



Course title: Human Rights

ECTS credit allocation (and other scores): 5

Semester: spring

Level of study: ISCED-7- long-cycle programmes (EQF-7)

Branch of science: Social sciences

Language: English

Number of hours per semester: 15

Course coordinator/ Department and e-mail: Dr Rafał Mizerski/Department of Public International Law and European Union Law/rafal.mizerski@uwm.edu.pl

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Type of classes: classes

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Substantive content

CLASSES: 1. Concept of HR and its origins; 2. Origins of the legal protection of HR; 3. General overview of the international law of HR; 4. General overview of the system of the European Convention on HR; 5.-7. Selected problems of the contemporary international protection of HR (- death penalty, Al Saadoon and Mufdhi v. UK - 2010; euthanasia, Pretty v. the United Kingdom – 2002; - prohibition of torture and terrorist threat, Saadi v. Italy – 2008; - prohibition of the expulsion of aliens in case of risk of torture, Saadi v. Italy – 2008; - same-sex marriages under article 12 of the ECHR, Schalk and Kopf v. Austria – 2010; - muslim headscarves in the public sphere, Dahlab v. Switzerland – 2001, Leyla Sahin v. Turkey – 2005, El Morsli v. France – 2008, Dogru v. France – 2008; - crucifix in the public sphere, Lautsi and Others v. Italy – 2011; - prohibition of collective expulsion of aliens, Hirsi Jamaa and Others v. Italy – 2012, N.D. and N.T. v. Spain – 2020); 8. Final test.

LECTURES: -

Learning purpose:

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On completion of the study programme the graduate will gain:

**Knowledge:** Knowledge of the origins, theoretical foundations, structure, supervision procedures and standards of the international protection of human rights. The student defines and characterizes human rights, recognizes generations of human rights, indicates the origin and basic documents of human rights, reproduces the catalogue of human rights and explains the meaning of individual rights, describes human rights supervision procedures.

**Skills:** The student acquires the ability to analyze and interpret international human rights documents and to use the case law of international bodies for the protection of human rights, in particular the European Court of Human Rights.

**Social Competencies:** The student acquires an awareness of the importance of human rights in a democratic society, becomes conscious of the violations of these rights, and is capable to recognize independently violations of human rights standards and taking appropriate legal action.

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**Basic literature:** Rhona K. M. Smith, Textbook on International Human Rights, 4th (or later) Edition

**Supplementary literature:** Polly Vizard, Antecedents of the Idea of Human Rights: A Survey of Perspectives; Barbara Ann Rieffer, Religion, Politics and Human Rights: Understanding the Role of Christianity in the Promotion of Human Rights; UN. Human Rights: A Basic Handbook for UN Staff (provided by the course coordinator).

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The allocated number of ECTS points consists of:

Contact hours with an academic teacher: 1.5 hour every second week

Student's independent work: analysing the chosen legal texts