

MRSG23, Human Rights Studies: Level 2, 30 credits

Mänskliga rättigheter: Föreläsning, 30 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2026-08-26 (U 2026/491). The syllabus comes into effect 2026-08-26 and is valid from the spring semester 2027.

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
study*

Specialisation

Human Rights
Studies

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
- 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 examines human rights through four themes. Within each theme, human rights are studied in a specific context. The context may, for example, be a rights issue, a country, a region, a conflict, or an international actor. The themes raised by the context are addressed and analysed in relation to self-determination, accountability, colonialism, intervention, gender issues, discrimination, sanctions, civil society, or political and social development.

The themes that the different modules will cover will be communicated on the department's website well in advance of the start of the course.

The course consists of the following modules:

- Human Rights in Context I, 7.5 credits
- Human Rights in Context II, 7.5 credits
- Human Rights in Context III, 7.5 credits
- Human Rights in Context IV, 7.5 credits

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. Participation in the seminars is compulsory. The course as a whole has about 6 to 9 compulsory seminars.

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

Assessment

Module 1 is assessed through one to three short written assignments and one hall exam. To receive the grade Pass, students must receive at least the grade Pass on all components. To receive the grade Pass with Distinction, students must also receive the grade Pass with Distinction on the final hall exam.

Module 2 is assessed through one to three short written assignments and one longer final written assignment. To receive the grade Pass, students must receive at least the grade Pass on all components. To receive the grade Pass with Distinction, students must also receive the grade Pass with Distinction on the final written assignment.

Module 3 is assessed through one to three short written assignments and one longer final written assignment. To receive the grade Pass, students must receive at least the grade Pass on all components. To receive the grade Pass with Distinction, students must also receive the grade Pass with Distinction on the final written assignment.

Module 4 is assessed through one to three short written assignments and one longer final written assignment. To receive the grade Pass, students must receive at least the grade Pass on all components. To receive the grade Pass with Distinction, students must also receive the grade 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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: 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 22,5 of the course credits.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements and 20 credits from Human Rights: Introductory course (30 credits) or equivalent.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Division of Human Rights Studies, Department of History, Lund University.
- The course replaces MRSG21.
- 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.