

Faculty of Law

JAMRÄ, Master Programme in International Human Rights Law, 120 credits

Masterprogram i mänskliga rättigheter, 120 högskolepoäng

Second cycle degree programme requiring previous university study / Program med akademiska förkunskapskrav och med slutlig examen på avancerad nivå

Decision

The programme syllabus is established by The Faculty Board of the Faculty of Law 22-10-2014 (U 2014/733) and most recently amended 15-10-2021 (U 2021/752). The amended syllabus is valid from 18-10-2021, autumn semester 2022.

Programme description

The Master's Programme in International Human Rights Law comprises 120 Higher Education credits at the second cycle and is offered by the Faculty of Law in cooperation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law.

In the course of the programme the students will develop a profound body of knowledge in international human rights law. At its end, students will master the intricate system of the international protection for human rights and the preconditions under which rights function at an international and a national level. Focus will be on the primary law and the institutional superstructure from theoretical as well as implementation-oriented perspectives. The place of human rights in international law as well as in legal theory will be explored as well. The programme is dedicated to excellence in scholarship.

The studies on the programme begin with compulsory courses on international law and on human rights law. This part is common to all students. During the second period of the second term and the first period of the third term, students will choose elective courses. The remainder of the programme in the third and the fourth term is

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compulsory and common for all students.

Relation to the labour market and employability

Past experience indicates that students on this programme will find work in fields relevant to their education. The prospects are high for students who have completed this Master's Programme to obtain highly qualified positions in their home countries, often at government authorities or universities, or in international organisations, non-governmental organisations or multinational enterprises.

Relation to further studies

The programme provides a solid basis for further research in the field of human rights and international law.

Goals

To be awarded a Master (Two Years) of Laws in International Human Rights Law, the student must be able to show an advanced level of understanding and skill demanded for an internationally advanced position within the field of human rights law.

Knowledge and understanding

To be awarded a Master (Two Years) of Laws in International Human Rights Law, the student shall be able to show

- in-depth knowledge within international human rights law, including a broad knowledge within this area in general and an in-depth understanding of central areas of international human rights and within the areas covered by the students choice of specialization
- in-depth knowledge of the scientific foundations, theories and methods within this branch of law
- knowledge about current international law research and methodology, as well as research from adjacent disciplines and state/organisation/corporation practices affecting the development of the international human rights; and
- her or his insight into the role human rights play at national level, the implications of the implementation.

Competence and skills

To be awarded a Master (Two Years) of Laws in International Human Rights Law, the student shall be able to show

- an ability to critically and systematically assess and integrate knowledge in international human rights law on an advanced level
- an ability to independently, critically and creatively identify legal problems, to systematise arguments, and to analyse, compare and assess complex theoretical and practical problems, situations or cases within the field of human rights, even with a limited access to information
- an ability to argue cases concerning international human rights law within a limited period of time, both in an oral and a written form, and to evaluate the outcome critically and competently
- an ability to work both individually and in teams of varying size

- an ability to present, orally and in writing, qualified results both in a national and an international context, based on research within the field of human rights law
- an ability to argue on international human rights issues and to present results in dialogue with different groups in the society; and
- an ability to take part in research work or similar activities within the field of international human rights law.

Judgement and approach

To be awarded a Master (Two Years) of Laws in International Human Rights Law, the student shall be able to show

- an ability to assess societal and ethical aspects of international human rights law on an advanced level; and
- to display a scientific ethos in working with international human rights law.

Course information

First term

This term consists of two compulsory courses of 30 Higher Education Credits:

- International Law, 15 credits
- International Human Rights Law I, 15 credits

This term contains a comprehensive overview and advanced study of the sources of international law, law-making on international level, the subjects of international law, theories of international law and human rights, as well as substantial issues on human rights and their development.

Second term

This term consists of a compulsory course of 15 Higher Education Credits, and elective courses of 15 credits:

- International Human Rights Law II, 15 credits
- Elective course(s), 15 credits

This term gives a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the central issues related to human rights. The aim is to give an understanding for the particular problems and questions connected to each area of international human rights law and to open up for further and more advanced studies of specific and current issues dealt with in each area both in the theoretical and the practical field. The students meet experts within the field and obtain an advanced knowledge about the recent development, practices and sources thereof.

Third term

This term consists of two compulsory courses of 22.5 Higher Education Credits, and an elective course of 7.5 credits:

- Humanitarian Law, 7.5 credits
- Human Rights and Remedies, 15 credits
- Elective course, 7.5 credits

This term deals with specific and current problems and questions that arise within international human rights. The students are trained to analyse complex problems related to each area of international law. They are also trained in legal method and scientific writing, preparing for the independent research task they are about to perform the following term.

Fourth term

This term consists of a compulsory course of 30 Higher Education Credits, on writing an individual and independent Master Thesis within a chosen topic. This course features individual supervision.

Elective courses

The elective courses offered within the programme will be determined for each academic year by the Educational Committee of the Law Faculty Board.

On each course, one of the following marks is given: Pass with Distinction (AB), Pass with Credit (BA), Pass (B) or Fail (U).

Degree

Degree titles

Degree of Master of Laws in International Human Rights Law (120 credits) Major: Human Rights

Juris masterexamen i mänskliga rättigheter Huvudområde: Mänskliga rättigheter

The Master degree is awarded according to the Higher Education Ordinance (SFS 1993:100).

Requirements and Selection method

Requirements

The programme is open to both Swedish and foreign students with at least a 3 year Bachelor degree in law (Bachelor, LL.B, or equivalent).

Applicants must prove knowledge of English corresponding to English 6/English course B.

Selection method

Based on grades on previous courses, letter of intent, and 2 letters of recommendation.

Other information

The University views plagiarism as a very serious academic offence, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in connection with examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.