

MASTER'S DEGREE IN EUROPEAN UNION STUDIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND COMMUNICATION

TEACHING SYLLABUS



MODULE NAME: HUMAN RIGHTS

MATERIAL:

1. INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
2. EUROPEAN FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND CITIZENSHIP OF THE UNION

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 7 ECTS

1. INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS (4 ECTS)
2. EUROPEAN FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND CITIZENSHIP OF THE UNION (3 ECTS)

TEACHING MODALITY AND LANGUAGE: Face to Face in English

DESCRIPTION:

This module provides a comprehensive exploration of human rights, focusing on both their theoretical foundations and practical applications. Students will gain an in-depth understanding of the importance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, examining the various mechanisms of protection at the national and international levels. The module covers the global impact of human rights, the challenges posed by globalization, and the role of international bodies in promoting and protecting these rights. Key topics include the analysis of environmental protection, energy production, and sustainability in the context of human rights, with particular attention to European Union policies and regulations. Students will also explore the phenomena of international migration driven by violence or human rights violations, as well as the rights and citizenship of the European Union. The module further compares the European human rights system with those of other regions, encouraging a critical assessment of the global landscape of human rights protection. Through a combination of theory, case studies, and contemporary global issues, students will be prepared to critically engage with human rights challenges and contribute to policies promoting justice and equality.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Understand the importance of human rights and fundamental rights, their respect, and protection techniques at both national and international levels.
- Interpret the impact of globalization on human rights.
- Analyze and evaluate aspects of international relevance in environmental protection, energy production, and sustainability, with a special emphasis on the policies and regulations of the European Union.

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- Identify and understand international migration phenomena resulting from violence or widespread disrespect for human rights in various countries and regions of the world.
- Understand the fundamental rights and citizenship of the European Union.
- Understand the protection of human rights in Europe.
- Compare the European human rights system with that of other regions of the world.

CONTENT OF THE MODULE

1. INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Human Rights conceptual approximation and historical review.
2. Equality and Non-discrimination.
3. Children's Rights.
4. Terrorism and Human Rights.
5. The Individual in International Law: Rights and Duties. International Criminal Law.
6. The International Court of Justice.
7. Transitional justice and Human Rights.
8. Conflicts and Human Rights.
9. Human Rights and Migration.
10. Business and Human Rights.
11. Environment, sustainable development and Human Rights.

2. EUROPEAN FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND CITIZENSHIP OF THE UNION

1. European Convention on Human Rights.
2. Human Rights guarantee and protection: The European Court of Human Rights.
3. EU and Corporate Due Diligence.
4. Regional human rights systems in comparative perspective with the European system: inter-American, African and the Arab Charter of Human Rights.
5. Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union I: Dignity, Freedom and Equality.
6. Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union II: Solidarity, Citizens' rights, and Justice.
7. The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights: The composition of the agency, Geographical scope, Independent external evaluation of the EU fundamental rights agency.
8. Fundamental Rights and Case Law

TEACHING APPROACH

- *Lecture/seminar*

The theoretical part of the course consists of both seminars and lectures. Discussions between course attendants and lecturers are essential for this part, therefore participation is encouraged either during or after the lecture to share perspectives and address questions or comments.

- *Practical Case analysis and group discussion*

The second part of the course is comprised of case studies, and experiential. Case analysis is carried out in a group of 3 students.

- *Tutorial*

Two kinds of tutorials available: (1) Peer-to-peer mentoring, and (2) tutorial with a tutor, where students will reflect on learnings from the course, share questions and understanding, and explore further interests.

LEARNING METHODOLOGY

IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES	IN- PERSON	HOURS	NON-CLASS ACTIVITIES	IN- PERSON	HOURS
	%			%	
Theoretical/Practical Classes	100	56	Personal Study	0	22
Academic Tutorials	100	7	Preparation of papers, exercise, problems and/or case studies	0	57
In-class assessment	100	7	Recommended readings and bibliographic Research	0	26
TOTAL	100	70	TOTAL	0	105

COURSE ASSESSMENTS

Practices and /or seminars will be evaluated through different assessment methods (exercise, completion and presentation of assignments, practical classes, etc.) that reflect the practical content covered.

In general, the grading system established in R.D. 1125/2003 of September 5th will be followed, which is as follows:

- 0 – 4,9: Fail (SS)
- 5,0 – 6,9: Pass (AP)

- 7,0 – 8,9: Good (Notable)
- 9,0 – 10: Outstanding (SB)

The mention of "Honors" may be granted to students who have obtained a grade equal or higher than 9.0. The number of honors awarded cannot exceed 5% of the students enrolled in a subject in the corresponding academic year, unless the number of enrolled students is less than 20, in which case only one honor may be granted.

Study Recommendations

Students are recommended to dedicate a total of 105 hours of independent work to the course, excluding the time spent in face-to-face classes. Considering a semester of approximately 15 weeks, this corresponds to an average of 6 hours per week for studying, reading, and preparing individual and group assignments.

The e-learning system will serve as the main platform for continuous contact and course management, and it will include the following sections:

- Resources: This section will provide students with materials directly related to the course content in PDF format, including theoretical and practical documents, scientific articles, images, templates, and guides to facilitate and deepen learning.
- Assignments: Here, students will have access to any mandatory or optional exercises proposed during the course.
- Announcements: This section will be used for posting grades, exam calls, and important communications for students.

Teaching Material

For the proper follow-up and successful completion of the course, students must have the following materials and infrastructure:

Virtual Campus

The Virtual Campus will be the main reference platform for the development of the course. Through this tool, students will have access to all the necessary documentation, organized into the following sections:

Modules:

This tab will include:

- The academic guide of the course.
- Thematic folders with supporting material for studying each topic.
- A folder dedicated to seminars, which will include essential resources for active participation in debates and group activities.

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Assignments:

This section will contain:

- Detailed instructions for completing each assignment.
- Supplementary materials and guidelines to facilitate the development of practical work.

Announcements:

Through this tab, relevant updates, important dates, and students' grades will be communicated.

Technological Resources

- Computer with internet connection:
This will be essential for accessing the Virtual Campus, conducting bibliographic searches, developing individual or group work, participating in practical seminars, and submitting evaluable activities.
- Resources for videoconferencing:
If participation in virtual sessions is required, students must have the necessary technical means (camera, microphone, and stable internet connection).
- University facilities:
The university provides computer rooms (API rooms) as an alternative resource for those who do not have adequate personal means.

Tutorials

Academic tutoring sessions will serve as a complement to clarify doubts that arise throughout the semester. The main objective of these sessions is to reinforce the theoretical content and practical aspects of the course. Due to their personalized nature, they will address the specific needs of each student with the aim of strengthening those areas of their learning (knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes) that may present greater difficulty. The teaching methodologies used in these sessions will be the same as those regularly employed in class.

Similarly, academic tutoring will include the completion, monitoring, and evaluation of practical assignments, as well as support for the student's autonomous learning.

SCHEDULE:

14 lecture sessions (from 16h00 to 20h00) would be delivered in January - February