

Faculty of Law

JAMR36, Democratic Policing and Human Rights, 7.5 credits Polisarbete och mänskliga rättigheter, 7,5 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 2018-02-28 and was last revised on 2022-09-07. . The revised syllabus applied from 2022-09-07. , spring semester 2023.

General Information

The course is an elective course within the Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law at the Faculty of Law. The course is open to students on the programme leading to a Swedish Professional Law degree and 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

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 shall be able to demonstrate:

- knowledge of the human rights issues and sources international human rights law in issues of peace and security, including conflict, peace operations, responses to terrorism and investigating serious crime
- awareness of the interplay between democratic principles and human rights
- awareness of how human rights norms are respected, protected or violated by technological tools available to combat serious crime and terrorism
- awareness of how human rights norms are respected, protected or violated in investigating organized crime, human trafficking, weapons and narcotics

smuggling, and linkages to peace and security

- awareness of how human rights norms are respected, protected or violated via police interrogation, and linkages to peace and security
- awareness of how human rights norms are respected, protected or violated in meeting contemporary crime challenges, including through investigating and policing organized crime, human trafficking, weapons and narcotics smuggling, and in police interrogations or interviewing
- awareness of how human rights norms are respected, protected or violated in counter-terrorism and counter violent extremism operations, and linkages to peace and security
- awareness of how human rights norms are respected, protected or violated in conflict and peace operations, including at the intersection of police and military operations in conflict
- awareness of arguments on use of force to protect populations from human rights violations and mass atrocity crimes
- awareness of the implementation of the cross-cutting thematic areas in peace and security and their influence on the realization of human rights, including the Women, Peace and Security agenda, sexual and gender-based violence (including conflict-related sexual violence and sexual exploitation and abuse), and Protection of Civilians
- awareness of sexual and gender-based violence, and linkages to peace and security.

Competence and skills

To pass the examination the student shall be able to demonstrate

- the ability to identify legal problems dealing with human rights and issues of peace and security
- adequate research skills including the search, processing and analysis of sources of law and other sources of knowledge, including compiling of empirical facts
- the ability to make use of the legal-technical knowledge and perspectives acquired through the course
- the ability to discuss and analyze cases dealing with the topics of the course from various perspectives and present the results orally and in writing
- the ability to critically assess and comment constructively on arguments and theories in the field of human rights law related to peace and security
- the ability to engage in focused research on a specific topic and to present the result in scholarly writing.

Judgement and approach

To pass the examination the student shall be able to demonstrate

- the ability to articulate the theoretical justification and normative basis of international human rights law in the field of peace and security
- the ability to distinguish between legal arguments and arguments based on political or other considerations
- insight into the constraints on the practice of international human rights law such as the problem of objectivity, selectivity, human rights protection and political influence.

Course content

The course explores how concepts and themes in democratic policing and peace and security are linked to the realization of human rights. It aims to provide an awareness

for contemporary security challenges in policing, conflict and peace operations and their relationship to human rights.

The course covers the central areas of international human rights law in relation to peace and security structured under the following topics:

- The relationship between democracy, human rights, and the realization of peace and security.
- Technological tools available to investigate and police acts constituting serious crime and terrorism.
- Challenges to investigating organized crime, human trafficking, weapons and narcotics smuggling as a threat to domestic and international peace and security.
- Police interrogation and interviewing.
- Contemporary crime challenges in domestic and transnational policing.
- Counter-terrorism and counter violent extremism.
- Conflict and peace operations, including the intersection of police and military operations in conflict.
- The use of force to protect populations from human rights violations and mass atrocity crimes.
- Cross-cutting thematic areas in peace and security and their relationship to the realization of human rights, including the Women, Peace and Security agenda, and sexual and gender-based violence (including conflict-related sexual violence and sexual exploitation and abuse), and Protection of Civilians.

Course design

Instruction is given in the form of lectures and seminars; active participation is expected.

Assessment

Students are assessed on the basis of a research paper and participation in seminars.

The research paper topic will be devised by the student based upon a topic covered in the course and approved by the examiner. This final research paper is to be between 2 500 and 3 000 words, not including footnotes, and will account for 85% of the final grade. Attendance and active participation in seminars will account for 15% of the final grade.

Active participation during seminars and lectures can impact the final grade in borderline cases.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

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.

B – Pass

In order to pass the student must be able to demonstrate a solid ability to independently search for and to evaluate legal and other sources in the field of

international human rights law as it relates to peace and security issues, the ability to conduct satisfactory analysis of a legal question in relation to different sources, good knowledge of substantive international human rights law and ability to convey the knowledge both orally and in written form.

BA – Pass with credit

In order to achieve BA, the student must, in addition to what is required to achieve the grade of B, show a broad as well as deep knowledge of substantive international human rights law as it relates to peace and security issues, the ability to conduct deep and nuanced analyses of a legal question in relation to different sources, a good awareness of the development of international human rights law at different levels and the ability to articulate the normativity of international human rights law, a good understanding of the theoretical underpinning of international human rights law, the ability to respond to questions and interact with other students at presentations and seminars, the ability to carry out assignments in a timely manner and a good command of presentation and communication skills.

AB – Pass with distinction

To achieve the highest grade, the student must, in addition to the general knowledge and skill in the overall subject of international human rights law required for the grade of B and BA, be able to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of an aspect of international human rights law showing a deep awareness of the historical, systematic and theoretical underpinnings of the particular aspect of international human rights law being studied as it relates to peace and security issues. The student's independent choice of the specific aspect for in-depth study should be scientifically motivated and must demonstrate a very good ability in identifying an interesting legal topic relevant to the study of international human rights law.

Entry requirements

Passed examination in courses corresponding to the first term of the Master's programme equivalent to 30 credits.

For students on the Professional Law Degree Programme the entry requirements for semesters 7 and 8 are outlined in the Programme syllabus (utbildningsplanen).

Exchange students must have passed at least two and a half years of law studies at 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.

Applies from H18

1801 Democratic Policing and Human Rights, 7,5 hp Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with credit, Pass with distinction