



Master Programme in International Human Rights Law 2017 - 2019

FACULTY OF LAW AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RAOUL
WALLENBERG
INSTITUTE



About the Program

The Master Programme in International Human Rights Law is offered by the Faculty of Law and Public Affairs at Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia (PUC-FLPA). Offered in English language, it is an international level programme that draws on the academic and practitioner strengths of the Faculty as well as the extensive number of human rights experts associated with Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia (PUC). Since 2014, the Master Programme in International Human Rights Law is offered with support from the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI), an independent academic institution affiliated with Lund University in Sweden. PUC and RWI entered into a MoU on 12 September 2013 establishing the foundation of the cooperation, which is financially supported by Swedish Development Cooperation.

The programme begins in April on an annual basis. The 2017-2019 programme will be offered on weekends. Accordingly, students have the opportunity to study full time at the same time as working, should they so wish. Reflecting normal PUC practice, the programme begins with core master skills and knowledge courses, before students advance to more specialized international human rights courses. A variety of teaching and assessment methods are used, ensuring students achieve a

high level understanding of theory and practice. International human rights are studied in the national, regional and international contexts. Graduating students will have a comprehensive understanding of human rights and will be able to utilize their knowledge and competency to promote and protect human rights and development locally, regionally and internationally. Uniquely, students elect one of two graduation paths offered on this programme: master thesis, a conventional academic paper or master report, a more applied, practice orientated piece of work.

This programme is ideally suited to those working with human rights or interested in doing so. Human rights permeate almost all aspects of society and life thus the programme is also an excellent general qualification, offering the development of a number of core transferrable skills. Staff at justice sector institutions, government institutions, non-governmental organization, academic institutions, media outlets and freshly graduated students are likely to find the programme useful.



The institutions

Faculty of Law and Public Affairs

Established in 2002, Faculty of Law and Public Affairs (FLPA) places special emphasis on research and studies in law, social justice and policy. As a school of law, FLPA's mission is to produce a wide range of human resources for the 21st century through curricula grounded in the principles of multidisciplinary, internationalism, and pioneerism.



Internationally recognized for its excellence in teaching law in English, FLPA provides a unique and high quality legal education that is attainable by, and responsive to, the needs of the young generation.

FLPA's faculty members care about their teaching and see students as a future asset of the country, Asean Community and the world. FLPA is committed to instil knowledge, skills and produce responsible citizens. Therefore, FLPA welcomes both local and international students from all backgrounds who want to be part of our family.

Law and Human Rights Resource Center

The resource center has a collection of books, periodical publications, and other audio-visual, and electronic (soft copies) materials on various topics of law and legal education. Students can do online research via their privately owned laptops or the library's desktops. Students can access Westlaw International Database through a University IP address and University-wide wireless network.

**LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS
RESOURCE CENTER**
PAÑÑĀSĀSTRA UNIVERSITY OF CAMBODIA



Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

The Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI) is named after Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved the lives of tens of thousands of Jews and other people at risk in Hungary at the end of World War II.

RWI combines evidence-based human rights research with direct engagement with partners to contribute to a wider understanding of and respect for human rights and international humanitarian law.

RWI is an experienced research and academic institution that has offices, programmes and convening power

covering more than 40 countries. As a network-based organisation, RWI work through strong partnerships to bring about human rights change for all.

Since 1984 RWI have been affiliated with Lund University in Sweden, one of the world's top 100 rated universities. Today, we are around 60 people located in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Jakarta, Lund, Nairobi, Phnom Penh and Stockholm.

Since 2013 the Institute implements a large five-year human rights capacity development programme in Cambodia financed by Swedish Development Cooperation.



The Raoul Wallenberg Institute's office in Lund, Sweden

Master Program in International Human Rights Law

Programme Objectives

The Master Programme in International Human Rights Law aims to:

1. Deliver education for, about and through Human Rights in accordance with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training;
2. Develop capacity and ability to work in a variety of fields of human rights;
3. Build-up and enrich in-depth knowledge in international, regional and national human rights law and policy;
4. Develop theoretical and practical understanding and application of human rights; and
5. Cultivate an understanding and appreciation of principles and values of human rights.

Students Learning Outcomes

Students who have successfully completed this programme should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of international, regional and national human rights, with a focus on the emerging integrated framework of ASEAN;
2. Demonstrate growing consciousness and awareness of the importance of the principles and values of human rights;
3. Exhibit high-level competency in the following skills:

- Research and writing;
 - Critical thinking and analysis;
 - English language communication;
 - Advocacy and legal reasoning; and
 - Problem-solving
4. Utilize their knowledge and competency to help promote and protect human rights and development locally, regionally and internationally; and
 5. Produce high quality research and reports which may contribute to the academic and practitioner oriented dissemination of knowledge.

