

## Introduction to Human Rights Education: Online Course

*Name of organization:*  
**Human Rights Education Associates (HREA)**

### SAMPLE FROM SYLLABUS

#### WEEK 4: Definitions of Human Rights Education

*Description of session:* This session will review the differing approaches and practices within the human rights education movement. These differences are influenced by the target groups in question and underlying assumptions about these groups and their roles in relation to the promotion and protection of human rights.

#### *Guiding inquiries:*

- What are the different ways in which human rights education has been put into practice?
- What are the factors that have influenced this, e.g., learner population, educational traditions, the political context?
- Can human rights be a value system related to “lived practice” and at the same time be a mechanism for political and social reform?
- What tensions might there be for public educational institutions to promote critiques of authority and activism among students?

#### *Required readings:*

- Instructor’s Message
- "What is Human Rights Education?" *in: Human Rights Education Pack* (Bangkok: Asia-Pacific Regional Resource Center for Human Rights Education, 2003), Sections I-V.  
[http://www.arrc-hre.com/publications/content\\_frameset.html](http://www.arrc-hre.com/publications/content_frameset.html)
- Felisa Tibbitts, *Human Rights Educational Goals for Children and Youth* (Amsterdam: HREA, 1996).
- Nancy Flowers, "What is Human Rights Education" *in: A Survey of Human Rights Education* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann Verlag, 2003).
- Felisa Tibbitts, “Emerging Models of Human Rights Education”, *Issues of Democracy*, March 2002.
- Gollob, R. and Krapf, P. *Exploring Children’s Rights: Lesson Sequences for Primary Schools* (Strasbourg: Council of Europe, 1996).  
[http://www.hrea.org/index.php?base\\_id=104&language\\_id=1&erc\\_doc\\_id=3923&category\\_id=5&category\\_type=3&group=](http://www.hrea.org/index.php?base_id=104&language_id=1&erc_doc_id=3923&category_id=5&category_type=3&group=)

#### *Discussion questions:*

- Should/can human rights education be taught in schools?
- Should we be concerned that there are so many different definitions and approaches within human rights education practice?

***Assignments:***

- Respond to the question(s) on the Discussion Forum and actively participate in the discussion that follows.
- **Exercise 3.** Briefly describe a memorable experience you have had in the classroom - whether as a teacher or as a student - where you felt that human rights were respected. What does this experience tell you about the relationship between human rights and learning? Submit to the “Assignments” section of the course website.