



"Investing in Africa's Future"

INSTITUTE OF PEACE, LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

**COURSE CODE AND TITLE: PHR 500: CONCEPTUAL FOUNDATIONS AND
PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN RIGHTS (HARARE)**

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

LECTURER: PROF. MACHAKANJA

DURATION: 3HRS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Use only the examination answer book provided. Obtain a continuation answer book if necessary
2. Write legibly
3. You are expected to give critical analysis of each question
4. Provide the following information on the cover page of the answer book:
 - 4.1 Your University ID Number
 - 4.2 Course code and title
 - 4.3 Faculty i.e IPLG
 - 4.4 Programme i.e MPG, MPPG
 - 4.5 Academic Year i.e 2016/17
 - 4.6 Semester i.e 1st



INSTRUCTION

Answer Section A and any TWO questions from Section B

Section A: Compulsory (40 marks)

1. Discuss with reference to specific examples the argument that human rights are derived from the inherent *dignity* of the human person and are defined internationally, nationally and locally by various law making bodies. (40 marks)

Section B: Answer any TWO questions (60 marks)

2. With specific reference to Africa debate the challenges to the Universality and Inalienability of human rights. (30 marks)
3. With specific to Mary Wollstonecraft, give a summary of her key arguments in her book, *A Vindication of the Rights of Women* and the relevance of her arguments to the promotion and protection of women's rights as human rights in Africa. (30 marks)
4. Critically discuss any FOUR philosophical arguments put forward by Kant regarding human rights and morality and their relevance in today's society. (30 marks)
5. Jack Donnelly wrote: "It is individuals, not groups that have rights to food, health care, work, social security, due process, freedom of expression, protection against discrimination....." (p.20). Assess the strengths and weaknesses of this argument. (30 marks)
6. Using specific examples discuss the impact the Age of Enlightenment had throughout the world regarding our understanding of human rights, scientific thought, intellectual exchange, skepticism, society, culture and politics. (30 marks)
7. Compare and contrast any TWO human rights philosophers regarding their views on state of nature, human rights, social contract and the sovereign or government. (30 marks)
8. With specific reference to philosophical viewpoints, debate the argument that utilitarianism is the theory that the production of happiness and reduction of unhappiness should be the standard by which actions are judged right or wrong and by which the rules of morality, laws, public policies, and social institutions are to be critically evaluated. (30 marks)

End of Examination