Academic Curriculum

Programme Structure

In order to complete this programme, students must obtain in total 54 credits (18 courses) from courses listed in the table below and spend at least 30 months on their studies. The final six months will be devoted to independent thesis or report writing. The programme is structured as is shown on the next page.

Foundation Courses (all masters programs)

Cambodian Laws
in Context

Introduction to
International Law and
Human Rights

Negotiations and
Conflict Resolution

Global
Environmental
Awareness

Fundamentals of
Economics

Advanced Legal
Research and
Writing



Basic Major courses

International Human Rights Law
and Practice

Business Law and Practice

Intellectual Property Law and Practice



Major Courses for International Human Rights

Methods of Human
Rights Research

International and
Regional Human Rights
Law

Human Rights and
Criminal Justice

Contemporary Human
Rights Issues

Human Rights of
Women

PLUS Two elective
Human Rights course



Graduation paths

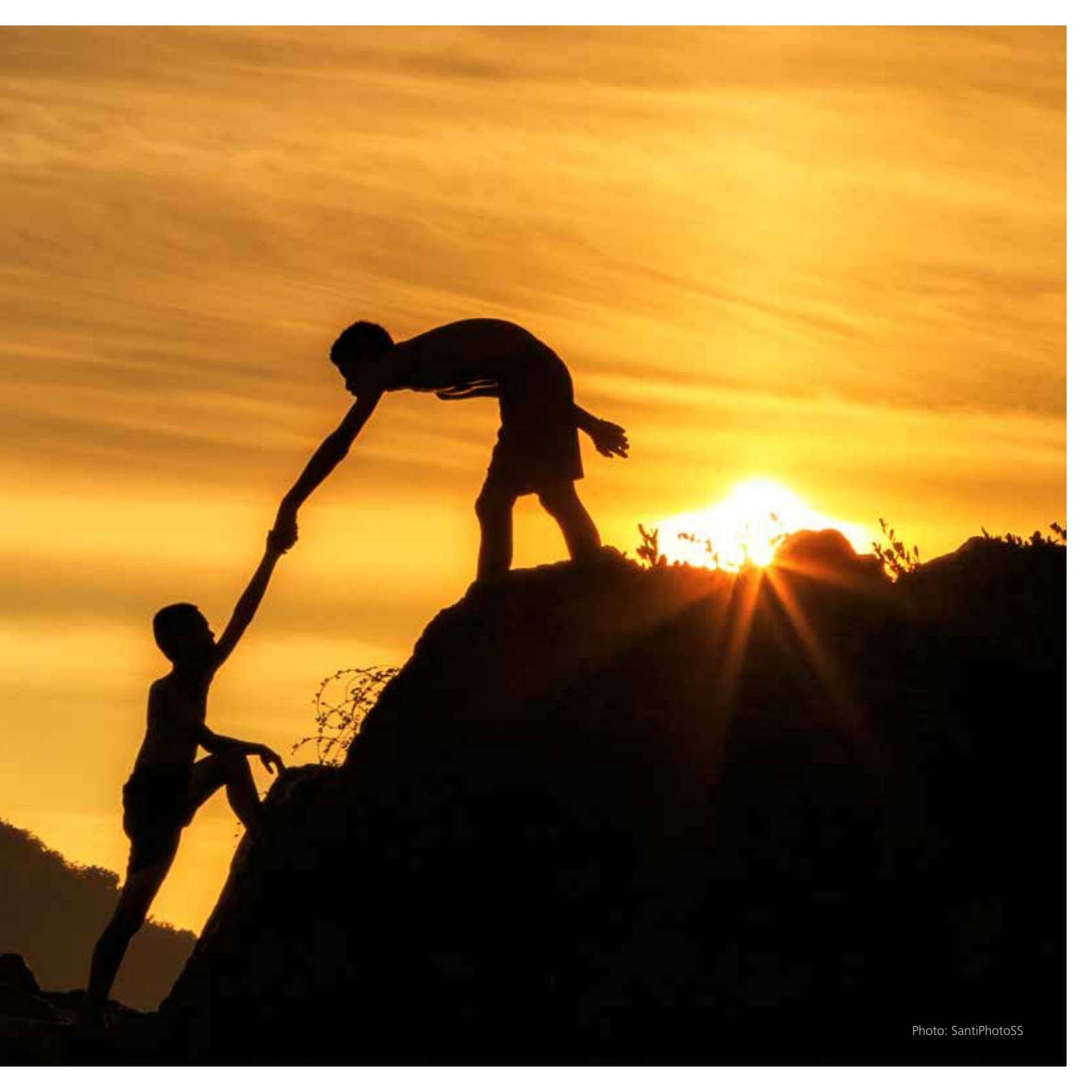
Project Path

Thesis Path



Article 1 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.



