



Linnéuniversitetet

Kalmar Växjö

Kursplan

Fakultetsnämnden för ekonomi och design
Ekonomihögskolan

1RV008 Human Rights in Historical and Philosophical Perspective,
7,5 högskolepoäng

Human Rights in Historical and Philosophical Perspective, 7.5 credits

Huvudområde

Rättsvetenskap

Ämnesgrupp

Juridik och rättsvetenskap

Nivå

Grundnivå

Fördjupning

G1N

Fastställande

Fastställd av Organisationskommittén 2009-06-18

Kursplanen gäller från och med vårterminen 2010

Förkunskaper

Grundläggande behörighet.

Förväntade studieresultat

After completing the course the students will:

- acquire a general understanding about the making and development of the idea(s) and practice of rights and duties in different times and spaces and the dialectics of different forces in society working for and against it
- be able to put the ideas and practices of human rights in a global and local settings, and to discuss critically the historical and philosophical controversies surrounding the issue of human rights/duties
- be able to recognize how rights and duties issues have interacted with politics of power and the powerlessness, economy and culture in a historical and philosophical perspective
- be able to gear human rights issues towards questions of new issues relating to human rights i.e. women, gender, minorities, indigenous and tribal people, homosexuals etc - and how the advent of a culture of human rights is possible
- acquire a basic knowledge of history and philosophy and prepare themselves to study further Human Rights Law

Innehåll

The course follows the historical and philosophical development of human rights in a

general sense, but also looks at issues in modern history where the rights of ethnic, religious or other minorities have been at stake, as has gender and women's rights etc and highlights the emerging practice and intellectual debates that have accompanied the concept in modern history, the role of different actors, States, individuals and specially the role of Political and Social Movements with examples from various parts of the world, Asia, America, Africa and Europe.

This course has mainly two parts: One part focuses on the historical aspect how the idea of human rights has evolved in human society, using a long-time perspective from ancient times onwards, but mainly focusing on the last 250 years. It follows the dissemination of ideas formulated since the 18th century and to our present time.

The second part deals with the philosophical aspects of Human Rights. What the rights and duties are? How different religions, cultures, theories and ideologies have coloured and contributed for the development of the modern idea of Human Rights.

The course enables the students to confront basic ethical and intellectual problems and controversies concerning the idea and practice of human rights. The course follows the debate that has arisen, both with regard to those who claim a set of universal human rights, and those who claim it as culture-specific, or even incompatible with particular ideological or religious creeds.

Undervisningsformer

Instruction consists of lectures and seminars where active participation by the learners will be an essential part. A precondition for the seminars is that the appropriate literature has been read before each seminar occasion. All these seminars are compulsory.

Examinationsformer

Kursen bedöms med betygen Underkänd, Godkänd eller Väl godkänd.

The examination consists of a written seminar paper and oral presentation of it.

A retest will be offered a few weeks after the original test for students who have not successfully passed the original test. At least 5 tests will be offered.

The grades are Pass with Distinction (80%-100%), Pass (60%-79%) or Failure (0%-59%).

Students at Linnaeus University are entitled to have the course grade translated into the 7-step ECTS scale. A request to have the grades translated must be made to the teacher at the start of the course.

Kursvärdering

A written course evaluation is performed and compiled into a report to be kept in the university school archives. The result and any measures taken are communicated to the course co-ordinator and presented to the students participating the next time the course is offered.

Kurslitteratur och övriga läromedel

Obligatorisk litteratur

Hunt, Lynn, *Inventing Human Rights: A History*, New York & London: Norton & Co, 260 pages

Ishay, Micheline R, *History of Human Rights: From Ancient Times to the Globalization Era*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 404 pages

Lauren, Paul Gordon, *History and Human Rights: People and Forces in Paradoxical Interaction*, *Jornal of Human Rights* 7, 2008, pages 91-103, 13 pages

Compendium of texts and documents, 200 pages