**Course Description Template**

**Course Description**

This course description provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the expected learning outcomes that students should achieve, demonstrating whether they have maximized the available learning opportunities. It is essential to connect this with the program description.

**1. Educational Institution**

**Al-Mansour University College**

**2. Academic Department/Center**

**Law**

**3. Course Name/Code**

**Human Rights and Democracy**

**4. Available Attendance Formats**

**Weekly**

**5. Semester/Year**

**2024-2025**

**6. Total Credit Hours**

**60**

**7. Date of Course Description Preparation**

**18/11/2024**

**8. Course Objectives**

1. Introduce students to human rights and their responsibilities towards their community.
2. Explore the historical roots of human rights and their development over time.
3. Establish the concepts of rights, freedom, and responsibilities for both individuals and society.
4. Explain the constitutional provisions in the Iraqi Constitution related to human rights and clarify them for students.
5. Highlight the importance of knowing individual rights for fulfilling responsibilities effectively.
6. Shed light on democracy and its various forms.

**9. Course Learning Outcomes, Teaching, and Assessment Methods**

**A. Cognitive Objectives**

A1 - Help students understand different types of rights and their applications.  
A2 - Clarify the historical stages of human rights and their evolution.  
A3 - Provide a correct understanding of freedom and democracy.  
A4 - Instill ethical values and explain key individual rights and responsibilities.  
A5 - Familiarize students with the rights and responsibilities of Iraqi citizens.

**B. Skills-Based Objectives**

* Understanding the history of human rights and their development.
* Promoting cultural awareness with an Islamic perspective.
* Enhancing patriotism by emphasizing the importance of national unity.
* Recognizing key rights granted under international norms and laws.
* Strengthening the concept of citizenship among students.

**Teaching and Learning Methods**

* Discussion and critical thinking on course topics.
* Small focus groups for in-depth discussions.
* Role-playing (for in-person sessions) to explain key concepts.
* Writing analytical papers related to human rights and democracy.

**Assessment Methods**

* Written exams
* Oral exams
* Assignments
* Reports

**C. Affective and Value-Based Objectives**

C1 - Encourage students to identify real-world problems and logically present them.

* Promote objectivity in discussions about national challenges.
* Illustrate the concept of freedoms, highlight wrong practices, and discuss how to avoid them.  
  C2 - Prioritize the expression of rights.  
  C3 - Emphasize the importance of human rights.  
  C4 - Encourage objectivity in discussions.

**Teaching and Learning Methods**

* Using real-life examples to reflect societal values and democracy.
* Teaching students scientific thinking, analysis, and inference.
* Encouraging students to identify and solve real-world problems.
* Brainstorming to give students opportunities to present and discuss their ideas.
* Lectures and intellectual discussions.

**Assessment Methods**

* Written exams
* Surprise quizzes
* Assessing student comprehension through engagement
* Oral questions
* Applying human rights and democracy concepts to real-life scenarios

**D. General and Transferable Skills (Employment and Personal Development Skills)**

D1 - Research skills related to human rights history and democracy.  
D2 - Familiarity with international human rights laws and treaties.  
D3 - Internet research and digital literacy skills.

**10. Course Structure**

| **Week** | **Hours** | **Learning Outcomes** | **Unit/Topic** | **Teaching Method** | **Assessment Method** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | Overview of the syllabus | Course introduction and objectives | Lecture | None |
| 2 | 2 | Understanding rights and their applications | - Definition of human rights - Types and characteristics | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 3 | 2 | Historical roots of human rights | - Evolution of human rights - Human rights in ancient times | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 4 | 2 | Human rights in different eras | - Middle Ages - Modern era | Lecture & Discussion | Daily Quiz |
| 5 | 2 | Human rights in religious scriptures | - Overview of religious perspectives | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 6 | 2 | Key human rights principles in Islamic law | - Role of governments and organizations | Lecture | Surprise Exam |
| 7 | 2 | Human rights in Islam | - Imam Ali’s views on human responsibilities | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 8 | 2 | **Exam 1** | Written Exam | Written Exam | Written Exam |
| 9 | 2 | Concepts from Imam Al-Sajjad’s human rights message | - Applying ethical teachings in daily life | Workshop | Discussion |
| 10 | 2 | Citizenship and responsibilities | - Concept of citizenship - Rights and responsibilities | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 11 | 2 | Role of NGOs in defending human rights | - Understanding their impact | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 12 | 2 | Human rights and freedoms in the 2005 Iraqi Constitution | - Legal aspects | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 13 | 2 | Universal Declaration of Human Rights | - Importance and historical context | Workshop | Discussion |
| 14 | 2 | Women’s and children’s rights in Islam | - Legal perspectives | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 15 | 2 | **Exam 2** | Written Exam | Written Exam | Written Exam |

**Second Semester**

| **Week** | **Hours** | **Learning Outcomes** | **Unit/Topic** | **Teaching Method** | **Assessment Method** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | Understanding democracy | - Definition of democracy | Lecture | Discussion |
| 2 | 2 | Importance of democracy in society | - Open discussions | Lecture | Daily Quiz & Discussion |
| 3 | 2 | Evolution of democracy | - Historical background | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 4 | 2 | Types and characteristics of democracy | - Comparative analysis | Lecture | Discussion |
| 5 | 2 | Pillars of democracy | - Key elements | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 6 | 2 | Democratic systems and transitions | - Factors influencing democracy | Lecture & Brainstorming | Discussion |
| 7 | 2 | **Exam 1** | Written Exam | Written Exam | Written Exam |
| 8 | 2 | Understanding individual freedoms | - Basic rights | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 9 | 2 | Freedom of thought and culture | - Philosophical perspectives | Lecture | Daily Quiz & Discussion |
| 10 | 2 | Future of public freedoms | - Challenges and opportunities | Lecture | Discussion |
| 11 | 2 | Scientific progress and public freedoms | - Impact of technology | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 12 | 2 | Freedoms in Islam | - Theoretical framework | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 13 | 2 | Nature of Islamic freedoms | - Ethical implications | Lecture & Discussion | Discussion |
| 14 | 2 | Addressing negative practices in human rights | - Solutions and discussions | Brainstorming | Discussion |
| 15 | 2 | **Exam 2** | Monthly Exam | Monthly Exam | Monthly Exam |

**12. Course Resources**

**Required Textbook**

* *Human Rights and Democracy* by Dr. Maher Sabri Kazem

**Main References**

* *Democracy and Human Rights* by Mohammed Abed Al-Jabri

**Recommended References**

* *Islamic Perspectives on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* by Ayatollah Sayyid Mohammed Baqir Al-Sadr

**Online Resources**

* *Life of Imam Zain Al-Abidin* by Sayyid Baqir Sharif Al-Qurashi
* *Professor Ali Mohammed Dakheel*

**13. Course Development Plan**

* Making human rights and democracy more practically applicable by linking theoretical concepts with contemporary societal issues.

**Course Instructor** – **Department Head** – **Dean**