The details of the programme are as follows:

▶ **Six Foundation Courses (18 credits)**

4 of these courses (common courses) are required for all PUC Master students.

2 of these courses (directed courses) are compulsory for all students taking a master degree in Law.

▶ **Three Basic Major Courses (9 credits)**

These courses reflect the three master directions in law offered by PUC and are compulsory for all students taking a master degree in law.

▶ **Five Major Courses in international Human Rights law (15 credits)**

These courses are compulsory for all students taking the master degree in international human rights law.

▶ **Two Elective Courses (6 credits)**

Students taking the degree in international human rights law are required to select two of the elective courses. The courses offered depend on staff availability and students' interest.

▶ **One Graduation path (6 credits)**

The students taking the degree in international human rights law can choose between two graduation paths: 1) master thesis or 2) master report. Each path consists of a preparation course and the final master thesis or report.

Note: The comprehensive examination path is not an option in this programme.

Class Schedule

The classes will be conducted during the weekends in order to enable students with full-time employment to attend. Normally, classes will be provided in three sessions scheduled between 08.00-17:00 on Saturday and 8:00- 11.00 on Sunday. The specific schedule of each course will be provided in the PUC academic calendar available on the PUC webpage. PUC has three academic terms per year:

Term 1	April-August
Term 2	August-November (Summer term - intensive courses)
Term 3	November-April

Admission Process

To be admitted to a Master's programme, students must submit the following documents:

Required documents

- ▶ Completed PUC's graduate programme application form (available at PUC Legal Clinic);
- ▶ Two photos (4 X 6);
- ▶ A copy of resume/CV;
- ▶ A copy of bachelor's degree certified by a competent authority;
- ▶ A copy of bachelor's degree transcript;
- ▶ A personal statement letter;
- ▶ Two letters of recommendation; and



- ▶ A TOEFL score of at least 550 or IELTS score of at least 6.0 (If the TOEFL score or IELTS score cannot be obtained, applicants are required to take PUC GAT Test).

Please note that PUC GAT Test can be waived if applicants hold a bachelor's degree from PUC or any native English speaking country.

Interview

Applicants might be required to have an interview with the Dean of the Faculty if an undergraduate major is different from a major that applicants intend to pursue in a master's programme.

How to Apply for Admission

Applicants must submit all the required documents above to PUC Legal Clinic (see address below), and pay

a non-refundable application fee of USD \$5 for local applicants and USD \$20 for foreign applicants (non-scholarship applicants).

Tuitions Fees and Scholarships

The total tuitions fee for this weekend master programme is approximately 4,000USD (for a Cambodian student) and 8,000USD (for a foreign student), excluding accommodation and living expenses.

Cambodian applicants who need financial support to study the master programme may apply for scholarships. As part of the cooperation between RWI and PUC a limited number of scholarships for applicants holding Cambodian nationality will be provided. Subject to approved funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), RWI will provide up to 12 scholarships for individuals to study

the Master Programme in International Human Rights Law 2017-2019. In addition, PUC will provide up to 2 full scholarships as well as 3 partial scholarships (50%). These scholarships cover tuitions fees for the whole master programme.

In order to apply for the Scholarships, the applicants must submit a separate application (see below). A Scholarship Selection Committee (SSC) consisting of representatives from both RWI and PUC as well as external individuals with a solid human rights background will be formed. SSC will meet regularly to identify the most suitable candidates for the scholarships. Their recommendation will be based on both submitted documents and interviews of shortlisted candidates.

In order to be eligible for a scholarship, the applicants must fulfil the following general requirements:

- ▶ Be Cambodian citizens residing in Cambodia;
- ▶ Be accepted to the Master programme, i.e. fulfil all the general requirements for the Master Programme, including academic merits, English language skills etc; and
- ▶ Be committed to Human Rights.

In selecting the scholarship recipients, SSC will take into consideration the applicants':

- ▶ Academic merits;
- ▶ Interest in pursuing a career in the human rights field (Academic, NGO, Government, Justice Sector etc);
- ▶ Justification of how and why the Master Programme will enhance their career goals;
- ▶ Degree of maturity, self-reliance, self-discipline, and resourcefulness;

- ▶ Initiative, drive, willingness and opportunity to complete the Master programme in a timely manner;
- ▶ Potential to become leaders, opinion formers, and decision makers; and
- ▶ Critical thinking skills.

