

Human Rights in Developing Countries (K000995)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020

A (semester 2) English lecture 45.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020

Haeck, Yves RE22 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Social Sciences (main subject Political Science)	5	A
Master of Science in Conflict and Development Studies	5	A
Master of Arts in Global Studies	5	A
Master of Science in Sociology	5	A
Master of Science in Conflict and Development	5	A
Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Human rights, History and development of human rights, universal human rights system (United Nations) and regional human rights systems (Organisation of American States, African Union, Association of South East Asian States, (Council of Europe)), constitutional law.

Position of the course

Human rights discourse is omnipresent in contemporary society. Claims are often captured in terms of human rights claims, so that dealing with this subject is essential in this Master programme. This course provides: a solid understanding of the history of human rights, the kinds of human rights, the sources of human rights, the general principles, the supervision of and the dynamics of human rights protection in international law at the universal and the regional levels, and, in a complementary way, also in domestic law of some developing countries; a solid understanding of and a critical view on a number of central human rights topics.

Relation with the course competences

This course is linked to the following course competences: M.1.1, M.1.2, M.1.3, M.1.4., M.3.2, M.3.3, M.3.4, M.5.1.

Contents

The course comprises the supervisory mechanisms and a number of capita selecta in human rights law. The capita selecta are discussed in their theoretical dimension, from the perspective of international law at the United Nations level, and/or the level of one or more regional organisations, i.e. the OAS and/or the AU and/or ASEAN), with possible excursions to the COE). In addition, references may be made to the domestic law of some developing countries. Topics may vary and include, among others: the right to life and the protection of physical integrity, forced disappearances, a human rights approach to migration and refugees, prevention of violations of human rights through provisional measures, rights of minorities and indigenous peoples.

Initial competences

The course does not require specific prior knowledge, although the student is familiar with the great periods of modern history and has a solid active knowledge of English.

Final competences

- To be familiar with the mechanisms and manners of reasoning in international human rights law.
- To have solid knowledge of a number of crucial human rights issues.
- To be familiar with the debates and controversies in this field.
- To be able to participate in these debates in a critical and committed manner.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures (with possibility to questions by students and student participation), readings, power point presentations, video material.

Learning materials and price

- Selected chapters of articles from legal literature: books, journals (see references), case law of national and international supervisory organs.
- Power point presentations provided before or after the class
- Compilation of documents, available through Minerva.

References

Course content-related study coaching

- An overview of the specific course topics, including the dates of the lectures and the texts to be read before each lecture, will be made available through Minerva at the beginning of the semester.
- For questions related to the course or practical problems the students can always contact the lecturer: Prof. Yves Haeck, without appointment: before and after class and during the break; by appointment via e-mail (Yves.Haeck@UGent.be).
Visiting address: Paddenhoek 5, 2nd floor, second door on the left.
- Students with an interest in human rights are advised to take a summer course or to do an internship/traineeship in the future. To this end, the lecturer, together with a colleague, launched an English-language blog named 'International Human Rights Courses, Traineeships & Jobs' (<http://internationalhumanrightscourses.blogspot.be>) This blog provides an overview of the top LLM, MA and MSc human rights programs, short courses and summer schools human rights, as well as internships and job opportunities in Europe.
- Students who wish to follow a summer course abroad in the future, have questions about 'legal writing', wish to do their master thesis on a human rights issue, etc., may also contact the lecturer.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Written examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Calculation of the examination mark

Written exam (100%).

Facilities for Working Students

- Exam on a different date than the official date
- Feedback on appointment