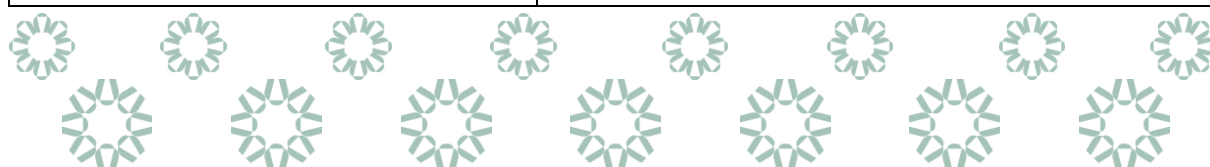


Course title: Introduction to International law and Human rights law

Author of the syllabus:	Nigar Akhundova
Number of lessons:	10 meetings, 20 lessons in total
Time and place:	PERG, 2 nd trimester, morning (8:45-11:15)
Compulsory/elective	elective
Max. number of participants:	20
Target audience:	G1-G3
Prerequisites:	A sufficient level of English to participate in discussions (discuss with your mentor or English teacher if unsure)
Course description and aims:	This course offers an introduction to the foundations and development of law, focusing on International Law and Human Rights Law. Students will explore key institutions, fundamental rights, and practical case analysis.
Grading:	A/MA (pass/fail) Criteria: • 2 quizzes • Presentations - grading based on 3 aspects: relevance of the content, knowledge of the topic and structure. Each criterion is graded maximum up to 10 points, which brings the total maximum grade for the task to 30 points. For all the graded tasks, students need to reach 51 % of the total points for passing.
Learning objectives:	By the end of this course, students will be able to: 1. Understand the foundations and development of law, including the main legal systems and their differences.



	2. Explain the emergence and evolution of international law and human rights law, with awareness of their historical contexts. 3. Identify and describe key international and European institutions involved in the protection and enforcement of human rights. 4. Comprehend the concept of the Rule of Law and its critical role in safeguarding human rights. 5. Distinguish between absolute and non-absolute fundamental rights, understanding their scope and limitations. 6. Read, analyze, and interpret European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) cases, including understanding case structure, sources of law, and relevant statistics. 7. Apply legal reasoning through practical case discussions and presentations, enhancing critical thinking and communication skills.
Compulsory study materials:	Notebook. Binder/folder to keep printed materials. Additionally, selected case law extracts, legal texts, supplementary readings provided during course.

Course outline:

Topic	No. of lessons	Notes
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Introduction to Law & Legal Systems	2	Objectives: • Understand the history and purpose of law • Recognize different legal systems and their characteristics Agenda: • Brief history of law • Overview of major legal systems: civil law, common law, religious law, customary law • Discussion: How legal systems affect societies and individuals • Group activity: Identify legal systems in various countries
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Emergence of International Law & Human Rights Law	2	Objectives: • Trace the development of international law • Understand the origins and evolution of human rights law Agenda: • Historical context and key milestones in international law • Rise of human rights law post-WWII • Discussion: Why do human rights matter? • Short video or reading excerpt on early human rights instruments
International and European Institutions	2	Objectives: • Learn the roles of key international and European institutions related to human rights Agenda: • Overview of the UN, International Court of Justice (ICJ) • Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) • Interactive quiz on institutions



		• Discussion: How institutions enforce human rights
Rule of Law in Human Rights	2	Objectives: • Define Rule of Law and its importance in protecting human rights Agenda: • Explanation of Rule of Law concept • Relationship between Rule of Law and human rights • Case examples where Rule of Law was challenged • Group discussion: How to strengthen Rule of Law



Fundamental Rights: Absolute vs. non-absolute	2	Objectives: • Differentiate between absolute and non-absolute rights Agenda: • Definition and examples of absolute rights • Definition and examples of non-absolute rights • Debate: Should some rights have limits? • Summary and Q&A
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ECHR Case Study	4	Objectives: • Learn how to read an ECHR case • Understand sources of law used in cases • Analyse ECHR case statistics • Practice reading case outcomes Agenda: • Introduction to ECHR case format • Key legal terms and sources • Overview of ECHR case statistics • Discussion: What types of cases come before ECHR? • Group work: Analyse case excerpts and predict outcomes • Group presentations & feedback • Guided walkthrough of a sample case • Q&A
Practical Session	4	Live Case Discussion Objectives: • Apply knowledge to a real ECHR case



		Agenda: • Presentation of the selected case • Breakout groups analyze facts, legal questions, and judgments • Group presentations and class discussion Student Presentations Objectives: • Develop presentation skills • Deepen understanding of fundamental rights through case studies Agenda: • Students randomly pick fundamental rights • Research and prepare brief presentations • Student presentations • Feedback and wrap-up
Reflection and feedback	2	Objectives: • Review key concept Agenda: • Review highlights from the course • Course feedback & closing remarks





		• Quiz

