



COURSE UNIT DESCRIPTION

Course Unit Title	Code
HUMAN RIGHTS IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s)
Coordinator: assoc. prof. dr. Vygantė Milašiūtė Other(s): dr. Ewa Olga Michalkiewicz-Kadziela	Public Law Department, Faculty of Law, Vilnius university Saulėtekio av. 9, Building 1, LT-10222, Vilnius, Room 405, tel. (85)2366175, e-mail: vtkatedra@tf.vu.lt

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
Second	Compulsory (track - International Law and Human Rights)

Mode of delivery	Course unit delivery period	Language (s) of instruction
Face-to-face	1 (autumn) semester	English

Requirements for students	
Pre-requisites: Knowledge of public international law	Co-requisites (if any): none

Number of credits allocated	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	133	32	101

Purpose of the course unit: programme competences to be developed		
The course aims at providing advanced theoretical and practical knowledge of international human rights law; forming abilities to analyse the quality of resolving human rights issues within the national legal system in respect of compliance to global standards of human rights; developing analytical and critical thinking through the analysis of case-law, and developing interpersonal and communication skills through discussion. Specifically, the ability to analyse interaction and relationship between international, regional international, supranational, and domestic human rights law is trained.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
- Students will be able to define the legal sources of international and European human rights law, the contents, meaning and purpose of their respective rules.	An interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of problematic practical issues, case study, group discussions), individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Solution of problems and their presentation; participation in discussion; examination (theoretical questions and solving of practical situation).
- Students will be able to independently analyse, interpret and appropriately apply legal provisions of international human rights law as well as to integrate knowledge of interrelated fields while providing legal recommendations in respect to ethical values, the principle of justice and moral sensibility.	An interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of problematic practical issues, case study, group discussions), individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Solution of problems and their presentation; participation in discussion; examination (theoretical questions and solving of practical situation).
- Students will be able to analyse the quality of resolving human rights issues within national legal systems in respect of compliance to the standards of international human rights law.	An interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of problematic practical issues, case study, group discussions), individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Solution of problems and their presentation; participation in discussion; examination (theoretical questions and solving of practical situation).

- Students will be able to systemically analyse and make ethic evaluation of case law in support of their legal decisions.	An interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of problematic practical issues, case study, group discussions), individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Solution of problems and their presentation; participation in discussion; examination (theoretical questions and solving of practical situation).
Students will be able to innovatively and creatively apply knowledge by employing the latest trends of human rights legal doctrine and case law while independently solving complex legal problems taking into consideration possible social, ethical and legal consequences.	An interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of problematic practical issues, case study, group discussions), individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Solution of problems and their presentation; participation in discussion; examination (theoretical questions and solving of practical situation).
Students will be able to convey ideas and thoughts in an argumentative, critical and logical manner in both verbal and written form.	An interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of problematic practical issues, case study, group discussions), individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Solution of problems and their presentation; participation in discussion; examination (theoretical questions and solving of practical situation).
- Students will be able to enhance acquired knowledge and abilities independently, <i>inter alia</i> , to use legal information data bases and other sources, to select relevant theoretical and practical material, and to substantiate their own conclusions by the achievements of jurisprudence.	An interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of problematic practical issues, case study, group discussions), individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Solution of problems and their presentation; participation in discussion; examination (theoretical questions and solving of practical situation).

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours							Self-study: hours and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Practical sessions	Laboratory activities	Internship/work	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Overview of theoretical ideas on the concept of human rights as the good protected by means of international law.	2						2	10	Analysis of legal materials.
2. Overview of the international system for the protection of human rights. Overview of the European system for the protection of human rights.	2		2				4	10	Analysis of legal materials; solution of problems.
3. Right to life.	2						2	10	Analysis of legal materials.
4. Prohibition of torture.	2		2				4	10	Analysis of legal materials; solution of problems.
5. Fair trial.	2						2	10	Analysis of legal materials.
6. Privacy v. expression. Reconciling conflicting rights.	2		2				4	10	Analysis of legal materials; solution of problems.

7. Freedom of assembly and association.	2		2				4	10	Analysis of legal materials; solution of problems.
8. Protection of property.	2						2	10	Analysis of legal materials.
9. Prohibition of discrimination.	2		2				4	10	Analysis of legal materials; solution of problems.
10. The interaction and the relationship between the international human rights law, the ECHR, the EU law, and the domestic law of various states.	2	2					4	11	Analysis of legal materials; solution of problems.
Total	20	2	10				32	101	

Assessment strategy	Weight, percentage	Assessment period	Assessment criteria
Participation in class activities	20	During semester	Students will be expected to demonstrate both the knowledge gained during the course as well as their abilities to apply it in a given situation. Assessment of participation in class activities consists of: - presentation of solution of problems (individually or in groups) according to separate topics of the course on protection of human rights (capability to critically assess the issues, to identify the most significant features, tendencies and developments related to the particular topic, to provide orally clear arguments in support of their points made in a logical, coherent and structured manner); - participation in discussions (capability to provide correct answers to questions, formulate problems and suggest (search for) solutions, offer thoughtful critical remarks, contribute to other participants' ideas, etc.). Maximum grade is 2 points.
Examination	80	At the end of the course	Answering 3 theoretical questions (worth 1 point each) and solving 1 practical situation (5 sub-questions, worth 1 point each) in written. Students are thereby required to demonstrate their advanced knowledge gained during the semester, their conceptual understanding and assessment of the human right issues. When answering, students should provide all the necessary information in an argumentative, coherent, structured and clear manner, to base their arguments on relevant legal provisions and case-law.

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of periodical or volume of publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
I. BANTEKAS, L. OETTE (relevant chapters)	2020	International Human Rights Law and Practice	3 rd ed.	Cambridge University Press
O. DE SCHUTTER (relevant chapters)	2010	International human rights law: cases, materials, commentary	3 rd ed.	Cambridge University Press
S. WHEATLEY (relevant chapters)	2019	The idea of international human rights law		Oxford University Press
K. REID (relevant chapters)	2019	A practitioner's guide to the European Convention on Human Rights	6 th ed.	Thomson Reuters
P. VAN DIJK (ed.) (relevant chapters)	2018	Theory and practice of the European Convention on Human Rights	5 th ed.	Intersentia
A. VAN AAKEN, I. MOTO (eds.) (relevant chapters)	2018	The European convention on human rights and general international law (European Society of International Law series)		Oxford University Press

S. FREDMAN (relevant chapters)	2018	Comparative human rights law		Oxford University Press
Recommended reading				
F. VANNESTE	2010	General international law before human rights courts: assessing the specialty claims of international human rights law		Intersentia
M. T. KAMMINGA, M. SCHEININ (eds.)	2009	The impact of human rights law on general international law		Oxford University Press
A. FØLLESDAL	2014	The legitimacy of international human rights regimes: legal, political and philosophical perspectives		Cambridge University Press
O. BEN-NAFTALI	2011	International humanitarian law and international human rights law : pas de deux		Oxford University Press

* Judgments and decisions of the ECtHR and UN HRC are indicated during lectures.