



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code LAW-302	Course Title Ethnicity and the Law	ECTS Credits 6
Department Law	Semester Fall / Spring	Prerequisites Two from LAW-202, LAW-212, LAW-242 and LAW-252/6
Type of Course Law Elective	Field Law	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 3 rd / 4 th	Lecturer(s) Dr Costas Paraskeva
Mode of Delivery Face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

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

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Discuss the protection of minorities within a selected range of countries, as case study examples.
2. Evaluate the extent to which minorities may require special protection, to the point of positive discrimination, under the municipal law of a State.
3. Appraise the extent to which cultural relativism can be justified in multicultural states within what is becoming, increasingly, a global village.
4. Demonstrate the function played by the Council of Europe and its instruments on minority rights within the national legal systems of member countries.
5. Discuss the international legal standards on minority rights, as enshrined / reflected in the work of the United Nations.
6. Assess the needs of different types of minority.
7. Evaluate the majority/minority/community conundrum in Cyprus.
8. Apply sociological factors into a legal context.

Course Content:

During the course, the student will cover the following:

1. Ethnicity, culture and law: an introduction
2. Migrants and old minorities in the UK, Cyprus and Europe

3. Cultural identity
4. Universalism and cultural relativism in the law
5. Tolerance and human rights
6. Developments in English law (including, judicial stances on cultural diversity)
7. European and international instruments on minority rights
8. Case studies: Jews, Gypsies and Muslims in the UK
9. Cyprus Constitution and the rights of communities and religious groups
10. Inter-communal strife and dealing with diversity
11. Migrants and minorities in Cyprus

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Interactive lectures, tutorials, written examinations and assignments

Assessment Methods:

One written assignment, mid-term exam, final exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Sebastian Poulter	Ethnicity, Law and Human Rights: The English Experience	Oxford	1999

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Tove H. Malloy	National Minority Rights in Europe	Oxford	2005
Bikhu Parekh	The Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain	Profile Books	2000
George Tornaritis	Cyprus and its Constitutional and other Legal Problems	Unknown	1980
Kypros Chrysostomides	The Republic of Cyprus – a Study in International Law	Martinus Nijhoff	2001