Global Learning Semesters

Course Syllabus

Course: LAW-356 Human Rights Law II

Department: Law

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



Course Summary		
Course Code	Course Title	Recommended Credit Hours
LAW-356	Human Rights Law II	3
Semester Offered	Contact Hours	Prerequisites
Spring	42	LAW-355
Department	Level of Course	Language of Instruction
Law	Upper Division	English

Course Description

International Institutions of the Human Rights Movement: Introductory Notions, United Nations Institutions: Developing, Implementing, and Enforcing Human Rights, The Developing International Civil Society: Human Rights NGOs and Other Non-State Entities, The ICCPR Committee and the Role of Treaty Organs, Regional Organizations: The European, Inter-American, and African Human Rights Regimes. States as Protectors and Enforcers of Human Rights: Internal Protection of Human Rights by States, The Spread of State Constitutions in the Liberal Model, Human Rights Treaties within States' Legal Orders, Enforcement of Customary Norms: The Role of Courts, States as Enforcers of the Human Rights Movement Against States.. Current Topics: War Crimes and Other Massive Violations of Human Rights: International Humanitarian Law, Prosecutions and Truth Commissions, Globalization: Implications for Human Rights Norms, Self-Determination, Democracy.

Instructor

Dr Tim Potier

Course Aims and Objectives

The semester will begin by examining the role of international/regional institutions in 'institutionalising' human rights. However, sight should not be lost of the importance of individual state actors. Multi-state institutions can only provide a safeguard/monitor, but the state itself has the facility to ensure that the human rights axiom is smoothed. States have the opportunity to be protectors and enforcers of human rights, but often fail in this regard. The course will conclude with examination of some topical issues in modern human rights jurisprudence.

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

H. Steiner & P. Alston, International Human Rights in Context, 2nd ed., Oxford University Press, 2000

Recommended Reading

- P. Alston, Human Rights Law, Dartmouth, 1996
- J. & M. Spencer, Human Rights Law, Sweet & Maxwell, 2002