

JAMR25, Human Rights in the Field, 7.5 credits

Human Rights in the Field, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Educational Committee of the Law Faculty Board on 2009-03-03 and was last revised on 2014-08-26. The revised syllabus applies from 2014-09-01, autumn semester 2014.

General Information

The course Human Rights in the Field is an elective course within the Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law at the Faculty of Law. The course is also an elective course 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

The aim of the course is to provide the students with an insight into how the international human rights law regime is applied throughout the world as exemplified by the work of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and to critically be able to analyse its consequences.

Knowledge and understanding

To pass examination the student shall:

- show an in-depth understanding of the complexity of implementing human rights law
- understand and be able to work with strategies to implement human rights effectively
- show a basic understanding about difficulties in the implementation of international human rights instruments at domestic level
- show a fundamental understanding on the assessment of human rights problems and on how legal change can be promoted in order to rectify the problems.

Competence and skills

To pass examination the student shall:

- show ability to adopt strategies to answer challenges in the implementation of human rights law
- show ability to master different international human rights instruments,
- be able to analyze human rights standards in view of their effective implementation in a local context
- be able to assess legal and policy issues that could hamper the full implementation of human rights.

Judgement and approach

To pass examination the student shall:

- show the ability of using multi-disciplinary approaches to foster the interaction between civil society and government
- show the ability to discuss human rights issues in depth with colleagues from different cultural backgrounds and of the opposite gender
- show the ability of conducting independent research of specific human rights matters in an objective but critical manner.

Course content

The aim of the course is to provide the students with insight into how the practical application of international human rights standards can be promoted, as exemplified by the work of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute. The Raoul Wallenberg operates in different thematic projects throughout the world. The students will learn about the Institutes' different activities by strengthening human rights in different regions. The course will address the diversities and commonalities of human rights problems in the different regions. These commonalities and diversities will then be analysed and problematized.

Course design

The course is given by the Faculty of Law in co-operation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and uses programme staff from the Raoul Wallenberg Institute as well as staff employed by the Faculty of Law.

Teaching is structured in lectures and seminars. The seminars hone the skills learned in the lectures through interactive group work, where students are expected to critically examine international human rights standards and aspects related to their practical application. In the last part of the course, the students are required to propose a project where they are expected to apply the skills learned in the course.

Assessment

Examination is in the form of a take home exam at the end of the course, constituting 75% of the final grade. The oral presentation constitutes 25% of the final grade. In order to pass students must pass both exams. Students will obtain knowledge and competences by individual studies of the course literature and other course material and by taking active part in lectures and seminars.

Active class participation can have an impact on the result of the final mark in borderline cases.

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 good knowledge about the institutional framework where international and regional legal human rights norms develop and demonstrate sound ability to critically evaluate this framework. This includes sound knowledge of the interaction between international and regional frameworks.

The student must demonstrate good knowledge of international and regional norms and of the evolving jurisprudence in relation to those.

The students must demonstrate good legal argumentation skills in oral and written form as well as good ability to conduct and differentiate between a legal and a non-legal analysis.

The student must demonstrate sound ability to situate his or her arguments or positions within relevant fields of research.

BA – Advanced command

In order to achieve this grade the student must show very good knowledge about the institutional framework where international and regional legal human rights norms develop and demonstrate good ability to critically evaluate this framework. This includes good knowledge of the interaction between international and regional frameworks.

The student must demonstrate very good knowledge of international and regional norms and of the evolving jurisprudence in relation to those.

The students must demonstrate very good legal argumentation skills in oral and written form as well as very good ability to conduct and differentiate between a legal and a non-legal analysis.

The student must demonstrate good ability to situate his or her arguments or positions within relevant fields of research.

AB – Mastery

In order to achieve this grade the student must show excellent knowledge about the institutional framework where international and regional legal human rights norms develop and demonstrate very good ability to critically evaluate this framework. This includes very good knowledge of the interaction between international and regional frameworks.

The student must demonstrate excellent knowledge of international and regional norms and of the evolving jurisprudence in relation to those.

The students must demonstrate excellent legal argumentation skills in oral and written form as well as excellent ability to conduct and differentiate between a legal and a non-legal analysis.

The student must demonstrate very good ability to situate his or her arguments or positions within relevant fields of research.

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 JAMR25, Human Rights in the Field

Applies from V09

0901 Human Rights in the Field, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with credit, Pass with distinction