



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code LAW-355	Course Title International Human Rights Law I	ECTS Credits 6
Department Law	Semester Fall	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 Antonios St. Stylianou
Mode of Delivery Face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

This initial semester will seek to place the development of human rights law, internationally, within its philosophical context. The early attempts by the League of Nations to codify a limited, albeit, set of standards pertaining to human rights with the unleashing of an entire jurisprudence under the United Nations system will be examined. However, human rights are not exclusive to the UN, nor does it rely, necessarily on a 'Eurocentric' state/condition. Therefore, the impact of human rights regionally, will also be emphasized. This course has been specifically designed to address the concept of Human Rights from a critical perspective, touching upon interesting questions and contemporary issues relating to the application (or non-application) of Human Rights in particular situations.

Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Discuss the significance of human rights.
2. Illustrate an understanding of contemporary human rights issues.
3. Explain the legal background to the modern human rights movement.
4. Demonstrate an appreciation of the rights protected in the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights.
5. Demonstrate an appreciation of the rights protected in the International Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
6. Evaluate the difference between rights and duties.
7. Assess the United Nations Human Rights System.
8. Demonstrate critical awareness in the analysis of the legal order.

Course Content:

1. Mapping Human Rights – Introduction to Human Rights Issues and Discourse.
2. Up to Nuremberg: Background to the Human Rights Movement.
3. First-generation rights: Civil and Political Rights
4. Second and third generation human rights: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
5. National Security, Terrorism and Limitations on Human Rights: Contemporary Issues
6. Rights or Duties as Organizing Concepts.
7. The need for international institutions and their challenge to notions of sovereignty.
8. The United Nations Human Rights System.
9. Reform and Evaluation.

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Interactive lectures, seminars, written examinations and assignments

Assessment Methods:

Assignment, mid-term exam, final exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Henry J. Steiner, Philip Alston and Ryan Goodman	International Human Rights In Context: Law, Politics and Morals	Oxford University Press	2008
	Lecture notes		

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Jack Donnelly	Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice	Cornell University Press	2002
Richard Pierre Claude and Burns H. Weston	Human Rights in the World Community	University of Pennsylvania Press	2006
Richard Ashby Wilson	Human Rights in the 'War on Terror'	Cambridge University Press	2005