

JAMR08, Bases of International Law on Labour Rights, 7.5 credits

Bases of International Law on Labour Rights, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Faculty of Law Board of education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels on 2016-04-13 to be valid from 2016-04-13, spring semester 2016.

General Information

The course Bases of International Labour Rights is an elective course in the Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law at the Faculty of Law. The course is open for students within the programme leading to a Swedish professional degree Master of Laws within the specialization in International Human Rights Law. The course is also open to international students participating in exchange programmes with the Faculty of Law.

The course is scheduled to require 5 weeks of full time studies.

Language of instruction: English

Lectures and course material are in English.

Main field of studies

Human Rights

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

To pass the examination the student must be able to show

- in-depth knowledge concerning the circumstances in which international law on labour rights is created and applied
- in-depth knowledge of the scientific foundations of this branch of law
- knowledge about current international law on labour rights research and methodology
- awareness of the role of international labour law in sustainable development
- knowledge about the role of states and international organizations in international law on labour rights, in particular the International Labour Organisation
- insight into the legal framework in which international and regional human rights operate within the field of international labour rights law.

Competence and skills

To pass examination the student must be able to show

- ability, on an advanced level, to assess critically and systematically an integrated knowledge of international law on labour rights
- ability to identify legal problems independently, critically and creatively, to systematize arguments, and to analyze, compare and assess theoretical and practical problems within the context of international labour rights law
- ability to analyze cases concerning international law on labour rights law within a limited period of time, both in an oral and a written form
- ability to work both individually and in smaller and larger Groups.

Judgement and approach

To pass the examination the student must be able to show

- ability to make an assessment regarding societal aspects of international law on labour rights and its role in development
- insight regarding the role which international labour rights law plays in the interaction between states and individuals/groups, including employers and workers and in the international community as a whole
- insight regarding the role of international and regional organizations in the international labour rights law-making processes
- ability to realize the advantages and disadvantages of international labour rights law and its impact on the state organization and legislation.

Course content

This course provides an overview of the general principles of the labour rights component of international human rights. While labour rights were in many ways at the origins of international human rights law – e.g., the anti-slavery movement and the fight against child labour during the industrial revolution – the subject had slipped off the human rights agenda due to the more general approaches to civil and political rights on the one hand, and economic, social and cultural rights on the other, in the United Nations and regional organisations. Yet it has become increasingly obvious that neither economic nor social development is sustainable without systematic attention to the rights of working people, and international development and legal agendas are increasingly focusing on labour rights. This course is therefore intended to inform students about labour rights as a component both of international human rights law, and an indispensable part of the movement for a rights-based approach to

development.

Students will learn: (1) the history, structure and procedures of the International Labour Organization, the principal international organization for this subject; and (2) the content, meaning and implementation of the Fundamental Labour Standards of the ILO. It will examine in particular how labour rights have been incorporated into the international human rights system at the universal and regional levels, the mechanisms used by the ILO to adopt standards and other basic instruments, and the distinctive supervisory and assistance mechanisms of the Organization.

Course design

Instruction is given in the forms of lectures and seminars, aiming at a deeper understanding and application of the legal framework in question.

Assessment

The students obtain knowledge and competences as indicated above by individual studies of course literature and other course material, and by taking an active part in lectures and seminars. Students will be expected to use the course materials as a basis for wider research in this area.

Examination is in the form of replies to specific questions in the form of a take home exam.

In order to pass, students are required to have 80% attendance in the lectures.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with credit, Pass with distinction.

All grading criteria rest on the baseline set up for the grade B. Criteria for the grade BA are additional to those for the grade B. Criteria for the grade AB are additional to those for the grade BA. Each grade criterion consists of a qualitative and a quantitative dimension. To be awarded a specific grade, the grade criterion must be satisfied in its qualitative as well as its quantitative dimension.

Grading criteria are applied to all dimensions listed as "Learning outcomes" in this syllabus. By way of example, an AB would presuppose that the student's examination reflect her or his mastery with regard to knowledge and understanding, skills and abilities and values and attitudes as laid down in the syllabus as "learning outcomes". Grading is done primarily using Qualitative and Quantitative criteria. The Quantitative criterion reflects how well read the student is whereas the Qualitative criterion reflects how well the student can use his/her knowledge to make a well structured critical and analytical argument and put it in a proper context.

B – Basic command

In order to pass the student must show good knowledge of international human rights and international labour law; and good knowledge of the history of, basic elements included in, and core current debates surrounding, international labour law

and human rights.

BA – Advanced command

In order to pass the student must show good knowledge of international human rights and international labour law; and good knowledge of the history of basic elements included in, and core current debates surrounding, international labour law and human rights.

The student must be able to demonstrate basic knowledge of core concepts and standards related to human rights in the world of work.

The student must be able to demonstrate familiarity with international institutions and mechanisms of particular relevance to international labour law and the implementation of human rights in this field.

The student must show familiarity with the central contemporary debates concerning the application of the concept of human rights at work to national and international policy and programming.

The student must be able to draw on his or her broad knowledge of human rights law and mechanisms, in combination with the materials offered in the course, to analyse the implementation of national and international labour law in the broader context of international human rights law and practice.

AB - Mastery

In order to achieve the highest grade the student must be able to draw on multiple sources, including non-legal sources, to analyze cogently the rights-based approach to labour in the light of contemporary human rights and development practice.

The student must be able to explore independently a particular aspect of labour law and practice from a human rights perspective, drawing not only on the course materials but also on other relevant sources, including for instance other international legal documents or scholarship or reports in the fields of human rights labour, as a basis for discussion and analysis.

The student must be able to express his or her ideas clearly and concisely in writing.

Entry requirements

Passed examinations in the courses corresponding to the first term of the Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law (30 credits).

Further information

The University views plagiarism as a very serious academic offence, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in connection with examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.

Subcourses in JAMR08, Bases of International Law on Labour Rights

Applies from V08

0701 Bases of International Law on Labour Rights, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with credit, Pass with distinction