

JUXJ03, International Human Rights Law, 15 credits

Internationella mänskliga rättigheter, 15 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Faculty of Law Board of education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels on 2024-02-28 (U 2024/70). The syllabus comes into effect 2024-02-28 and is valid from the autumn semester 2024.

General information

The course International Human Rights Law is an optional course open to students participating in international exchange programmes with the Faculty of Law. The course duration is 10 weeks of full time studies.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study *Specialisation*

- G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

The course aims to enable the students to:

- Develop an understanding of the general concepts, sources and fundamental principles in International Human Rights Law.
- Comprehensive understanding of the key normative frameworks in International Human Rights Law, and the international and regional human rights institutions.
- Demonstrate knowledge and a broad awareness of the main debates in International Human Rights Law.
- An understanding of the diverse perspectives and approaches of the future of human rights.

Competence and skills

The course aims to enable the students to:

- Analyse and apply the legal-technical knowledge and approaches gained throughout the course.
- Identify and interpret legal issues within the domain of International Human Rights Law.
- Recognize the competencies and jurisdictional scopes of international and regional human rights institutions.
- A basic understanding of the case law from the different regional human rights courts.
- Develop analytical capacity to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of competing claims in the main debates within International Human Rights Law.
- Critically assess and constructively discuss the different perspectives of the future of human rights.

Judgement and approach

To pass the examination the student shall be able to demonstrate:

- The ability to articulate the theoretical justification and normative basis to solve legal issues within International Human Rights Law.
- The capacity of formulating persuasive arguments concerning the practice and theory of International Human Rights Law.
- The competence to interpret the key normative framework texts in International Human Rights Law.

Course content

The course offers a broad introduction to the general concepts, sources and fundamental principles in International Human Rights Law.

The course consists of 4 components: (1) The fundamental concepts of human rights, (2) the international and regional bodies of human rights, (3) the substantive rights and obligations of human rights, and (4) the future of human rights.

Course design

Each of the four components consists of lectures and a workshop. The lectures are the principal form of instruction. The workshops provide the ability to consider selected aspects discussed during the lectures in more detail.

Assessment

The examination consists of two components: 70% of the final grade is determined by a take-home exam at the end of the course. The remaining 30% of the final grade is determined by a mid-term essay. The essay is compulsory and requires the written engagement with a topic that has been seen in the class. In order to pass the course, students need to pass both examination instances.

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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with Credit, Pass with Distinction B – Pass. In order to Pass (B) the student must show basic insight into the structure, and the limitations of International Human Rights Law, as well as good knowledge and understanding of its historical context and development. The student must also have good knowledge and understanding of the topics dealt with in the course and the main debates in International Human Rights Law. The student must demonstrate a basic ability to critically assess the theory and practice of International Human Rights Law. The student must demonstrate the ability to identify and interpret legal issues within the domain of International Human Rights Law. 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 – Pass with credit: In order to Pass with credit (BA) the student must show a deep understanding of the general concepts, sources and fundamental principles of International Human Rights Law. A very good knowledge on the normative frameworks in International Human Rights Law and the ability to interpret legal issues are expected. The student should have a good understanding of the workings of international and regional human rights institutions, along with a basic comprehension of the case law of the regional courts in the field. A strong comprehension of the substantive rights and obligations in human rights, as well as the ability to conduct deep analyses of legal questions regarding the main debates in International Human Rights Law, is required. The student must demonstrate a good awareness of the development of International Human Rights Law and an understanding on the different approaches on the future of human rights. Additionally, proficiency in presenting in oral and written form arguments, analysis and evaluation articulating theoretical and normative justification, are required.

AB – Pass with distinction: To pass with distinction (AB) the student must demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the general concepts, sources and fundamental principles of International Human Rights Law. Extensive knowledge and understanding of the normative frameworks, coupled with the ability to analyse and apply legal-technical knowledge, are expected. The student should have a good understanding of the competencies and jurisdictional scopes of international and regional human rights institutions, along with a basic comprehension of the case law of the regional courts in the field. The student is required to demonstrate the ability to identify and interpret legal issues within the domain of human rights. The student must demonstrate a good awareness of the development of International Human Rights Law and the ability to constructively discuss on the different approaches on the future of human rights. The capacity to critically assess and constructively discuss the strengths and weaknesses of competing claims within International Human Rights Law is also expected. Proficiency in presenting in oral and written form persuasive arguments, analysis and evaluation articulating theoretical and normative justification, are required. Additionally, the student should also demonstrate the ability to complete assignments in a timely manner.

Entry requirements

To register on the course a minimum of one year of law studies is needed.