

Faculty of Law

JAMR40, International Human Rights Law I, 15 credits Internationella mänskliga rättigheter I, 15 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 2015-12-03 and was last revised on 2023-09-06. The revised syllabus applies from 2023-09-06, autumn semester 2023.

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 within the Swedish Professional Law degree programme, specialicing in International Human Rights Law. The course is also open to international students participating in exchange programmes with the Faculty of Law.

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 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

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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.

The course is divided into three modules. Module 1 introduces ideas of human rights, including critical perspectives, and also explores how IHRL contributes in practical ways to changes in lived experience in a variety of contexts. Module 2 focuses on the system of IHRL at the global level and core principles reflected in international human rights treaties. Finally, Module 3 introduces students to a selection of interrelated substantive human rights, focusing on the content of the right as well as on the methodology of determining whether rights have been violated in particular contexts. Particular attention is paid to landmark decisions from international and regional courts and tribunals.

Course design

A variety of learning methods are used on the course, including group discussions, interactive lectures and seminars.

Assessment

Assessment is conducted throughout the course and consists of the following:

- Written reflections on workshop themes (15% of the final grade)
- Take home problem question (25% of the final grade)
- Take home exam at the end of the course (60% of the final grade)

In order to pass the course, the student also has to pass an in class quiz.

To pass the course, the student must pass all examination parts separately.

Submission of assignments by set deadlines is required. Late submission will result in a progressive reduction of points.

All work must be independently produced by the student.

In addition, participation in all workshops and seminars is compulsory. Students who do not attend a workshop or seminar must submit a make-up assignment in consultation with the teacher.

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 – 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 IHRL and the ability to independently analyse contemporary problems from these perspectives. Finally, students must be able to show advanced command 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.

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

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 V16

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