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

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Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus Law
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Criminology and the Sociology of Law
Course Last Reviewed

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