

Theories of Rights | PIU44104

Year	Senior Sophister
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	22 (11 x 2-hour seminars)
Pre-requisite	None
Semester	2
Module Leader & Lecturer	Professor Adina Preda
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Module Outline:

The language of moral rights is pervasive both in everyday life and in legal, moral, and political philosophy. They are commonly invoked in support of claims of a certain weight. But there is no philosophical consensus on what rights are, what status or weight they have, or indeed who can have rights and what their content would be. This module will tackle some of these questions. The first part will focus on foundational questions about rights, while the second looks at some types of rights and potential right-holders.

Assessment:

1 Essay (end of module) 50%: 1 Examination (end of module) 50%.

Recommended Reading List:

An extensive and detailed reading list will be made available at the start of the module. But among the essential readings for the early weeks of the course will be:

- Jones, Peter *Rights*, MacMillan, 1994 (Introductory)
- Kramer, M., N. Simmonds & H. Steiner (eds.) *A Debate over Rights: Philosophical Enquiries* Oxford, University Press, 1998 (more advanced)
- Waldron, J. (ed.) *Theories of Rights*, Oxford University Press, 1993