

JAMR40, International Human Rights Law I, 15 credits

Internationella mänskliga rättigheter I, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by Faculty of Law Board of education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels on 2015-12-03 and was valid from 2015-12-03, spring semester 2016.

General Information

The course International Human Rights Law I is a compulsory course within the Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law at the Faculty of Law. The course is open to students in the programme leading to a Swedish Professional Law degree as well as students participating in exchange programmes with the Faculty of Law, and who follow the courses on the Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law in their studies at an advanced level.

The course is scheduled to require 10 weeks of full time studies.

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 examination the student shall show:

- understanding of the history, characteristics, ambitions and critiques of the IHRL movement
- understanding of the institutions set to implement IHRL at the international, regional and state level
- understanding of IHRL sources, IHRL norms, tools and techniques in constructing IHRL arguments.

Competence and skills

To pass examination the student shall

- be able to critically assess the history, characteristics, ambitions and critiques of the IHRL movement
- be able to critically assess the characteristics, abilities and limitations of human rights institutions whether on the international, regional or state level
- be able to use IHRL sources, IHRL norms, tools and techniques in the constructing of IHRL arguments.

Judgement and approach

To pass examination the student shall be able to display a scientific ethos in working with questions of IHRL.

Course content

The course is the first dedicated International Human Rights Law (IHRL) course on the Master's programme. Following immediately after the course in International Law, the course provides a platform for further inquiry – both in and beyond the programme – into IHRL, from a global perspective. To this end, the course introduces IHRL as 1) a movement or project with a particular history, characteristics and ambitions; 2) a set of institutions or actors acting at international, regional and state level; and 3) with a substantive normative base in the sources of international law. Although the course is sequenced in this way, for each new element, points of contact or interaction between the different elements are discussed. Further, thematic lectures and seminars cutting across the three elements are offered.

Course design

Instructions is in the form of a) intensive reading workshops, b) lectures and c) seminars.

Assessment

Examination is in the following three forms:

- 5% of the final grade consists of points awarded for active participation in intensive reading workshops in the beginning of the course,
- 35% consists of points awarded through an essay written approximately midway into the course,
- 60% of the points are awarded through a take home exam at the end of the course.

In order to pass the course, students need to achieve at least a pass on the intensive reading workshops, the midway essay and the take home exam.

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 grading criterion consists of a qualitative and a quantitative dimension. To be awarded a specific grade, the grading criterion must be satisfied in its qualitative as well as its quantitative dimension.

Grading criteria are applied to the 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

To achieve the grade B students must show basic command of the history, characteristics, ambitions and critiques of the IHRL movement. Students must further be able to show basic command of the characteristics, abilities and limitations of human rights institutions whether on the international, regional or state level. Finally students must be able to show ability to use legal sources, tools and techniques in the construction of IHRL arguments.

BA – Advanced command

To earn the grade BA students must show advanced command of the history, characteristics, ambitions and critiques of the IHRL movement and the ability to independently analyse contemporary problems of IHRL from these perspectives. Student must also be able to show advanced command of the characteristics, benefits and limitations of key IHRL institutions whether on the international, regional or state level. Also here students must be able to show an ability to independently analyse contemporary problems from these perspectives. Finally, students must be able to show advanced command of legal sources, tools and techniques in the construction of IHRL arguments.

AB – Mastery

To earn the grade AB students must show mastery of the history, characteristics, ambitions and critiques of the IHRL movement, and proficiency in independently analysing contemporary problems of IHRL from these perspectives. Further, students must show mastery of the characteristics, benefits and limitations of key IHRL institutions whether on the international, regional or state level. Also here students must be able to show proficiency in independent analysis of contemporary problems. Finally, students must be able to show mastery of legal sources, tools and techniques in the construction of IHRL arguments.

Entry requirements

Students within the Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law qualify automatically for this course.

Students on the programme leading to a Swedish Professional Law degree and who follow the Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law in their studies at advanced level: prerequisites are stated in the curriculum for the Master of Law Programme at the Faculty of Law.

Prerequisites for international exchange students: relevant undergraduate studies corresponding to three years at a university level including basic knowledge of public international law.

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 JAMR40, International Human Rights Law I

Applies from V16

1501 International Human Rights Law I, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with credit, Pass with distinction