super founded a movement for sexual assault survivors to publicly say their names and share their stories. Ms. Super developed a protocol for community truth-tellings and a faces-of-survivors photography project, organizes rallies and protests to stand with survivors and hold perpetrators accountable. In 2016, she successfully lobbied the City of Minneapolis to declare "Break the Silence Day" in August 2016. She is currently working with the Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board to build the nation's first memorial to honor survivors.

Class Preparation: Ms. Super asks that you look at the organizations Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/breakthesilenceday/> particularly the Facebook photo projects as a platform for story-telling and the language used in advertising their events. In addition, review the website <https://www.breakthesilence.org> and these two videos <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dOI5ATIbhys> and <https://youtu.be/GYHUcFwh6hs>

April 3, 2018

Communications and Messaging

Reading: "Vision, Values, Voice: A Communications Toolkit"

<https://opportunityagenda.org/explore/resources-publications/vision-values-voice>

"The Opportunity Agenda is a social justice communication lab. We collaborate with leaders to move hearts and minds, driving lasting policy and culture change. We bring the inspirational voices of opportunity and possibility to social justice issues through communication expertise, and creative engagement.

To advance the impact of the social justice community, we shape compelling narratives and messages; build the communication capacity of leaders through training and resources; and engage with artists, creatives, and culture makers as powerful storytellers to shift the public discourse."

April 17, 2018

Research Methodology and Writing

Guest: Janet Walsh, Deputy Director Women's Rights Division, Human Rights Watch

Janet Walsh is the deputy director of the women's rights division at Human Rights Watch. Prior to joining Human Rights Watch, she practiced law at several international law firms and at the United Nations legal office in New York. Janet is a graduate of the U.C. Berkeley School of Law. She has been with Human Rights Watch since 2002, where she works on a range of women's rights issues, including property and inheritance rights, reproductive rights, labor rights, violence against women, and work-family policies.

Readings: Please review this section of the HRW website prior to class
<https://www.hrw.org/about-our-research>

May 1, 2018

We will use this final class session to reflect on the year and discuss goals and plans for summer internships.