

## Vietnam National University, MA Program in Human Rights

### CAL 6001 Philosophy and Ideology of Human Rights December 2020 (webinars)

#### Instructions about the Oral Debate

1. Each debating exercise shall involve two students. These debates will take place in the lectures from 10-16 December 2020 in Zoom. Students are assigned their specific topic (including whether they are for or against the statement) and allocated the time of the presentation (*see the schedule*).

2. Each student will have about **8 minutes** to present his or her position (*make sure to time your presentation beforehand!*). Each presentation shall be followed by **5 minutes of questions** from the lecturers and other students (the Q&A session). Afterwards, the examiners will give some feedback to both students about their performance. The presentation will be graded by the lectures and count for 15% of the final grade.

3. The students have to present arguments supporting their side in the debate question. Having to defend a specific view is common practice, if one is working as a State official, a lawyer, an NGO activist, or other human rights professional.

4. The student performance in the debate will be graded according to the grading scale of the Course.

5. The three main guidelines for assessing the student performance in the debate will be the ability of the student:

- To clarify the conceptual issues involved and articulate the different types of arguments by drawing on the main disciplines in the course – law, political and social sciences, and philosophy.
- To form a coherent and convincing argument, while at the same time demonstrating credibility in dealing with opposing views and any questions posed by the lecturers.
- To present the arguments in an understandable and clear manner (good introduction, structured arguments and signposting, conclusion).

6. In order to pass this course, the students need to pass the oral debate exam.

## CAL 6001 December 2020

### Topics for the Oral Debate

Date and time	For (name of student)	Against (name of student)	Topic
December 11 14:30-13:30			The death penalty should be abolished
December 12 14:00-14:30			Whistle-blowers should be immune from government prosecution when revealing State Surveillance practices that violate the individual right to privacy
December 12 14:30-15:00			Human rights are a Western concept and should not apply to people in Asia
December 14 14:00-14:30			Transnational companies working in Vietnam have a duty to respect human rights
December 14 14:30-15:00			A socialist ideology is better than a liberal ideology to protect economic and social rights
December 16 14:00-14:30			The determination of whether an ethnic minority should possess some degree of autonomy or self-rule should be made not only by members of the minority but also by member so the majority
December 16 14:30-15:00			The right to a clean environment is an important human right
