



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

**MRS22, Human Rights Studies: Level 2, 30 credits**  
*Mänskliga rättigheter: Föreläsning, 30 högskolepoäng*  
First Cycle / Grundnivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2020-05-29 and was last revised on 2023-09-12. The revised syllabus applies from 2023-09-13, spring semester 2024.

### General Information

The course is a compulsory component of the Bachelor of Arts programme in Human Rights Studies.

The course is offered as a freestanding course and can normally be included in a first or second cycle degree.

*Language of instruction:* Swedish

*Main field of studies*

Human Rights Studies

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

#### Knowledge and understanding

- account for how structures, ideas, power relations and treatment of people lead to inequality and discrimination of groups and individuals in society, how these relations emerge and change and how inequality and discrimination are regulated in changing national and international legislation
- provide a general description of the agreements and doctrines regulating the international use of violence and judicial responsibility and account for how these influence political language and different decisions on the criminalisation and prosecution of human rights crimes.
- discuss the potential and limitations of the law in the formulation and realisation of human rights

- systematically account for theories of a complex social context and how they relate to activism and civil society
- account for rights-related issues in a complex social context

### **Competence and skills**

- compare, analyse and evaluate real rights situations based on different understandings of equality, equal treatment and non-discrimination
- in writing, process complex issues based on different scholarly texts
- identify rights-related issues in a complex social context and analyse these from social sciences, historical and philosophical perspectives

### **Judgement and approach**

- question and deconstruct different statements that make claims that justify violence, rationalise political decisions or project moral or legal blame
- approach and reflect on the importance of social context in the realisation of human rights

### **Course content**

The course highlights human rights based on two themes that are intimately linked: discrimination and violence. Focusing on theoretical perspectives on discrimination, students discuss the principle of equal treatment, different grounds for discrimination and the relationship between them as well as affirmative action. International agreements and basic ideas on collective security, legitimate decision-making processes and forums for judicial responsibility are introduced and problematised as well as different notions of security and state sanctioned violence. The link between genocide and crimes against humanity is specifically explained and contextualised through a case study. In a thematic case study, human rights are then studied in a particular context. For example, the context may be a country, a region, a conflict or an international actor. The rights issues that the context brings into focus are studied and analysed based on self-determination, colonialism, intervention, gender issues, discrimination, sanctions, civil society or political and social development.

The course consists of the following modules:

1. Discrimination and Equal Treatment, 10 credits
2. Violence and Responsibility, 10 credits
3. Human Rights in Context, 10 credits

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. Participation in the seminars is compulsory.

Module 1 consists of four to five compulsory seminars and 3-4 written assignments.

Module 3 consists of six compulsory seminars.

Absence from a compulsory component is to be compensated for with an assignment in accordance with the instructions of the lecturer.

### **Assessment**

The assessment of Module 1 is based on one oral assignment. For the grade of Pass, the student must be awarded at least the grade of Pass on all components. For the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must also be awarded the grade of Pass with Distinction on the final oral assignment.

The assessment of Module 2 is based on four minor written assignments and one major final written assignment. For the grade of Pass, the student must be awarded at least the grade of Pass on all components. For the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must also be awarded the grade of Pass with Distinction on the final written assignment.

The assessment of Module 3 is based on four minor written assignments and one major final written assignment. For the grade of Pass, the student must be awarded at least the grade of Pass on all components. For the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must also be awarded the grade of Pass with Distinction on the final written assignment.

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 distinction.

For the grade of Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on all modules. For the grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade for at least 20 of the course credits.

## Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have successfully completed 20 credits from Human Rights Studies: Level 1 (30 credits)

## Further information

1. The course is offered at the Division of Human Rights Studies, Department of History, Lund University.
2. The course replaces MRSG21.
3. The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree. For further details, see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.
4. Module titles in Swedish:
  1. Diskriminering och likabehandling
  2. Våld och ansvarsutkrävande
  3. Mänskliga rättigheter i kontext

## Subcourses in MRSG22, Human Rights Studies: Level 2

Applies from V24

- 2401 Discrimination and Equal Treatment, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2402 Violence and Responsibility, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2403 Human Rights in Context, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

Applies from V21

- 2101 Discrimination and Equal Treatment, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2102 Violence and Responsibility, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2103 Human Rights in Context, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction