

## JAMR23, International Law, 15 credits

### *International Law, 15 högskolepoäng*

#### Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by Educational Committee of the Law Faculty Board on 2008-08-28 and was last revised on 2014-08-12. . The revised syllabus applied from 2014-09-01. , autumn semester 2014.

### General Information

The course International Law is a compulsory course within the Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law at the Faculty of Law. It is compulsory for all the three specializations of the Master's programme. 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 10 weeks of full time studies.

*Language of instruction:* English

Lectures and course material are in English.

#### *Main field of studies*

Human Rights

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#### *Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

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### Learning outcomes

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

To pass examination the student shall show

- insight into the role, the structure and the limitations of international law

- knowledge and understanding of the context in which international law develops
- knowledge and understanding of a few designated areas of international law and important factors affecting them

### **Competence and skills**

To pass examination the student shall show

- ability to critically evaluate the workings and effects of international law
- command of techniques allowing for the identification and interpretation of *lex lata*
- capability to legally assess factual scenarios
- ability to critically evaluate legal arguments and activities and to appreciate the objectives pursued through them and the presuppositions that underpin them
- skills in presenting arguments, analysis and evaluation in oral and written form

### **Judgement and approach**

To pass examination the student shall display a scientific ethos in working with international law.

### **Course content**

The course purports to offer a broad introduction into international law and to bring into view the ways in which international human rights law is conditioned by the general features of international law. The course is adapted to the special needs of the Master's programme and aims to provide a basis for consecutive courses in that programme. The course elaborates on the sources of international law, focuses on central concepts such as sovereignty, jurisdiction and state responsibility, considers the relation between different areas of international law, and offers an overview of select areas of material law.

It is a course *in*, but also *on* international law. Its first purpose is to improve the ability to do international law – to identify and interpret the law, to make *lex lata* arguments and to analyse factual scenarios from an international legal point of view. Its second purpose is to advance the understanding of the structure and dynamics of international law, its role in international relations as well as its limitations. This second aim necessitates among other things knowledge of the power relations that influence the emergence, interpretation and (non)application of international legal norms.

### **Course design**

Instruction is given in the form of lectures, workshops and exercises. The students will pursue individual studies of course literature and other course material and are expected to take active part in lectures, workshops and exercise sessions. Workshops and exercise sessions presuppose individual preparation as well as work in groups.

## Assessment

Examination is in the form of a take home exam at the end of the course (75% of the grade). Student performance in workshops and exercise sessions provides 25% of the grade and to pass, the student has to attend at least 2/3 of the workshops and exercise sessions.

In order to pass the course, students need to pass both examination instances.

*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.

One of the following grades is given: Pass with Distinction (AB), Pass with Credit (BA), Pass (B) or Fail (U).

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

In order to achieve this grade the student must show basic insight into the role, the structure, and the limitations of international law as well as good knowledge and understanding of the context in which international law develops. The student must also have good knowledge and understanding of the areas of international law dealt with in the course and of important factors affecting them.

The student must prove the basic ability to critically evaluate the workings and effects of international law.

The student must demonstrate good skills in identifying relevant *lex lata* and applying it to factual scenarios.

The student must show the basic ability to critically evaluate legal arguments and activities and to appreciate the objectives pursued through them and the presuppositions that underpin them.

The student must demonstrate good skills in presenting arguments, analysis and evaluation in oral and written form.

#### BA – Advanced command

In order to achieve this grade the student must show insight into the role, the structure, and the limitations of international law as well as very good knowledge and understanding of the context in which international law develops. The student must also have very good knowledge and understanding of the areas of international law dealt with in the course and of important factors affecting them.

The student must prove the ability to critically evaluate the workings and effects of international law.

The student must demonstrate very good skills in identifying relevant *lex lata* and applying it to factual scenarios.

The student must show the ability to critically evaluate legal arguments and activities and to appreciate the objectives pursued through them and the presuppositions that underpin them.

The student must demonstrate very good skills in presenting arguments, analysis and evaluation in oral and written form.

#### AB – Mastery

In order to achieve this grade the student must show clear insight into the role, the structure, and the limitations of international law as well as excellent knowledge and understanding of the context in which international law develops. The student must also have excellent knowledge and understanding of the areas of international law dealt with in the course and of important factors affecting them.

The student must prove good ability to critically evaluate the workings and effects of international law.

The student must demonstrate excellent skills in identifying relevant *lex lata* and applying it to factual scenarios.

The student must show good ability to critically evaluate legal arguments and activities and to appreciate the objectives pursued through them and the presuppositions that underpin them.

The student must demonstrate excellent skills in presenting arguments, analysis and evaluation in oral and written form.

### Entry requirements

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

Students within the programme leading to a Swedish professional degree Master of Laws within a specialization in International Human Rights Law: 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 JAMR23, International Law

Applies from H08

0801 International Law, 15,0 hp

Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with credit, Pass with distinction