

Course Outline: Introduction to Humanitarian and Refugee Studies

- **Module 1: Introduction to Humanitarian Action**
 - Definitions, history, and core humanitarian principles (humanity, neutrality, impartiality, independence).
 - Overview of the humanitarian system and key actors (UN, NGOs, ICRC).
- **Module 2: International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Protection**
 - Basic rules of IHL (Geneva Conventions).
 - Protection strategies for civilians in armed conflict.
 - Humanitarian access and accountability.
- **Module 3: Forced Migration and Refugee Definitions**
 - Defining refugees, asylum seekers, and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).
 - The 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol.
 - Causes of displacement: Conflict, persecution, and environmental disasters.
- **Module 4: The International Refugee Regime**
 - Role of UNHCR and regional frameworks.
 - Asylum procedures, resettlement, and local integration.
 - Statelessness and human rights issues faced by displaced populations.
- **Module 5: Complex Emergencies and Response**
 - Humanitarian response in conflict contexts (food security, health, shelter).
 - Gender-based violence (GBV) in crises.
 - Communication with affected communities.
- **Module 6: Contemporary Issues and Future Directions**
 - Climate change-induced displacement.
 - Urban displacement and protracted refugee situations.
 - Ethical challenges and the localization of aid.



GSDRC +7

Learning Outcomes

- Understand key legal instruments protecting refugees and victims of conflict.
- Analyze the roles of international actors in humanitarian crises.
- Evaluate contemporary challenges in forced migration.

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