

2025-26 ANNUAL SNAPSHOT

OUR MISSION

[The University of Iowa Center for Human Rights](#) serves as an academic hub for the State of Iowa dedicated to teaching, scholarship, and public engagement. The Center, located within the [College of Law](#), provides interdisciplinary opportunities for undergraduate, graduate, and professional students to examine human rights from an array of perspectives.

The Center:

- Offers an exceptional undergraduate certificate program that prepares students to understand the origins, evolution, and application of human rights.
- Provides law students with a solid footing in the theory, law, and practice of human rights through doctrinal, clinical, and experiential opportunities.
- Equips students interested in human rights careers through individual advising, connections with alumni, exposure to human rights experts, and exploration of human rights-related study abroad and internship opportunities.
- Funds human rights-related summer internships for students across all colleges.
- Facilitates scholarly engagement for students and faculty, including research conferences and other convenings to promote multidisciplinary exchange and innovative scholarship.
- Collaborates with other academic units, campus initiatives, student organizations, and external institutions and organizations to enhance human rights education and research.
- Engages in human rights education, encourages varied perspectives, and shares research and expertise with the public.
- Participates in grants and contracts to develop and apply solutions to human rights challenges.

Snapshot: Transformative Teaching

A+ *National Jurist Pre-law* Magazine

Iowa Law receives [A+ ranking for Human Rights](#) for the 5th consecutive year.

160% Enrollment Increase

Undergraduate [certificate program](#) saw 160% enrollment increase over the last five years.

\$10,000 Experiential Student Support

With support from the [Stanley-UI Foundation Support Organization](#), and in collaboration with [International Programs](#), UICHR provided \$10,000 in merit-based support for 9 undergraduate and 2 law students' summer internships through the [Cmiel and Weston funding programs](#).

2025-26 Teaching At-A-Glance

Undergraduate	Law
13 courses	11 courses
312 students	170 students



Advocacy in Action students at the Capitol Building to advocate on behalf of imprisoned scholars in collaboration with Scholars at Risk

Snapshot: Scholarship & Public Engagement

49 Events

UICHR faculty and staff organized, participated in, sponsored, or co-sponsored 49 events during the 2025-2026 academic year. Topics included intellectual freedom, the right to water in Africa, and arts and human rights.

11th Annual Human Rights Conference

117 student presenters, faculty members, and other attendees representing 17 Midwestern colleges and universities convened in April for the annual Iowa Human Rights Research Conference. The conference is co-organized by UICHR and the Iowa Network of Human Rights Academics and was hosted this year by Grinnell College.

ALL Iowa Project

Providing Legal Services for Refugees in Iowa ([ALL Iowa](#)) Project partners provided immigration legal services across the state, engaged law students in this work, and hosted a [closing conference](#) September 1 – 2, 2026.