

COURSE DETAIL

LAW, IDEOLOGY, AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

Country

Norway

Host Institution

University of Oslo

Program(s)

University of Oslo

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Legal Studies

UCEAP Course Number

102

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

LAW, IDEOLOGY, AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

UCEAP Transcript Title

LAW IDEOLOGY&RIGHTS

UCEAP Quarter Units

8.00

UCEAP Semester Units

5.30

Course Description

This course starts by discussing when democratic principles and the rule of law is challenged and legal systems begin to produce injustice and human rights violations on a grand scale. Students explore how judges and bureaucrats react in such situations and if they oppose or support totalitarian regimes and authoritarian ideologies. The course considers how robust law and traditional legal authority is when thoroughly challenged and decides if the international human rights system is an effective solution to such problems. The course examines these issues by looking at the legal system and its agents in totalitarian regimes and in democracies in situations of crisis where the rule of law and human rights comes under attack. The historical examples include the Third Reich, where students analyze the role of judges and the relationship between Nazi ideology and the law. The course goes on to review to what degree a modern and legal bureaucracy helped produce the Holocaust. The Nurnberg Court and its legacy is discussed, and the rise of an international and regional human rights regime is described. Further historical examples include the role of law and judges in Communist Dictatorships and the Apartheid-system. The course also focuses on contemporary examples of what happens when basic human rights standards are challenged in democratic societies, which includes a discussion of the post 9/11 legalization of torture in the US. Theories on the relationship between fear, risk, and law are discussed. Lastly, the apparent crisis of the international human rights regime is analyzed and the current and future role of human rights is discussed. Students are graded based off a final 5-day take-home exam that you deliver electronically.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

RSOS2952

Host Institution Course Title

LAW, IDEOLOGY AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

Host Institution Campus

Law

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Criminology and the Sociology of Law

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