

Global Learning Semesters

Course Syllabus

Course: LAW-302 Ethnicity and the Law

Department: Law

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



Course Summary		
Course Code	Course Title	Recommended Credit Hours
LAW-302	Ethnicity and the Law	3
Semester Offered	Contact Hours	Prerequisites
Spring	42	Sophomore standing
Department	Level of Course	Language of Instruction
Law	Upper Division	English

Course Description

1. Ethnicity, Culture and Law (Introduction). Migrants and old minorities in the UK, Cyprus and Europe; cultural identity; pluralism and its limits; universalism and cultural relativism in the law; public private domains; tolerance and human rights.
2. Developments in English law; judicial stances on cultural diversity; legislation, European and international instruments on cultural rights and human rights; policy options.
3. Case studies: Jews, Gypsies and Muslims in the UK.
4. Cyprus Constitution and the rights of communities and religious groups; Inter-communal strife and dealing with diversity; lessons from British experience; European and international instruments
5. Case studies: the two Communities and religious groups; migrants and minorities in Cyprus

Instructor

Dr Nicos Trimikliniotis

Course Aims and Objectives

The course aims to examine an analysis of the interaction between cultural traditions of ethnic groups in a state to the law drawing on the way English law approaches British ethnic minorities and comparing that to the way the Cyprus Constitution treats communities and religious groups.

The course explores the guiding principles and policies which should govern the legal responses to ethnic diversity and tests them by references to case studies, with reference to the increasing body human rights law concerning the cultural rights of ethnic minorities. The development of English Law in response to the cultural, religious and ethnic concerns of minorities, the global resurgence of 'ethnic' concerns and the rise of racism, the process of European integration and increasing influence of human and minority rights are developments that push in different directions and make policy making difficult. Hence the need to explore different legal responses.

Teaching Methods

The course is delivered through a mixture of lectures, discussions, presentations, and problem-solving activities.

Course Teaching Hours

42 hours (30 hours of lectures, 12 hours of seminars/tutorials and student-led presentation/seminars). The course is delivered during the Spring semester in 14 weeks (3 hours/week).

Evaluation and Grading

Assigned work:	25%
Interim tests:	25%
Final Exam:	50%

Readings and Resources

Required Textbook

Poulter, S, Ethnicity, Law and Human Rights, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1998

Recommended Reading

Parehk, P, The future of Multi-Ethnic Britain, The Runnymede Trust, Profile Books, London, 2001