



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code LAW-356	Course Title International Human Rights Law II	ECTS Credits 6
Department Law	Semester Spring	Prerequisites LAW-355
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:

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. This advanced course on Human Rights builds upon the issues covered under International Human Rights Law I (LAW-355) and elaborates on areas such as Human Rights Treaty Bodies and their work, regional arrangements relating to human rights, terrorism and human rights, the international protection of human rights, and non-state actors and human rights.

Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Explain the notions of national security, terrorism and limitations on human rights.
2. Evaluate the design and functions of international institutions and issues of sovereignty.
3. Evaluate the working procedures of the Treaty Bodies.
4. Discuss the differences between the International Human Rights regime and the regional Human Rights regime.
5. Analyse the significance of regional human rights mechanisms.
6. Demonstrate an appreciation of the American and the African Human Rights systems.
7. Assess the notion of non-state actors.
8. Demonstrate critical awareness in the analysis of the legal order.

Course Content:

1. National Security, terrorism and limitations on human rights.
2. Design and Functions of International Institutions and Issues of Sovereignty.
3. Treaty Bodies: The ICCPR Human Rights Committee.
4. Regional Arrangements I – Comparison of Universal and Regional Systems; A brief note on the European Convention System; The continuing need for reform.
5. Regional Arrangements II – The Inter-American System; The African System.
6. International Human Rights Law within States’ Legal and Political Orders and Transnational influence and enforcement of human rights.
7. Non-State actors and human rights – Transnational corporations and human rights; armed opposition groups; international non-governmental organizations.

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Interactive lectures, seminars, tutorials, 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
Stephen Tierney and Colin Warbrick	Towards an International Legal Community?: The Sovereignty of States and the Sovereignty of International Law	British Institute of International and Comparative Law	2006