In relation to the composition of the group of scholarship recipients, SSC will aim at obtaining:

- ▶ Gender balance;
- ▶ Geographical balance;
- ▶ Balance between applicants' professional background (government, NGO, justice sector, academic etc);and
- ▶ A wide diversity of students in general.

Finally, SSC might prioritise applicants from a disadvantage background.

How to Apply for Scholarships

Individuals who wish to apply for a scholarship should submit the following supporting documents (in English):

- ▶ Cover sheet of the scholarship application to the Master Programme (available at Administrative Office located within PUC Legal Clinic);
- ▶ Detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- ▶ Scholarship motivation letter (400-600 words) explaining why the applicant should be awarded a scholarship referring to the selection criteria above;
- ▶ Proof of English language skills;
- ▶ Copy of the applicant's ID card or passport with her/his personal data and photograph; and

- ▶ Any other documents the applicant wish to submit, for example recommendation letters, diplomas, certificates etc.

Note:

Applicants who wish to apply for admission to the Master Programme must complete the PUC Graduate Programme Form and submit all required documents to PUC Legal Clinic. Interested applicants are recommended to submit their application as early as possible. If applicants also wish to apply for a scholarship, they must submit a separate Scholarship Application Form. Both application forms for admission to the Master Programme and scholarships are available at PUC Legal Clinic.

No documents will be returned to the applicants so please submit certified copies if you wish to keep the originals. Shortlisted candidates might be asked to provide originals.

Exchange Programme

A special feature of the Master Programme in International Human Rights Law at PUC is the opportunity for selected students to join an exchange programme at Lund University, Sweden. Normally two outstanding students per year are offered this opportunity.

Important Dates

Application for Admission	Open until April 07, 2017
Application for Scholarship	Open until March 20, 2017
Admission and Scholarship Result	April 24, 2017
Semester Starts	April 29, 2017

Students that have completed at least the first two semesters (five courses) of the Master Programme in International Human Rights Law at PUC may apply for a scholarship to study a human rights course at the Master Programme in International Human Rights Law at Lund University, Sweden. The course equals 7,5 Higher Education Credits according to the Swedish system and covers at least 30 teaching hours and plenty of individual study. The successful students are expected to spend in total up to six weeks in Sweden. Based on agreement between RWI and PUC the course equals 3 credits at the Master Programme at PUC. Subject to funding two outstanding PUC students will be selected for the exchange programme in 2017 which normally takes place in the month of May.

Off-Campus Study Trip

RWI and PUC normally (subject to funding) organise an intensive weekend course off-campus for students who have completed the first year of the Master Programme. The purpose of the intensive weekend course is to boost the students' human rights knowledge and strengthen the network between the students. Different interactive teaching methods (group discussions, role play, debate, moot court) are used during this course which normally takes place in April.

Student testimonials



Oun Retra

(Batch 3) – Legal Assistant at DBLS Law

This programme provides opportunities for students to learn from both national and international professors who come from different backgrounds and have extensive knowledge and experiences in human Rights.



Hun Seanghak

(Batch 3) – Coordinator for Fair Trial Programme at Cambodia Center for Human Rights

This programme fits with civil society. It provides an in-depth knowledge of human rights, in particular fair trial rights which I am working on. As part of my work, I can use this knowledge to spread to other students at universities in city as well as in provinces, along with advocating the government how to apply laws in line with international human rights standard.



Phou Laysun

(Batch 3) - Student at Royal Academy for Judicial Professions

My critical thinking and knowledge on human rights have noticeably been improved from this LLM programme. Beside, this programme also provides other crosscutting knowledge and skills, such as dispute resolution, business law, and environmental issues and so on.



Khun Sovannetra

(Batch 2) - Deputy Director of Human Resources Development at the Secretariat General of the Senate of Cambodia

Attending this programme allowed students to study not only the theory of human rights law, but also to do some practical work, through field visits. This allows students to see the concrete situation in society and identify the practical problems. It gives students the ideas of what specific matter related to human rights they wish to write in their thesis or report.



Mor Socheath

(Batch 2) – Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

This programme has improved my substantive knowledge on both domestic laws and international laws related to human rights. It is helpful for me and my team to work on drafting MoU and international agreements, particularly related to the prevention of human trafficking, the control of immigration, protection of domestic workers, concluded between Cambodia and other nations.



Chum Channra

(Batch 1) – Education Specialist, United Nations Children's Fund

This programme has contributed to building my research capacity in the area of education and child labour in the context of national and international laws. I am now more knowledgeable and confident to discuss human rights and law related issues in my daily work with the government and development partners as part of advocacy and social development program.

Address and contact

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