

Digital competences of academic staff.

A new dimension of Mediterranean studies

Erasmus+ Programme

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Action 2: Strategic partnerships for digital education in the higher education sector
Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices
Strategic Partnerships for higher education

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Module syllabus for higher education subject

Faculty name	Department of Political Science, Law and International Studies, University of Padova, Italy
The name of the unit running the module	Department of Political Science, Law and International Studies
The name of the module	<i>Human Rights in International Politics</i>
ISCED classification	7
Language of instruction	English
Instruction aims	<p>This course aims at deepening students' knowledge of the role of human rights in contemporary international relations. In particular, it seeks to enable students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - familiarise with a number of concepts of International Relations and their interplay with human rights principles and standards; - deepen the knowledge of the role and influence of human rights in contemporary international politics; - assess multi-level governance practices, the role and contribution of international /regional organisations, and the international policies of other state and non-state actors, with a particular focus on the growing role of sub-national/local actor, which are relevant to understand the contemporary challenges of the multipolar world from a human rights perspective, s; - understand and contextualise the reasons and the responsibilities for the existing discrepancies, or gaps, between the declaratory value of human rights and human rights violations in reality; - understand and discuss the contemporary challenges to multilateralism at different levels of governance and their impact on the functioning of the multi-layered regime for the protection of human rights; - develop critical skills to discuss the risks and benefits of applying a human rights-based approach to international relations; - apply both theoretical knowledge and practice-oriented skills to analyse policy-making in a series of case-studies, some of which autonomously proposed by students.
Module's learning outcomes. Upon successful completion of the module the student...	<p>Adopting a "multi-level" perspective, students will obtain a general understanding of how existing political actors and structures have shaped and are shaping the conception of human rights and at how human rights have shaped the definition of international politics. They'll also learn how human rights concepts are translated, applied or contested at the global and transnational level, and on what are the main challenges, objections and praises to a world order based on the central dignity of human beings rather than (only) on the States' rights and interests.</p> <p>.</p>

Evaluation criteria of learning outcomes obtained by students	The student will have to demonstrate a good command of the course topics, ability to analyse and critically approach issues dealing with the concepts discussed during the course and their practical applications as well as with practice-oriented skills to policy-making in the international context, with particular attention to the human rights paradigm, demonstrating linguistic competence, the ability to sustain an argument, and using the specific lexicon of international organisation and human rights
Module type	Optional
A year of study	I
Semester	II
Module form	6 hours per week
Name and the surname of the module coordinator and / or the person / persons running the module	Pietro de Perini, University of Padova
Name and surname of the exam (s) / supervisor(s)	Pietro de Perini, University of Padova
Module's implementation method	
Prerequisites and additional seminar requirements	Students should have knowledge of both methodological and substantive fundamentals of International Relations and international organisation.
Type and number of hours of classes that require direct participation of an academic instructor and students, if such classes are provided in a given module	90
The number of ECTS points assigned to the module	12
The balance of ECTS points	
Didactic methods used	The course consists of lectures which will provide also room for case studies, discussion of contemporary events and experts' seminars. It will stimulate the active participation of students by proposing activities (including an optional "peer review" workshop) and creating students' groups to deliver, under the lecturer's supervision, student-led classes on themes proposed at the beginning of the course, also with a view to develop critical debates on the topics addressed.
Completion criteria including the rules of admission to the exam, as well as the form and conditions for passing particular classes within the scope of a given module	Do not apply to this module.
Contents of the module (brokedown into forms of classes)	<p>Starting from a brief overview of what implies addressing human rights in international politics, this module develops over 6 main thematic blocks or "clusters" which address as many relevant dimensions for understanding and critically addressing the role and scope of human rights:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Conceptual approaches to human rights in International Relations theories and Multi-level Governance; 2) Intergovernmental and supranational actors' policies and mechanisms to promote human rights at the global and regional levels;

	<p>3) Policies and mechanisms of transnational non-governmental actors (global civil society), national human rights institutions, local governments and their international networks, human rights defenders;</p> <p>4) Human rights implementation in international politics with specific regards to states' and European Union's foreign policy and to the construction of international consensus on human rights;</p> <p>5) The interaction between human rights and other relevant policy priorities and areas in current international relations (e.g. sustainable development, culture, environment and quality education);</p> <p>6) Praises, limits and future prospects for the current multi-layered system for the promotion and protection of human rights.</p> <p>3-ECTs will be devoted to the study of the local dimension in the multi-level governance of human rights promotion and protection.</p> <p>Particularly connected to DG-MED -project: Cluster 4 provides a couple of classes dealing with the foreign policy of the EU in the Mediterranean, addressing the balance between EU stability interests and promotion of values. Cluster 5 includes a class on the implementation of intercultural and interreligious dialogue in the Mediterranean space, and on the efforts made on this subject by ALECSO, ISESCO and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.</p>
List of basic and supplementary literature required to complete a given module	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Donnelly, Jack and Whelan Daniel, International Human Rights, 6th ed. (London and New York: Routledge, 2020); - Forsythe, David P. , Human Rights in International Relations, 4th ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017); - Goodhart Michael (Ed.), Human rights: politics and practice, 3rd ed., (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016); - Oomen, Barbara, Davis, Martha; Grigolo, Michele, Global urban justice : the rise of human rights cities (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016).