

**MODULE SPECIFICATION
FOR TAUGHT MODULES AT ALL LEVELS**

Name of Module		European Protection of Human Rights					
Parent School/Dept		Political Science & International Relations					
Programmes where module is offered		BSc Political Science and International Relations					
Status (compulsory, optional, free choice)		Option		Pre-Requisite Modules or Qualifications		Successful completion of all 1 st and 2 nd year modules	
FHEQ Level	Level 5	Unit Value	8 ECTS	Module Code (where applicable)	PS 372	Module Coordinator	Taida Sarkinovic
Semester Taught		Spring		Applicable From		2016	

Educational Aims of the Module

The aim of this module is to provide students with a knowledge of the principal legal institutions and instruments for the protection of human rights in Europe. It will concentrate on the critical analysis of the human rights instruments drafted under the auspices of the Council of Europe - with particular emphasis on the European Convention on Human Rights - and to understand the relationship between ECtHR and Court of Justice of the European Union in post-Lisbon EU human rights protection. One of the main objectives of this module is to give students the opportunity to critically evaluate the core provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights as they are interpreted by the European Court of Human Rights. The module also aims to give students the opportunity to appreciate the practical implications the European Convention has in domestic law and practice.

Module Outline/Syllabus

1. Introduction: International and European Human Rights Law
2. Council of Europe: The European Convention on Human Rights in context
3. European Court of Human Rights: organization, jurisdiction, procedure, execution of judgements
4. The European Convention on Human Rights: Key principles of interpretation
5. Convention rights: The right to an effective remedy; The right to life
6. Torture; inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; and slavery
7. Review week
8. Mid-term exam
9. Protecting family life; Protecting private life
10. Freedom of thought, conscience, and religion, Freedom of expression
11. The right to education; The right to free elections
12. Freedom of movement; The right to freedom from discrimination
13. The effect in domestic law of the European Convention on Human Rights
14. The relationship between ECtHR and Court of Justice of the European Union in post-Lisbon EU human rights protection
15. Course review

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<u>Student Engagement Hours</u>			
<i>Type</i>	<i>Number per term</i>	<i>Duration of each</i>	<i>Total Time</i>
Lectures	30	2 hours	60
Tutorials	30	1 hour	30
<i>Total Guided/Independent Learning Hours</i>			110
<i>Total Contact Hours:</i>			90
Total Engagement Hours			200

<u>Assessment Method Summary</u>				
<i>Type</i>	<i>Number required</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Weighting</i>	<i>Timing/ Submission Deadline</i>
Case presentation and discussion	1 presentation followed by group discussion	1 hour	10%	Ongoing
Mid-term exam	1	2 hours	20%	Week 8
Research paper	1	2000 words	20%	Week 13
Final Exam	1	3 hours	50%	End of semester
<u>Module Outcomes</u>				

<p><u>Intended Learning Outcomes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knowledge and understanding of the principal legal institutions and instruments for the protection of human rights in Europe. 2. Knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles of modern international human rights law, the mechanisms for the protection of human rights within the ECHR system and key concepts regarding the protection of human rights (e.g. positive and negative obligations, jurisdiction etc.). 3. Knowledge and understanding of core provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights as they are interpreted by the European Court of Human Rights, including the relationship between ECtHR and Court of Justice of the European Union. 4. Knowledge and understanding of the practical implications the ECHR has in domestic law and practice. 	<p><u>Teaching/Learning Strategy:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course readings and class discussion. (ILO: 1-4) 2. Individual and group presentations and discussions. (ILO: 1-4) 3. Class reviews and homework. (ILO: 1-4) 4. Lecture/presentation by the instructor. (ILO: 1-4) 5. Individual discussions/tutorials with students as needed and detailed feedback on their writings. (ILO: 1- 4) 6. Individual discussions/tutorials with students as needed and detailed feedback on their writings. (ILO: 1- 4) <p><u>Assessment Strategy:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Class participation, presentation and discussion (10%) (ILO: 1-4) 2. Research paper (20%) (ILO:1-4) 3. Mid-term exam (20%) (ILO: 1-4) 4. Final Exam (50%) (ILO: 1-4)
<p><u>Practical Skills</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To understand and interpret the European Convention on Human Rights. 2. To speak in public, to formulate clear oral arguments and design presentation. 3. To formulate clear written arguments and presentations. 4. To engage in discussion from different standpoints concerning issues of European human rights law. 	<p><u>Teaching/Learning Strategy:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course readings and class discussion. (PS: 1-4) 2. Individual and group presentations and discussions. (PS: 1-4) 3. Class reviews and homework. (PS: 1-4) 4. Lectures/presentations by the instructor. (PS: 1-4) 5. Individual discussions/tutorials with students as needed and detailed feedback on their writings. (PS: 1- 4)

		<p><u>Assessment Strategy:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Class participation, presentation and discussion (10%) (PS: 1-5) 2. Research paper (20%) (PS:1-5) 3. Mid-term exam (20%) (PS: 1-5) 4. Final Exam (50%) (PS: 1-5)
<p><u>Transferable skills:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation and argumentation skills 2. Problem-solving skills 3. Analytical and critical thinking skills 4. Research skills 5. Group work and independent study skills 		<p><u>Teaching/Learning Strategy:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lectures provide the core knowledge and are complemented by a set reading list which students are expected to study from. (TS: 2-5) 2. Tutorials discuss key subjects in greater detail and provide a platform for group exercises and debate. (TS:1-5) 3. Tutors set topical assignments and guide students through independent study. (TS: 1-5) 4. Case study presentations and group discussions in class contribute to improving transferrable skills (TS: 1-5) 5. Guided workshop sessions (TS: 1-5)
		<p><u>Assessment Strategy:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Class participation, presentation and discussion (10%) (TS: 1-5) 2. Research paper (20%) (TS:1-5) 3. Mid-term exam (20%) (TS: 1-5) 4. Final Exam (50%) (TS: 1-5)
<p><u>Key Texts and/or other learning materials</u></p> <p>Key texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Harris, M. O'Boyle, E. Bates, C. Buckley. Harris, O'Boyle, and Warbrick, <i>Law of the European Convention on Human Rights</i>, 3rd edition. Oxford University Press: Oxford 2014 • Robin C A White, Clare Ovey, <i>The European Convention on Human Rights</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, Fifth Edition, 2010) <p>Supplementary resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark W. Janis, Richard S. Kay, Anthony W. Bradley, <i>European Human Rights Law: Text and Materials</i>, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, Third Edition, 2008) <p>Websites of interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Convention on Human Rights website, available at http://human-rights-convention.org • European Court of Human Rights website, available at http://www.echr.coe.int/ • Council of Europe website, available at http://www.echr.coe.int 		

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the module and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module and programme can be found in the departmental or programme handbook. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed annually by the University of Buckingham and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency.

Date of Production:	
Date approved by School Learning and Teaching Committee	
Date approved by School Board of Study	
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