

Course number		U-LAS06 20041 LE41					
Course title (and course title in English)		Theories of Justice and Human Rights-E2 Theories of Justice and Human Rights-E2		Instructor's name, job title, and department of affiliation		Graduate School of Law Program-Specific Associate Professor,ALVAREZ ORTEGA , Miguel	
Group		Humanities and Social Sciences		Field(Classification)		Jurisprudence, Politics and Economics(Issues)	
Language of instruction		English		Old group		Group A	
				Number of credits		2	
Number of weekly time blocks		1		Class style		Lecture (Face-to-face course)	
				Year/semesters		2025 • First semester	
Days and periods		Tue.4		Target year		Mainly 1st & 2nd year students	
				Eligible students		For all majors	
[Overview and purpose of the course]							
<p>The problem of what constitutes a fair and just society has been a recurring topic not only for philosophers and lawyers but for human beings in general throughout history. The first half of this course introduces the main theories of justice developed both within and without the Western milieu taking a historical and a multicultural angle. The second half of this course deals with Human Rights both as a model of justice and as an international standard. The philosophical foundations of the notion of human rights, as well as its criticism, will be addressed from the perspective of contemporary thinkers from different schools by also considering the problem of the universalism-relativism dilemma. Moreover, issues concerning the efficacy of the instrument, both from an international and a constitutional point of view, will also be addressed to provide a comprehensive frame (philosophical, legal and political) for the students.</p>							
[Course objectives]							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to enable students to develop a critical approach to Justice and Human Rights. - to provide students with instruments to critically assess compliance with international standards of Justice and Human Rights. 							
[Course schedule and contents)]							
1. Introduction Part I: Theories of Justice 2. Ontological justice: Ancient Greece and India 3. Theological justice: Christian feudalism 4. The negation of justice: Political pragmatism (Arthasastra, Machiavelli, Hobbes) 5. Dignity-based justice: individual rights and contractualism (Locke and Kant) 6. Contemporary paradigm: John Rawls and his critics Part II: Human Rights 7. Natural rights, fundamental rights, and human rights 8. Fundamental Rights in Modern Constitutions 9. Human Rights in International Law: an overview 10. The International Declaration of Human Rights 11. The International Covenants 12. The International Criminal Court 13. Regional systems: Europe and America 14. Human Rights indicators 15. Appraisal and feedback							
<div style="text-align: right;">Continue to Theories of Justice and Human Rights-E2(2)</div>							

Theories of Justice and Human Rights-E2(2)

[Course requirements]

None

[Evaluation methods and policy]

Students are expected to present and debate specific materials for each session, which will constitute 40% of their grade.

A final paper on issues discussed in the syllabus will be submitted on week 14 (60% of the grade).

[Textbooks]

No single specific textbook will be followed. Specific papers and materials will be distributed each week.

[References, etc.]

(**References, etc.)**

Rhona K.M. Smith 『Textbook on International Human Rights』 ISBN:978-0198746218

Students in need of a reference book may resort to the one here included.

[Study outside of class (preparation and review)]

Students are required to prepare texts for discussion on a weekly basis and be ready to present and discuss such material in class. They are also expected to critically reflect upon the addressed and discussed issues after class.

[Other information (office hours, etc.)]

Students may ask for an appointment and/or address their questions via e-mail.

[Essential courses]