

Faculty Spotlight

Stephanie Bangarth



Stephanie Bangarth is professor of History and a co-founder of the Human Rights Studies program. She is a social and political historian specializing in

Canadian and American human rights advocacy, the North American immigrant experience, and the impact of social movements on Canadian history. Her courses include Canadian Human Rights History, Power to the Peoples: Rights in North America, Canadian-American Relations and Canadian Foreign Policy. Dr. Bangarth is an active researcher and supervises graduate students via the Collaborative Graduate Program in Migration and Ethnic Relations and the History Graduate Program at Western. She is a longstanding member of Canadian Studies organizations such as MANECCS and ACSUS. An alumna of King's herself, Dr. Bangarth is delighted to be part of an institution which believes in educating the whole person, encouraging faculty-student interaction and recognizing that Liberal Arts is the study of all of us, past and present.



KING'S

Human Rights Studies



CONTACT US

King's University College
at Western University Canada
519-433-3491
1-800-265-4406

kings@uwo.ca

kings.uwo.ca/human-rights-studies



A place to **be**. A place to **become**.





What is Human Rights Studies?

Human Rights are predicated upon the belief that every human being deserves to be treated with equal dignity, and that every person has inherent value. But how do we move towards these goals? Human Rights Studies interrogate how we fulfill these ideals, but also how we fail to do so in different times and places. It equips you with the intellectual and practical skills you need to explore, understand, and act to become protagonists in the equal granting of all human beings the status and the rights associated with their being.

Even though we say that everyone is entitled to these basic rights and freedoms, many individuals and groups in Canada and around the world still are systematically deprived of these rights, often by powerful actors like governments and industry. There is an urgent need to understand what human rights are, where they come from, and how they can be used today to protect vulnerable individuals and groups from powerful institutions and actors.

What Will I Study?

This new collaborative degree program integrates approaches from across the disciplines to provide you with critical understanding of, and experience in, the growing field of human rights.

These are the most fundamental rights and freedoms belonging to all human beings, including equality, dignity, the right to work and to education, and freedom of opinion and expression. The United Nations declares that “everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination.”

Using a cross-disciplinary approach, Human Rights Studies at King’s equips you to understand and to critique the effectiveness of legal, diplomatic and political frameworks that have been employed to protect human rights.

The program also examines how different groups have understood and fought for expanded rights protection throughout history.

Topics include women’s rights; the rights of minorities, refugees and displaced persons; Indigenous rights; and remedies for human rights violations in domestic and international law.

In acknowledging human rights, their power and their fragility, we become fully human.



What Will Human Rights Studies Prepare Me For?

- Educator
- Law
- Politics
- Policy
- Health Care
- Teaching
- Journalism
- Law Enforcement
- Civil Service
- NGOs
- United Nations

Studying human rights at King’s will provide you with the subject knowledge and practical skills needed to:

- engage in informed debate over the historical origins and development of human rights, including the philosophical and ethical foundations of our modern human rights system
- identify theoretical and practical questions around the effectiveness of human rights laws and policies in practice
- consider the nature of human rights through different disciplinary and theoretical perspective
- use historical and contemporary examples to formulate an argument on the universality of human rights (as an idea) and of the modern system of human rights (in practice)
- articulate an understanding of the ways in which different groups and individuals around the globe have historically fought for greater human rights protection