

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Business and Human Rights**

**Företag och mänskliga rättigheter**

**15.0 Higher Education**

**Credits**

**15.0 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	JU72FF
<b>Valid from:</b>	Spring 2022
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2021-06-03
<b>Department</b>	Department of Law
<b>Main field:</b>	Legal Science
<b>Specialisation:</b>	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

## Decision

Approved by the Education Committee of the Faculty of Law on 3 June 2021.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

For access to lectures and examination, students must have completed at least 150 ECTS in law, including at least 6 ECTS in Public International Law or similar. Swedish upper secondary school course English B/English 6 or equivalent.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
MOM1	Business and Human Rights	15

## Course content

The course aims to give an overview and understanding of the new emerging regulations that regulate businesses and human rights in a globalized world, and give students the ability to make practical analyses of concrete situations based on theoretical understanding. The course is based on public international law and covers international legally binding rules within the area, the emergence of non-binding instruments (soft law), governmental and private initiatives as well as business practices. A part of the course will also cover relevant national regulations in tort law, environmental law, insurance law, procedural law and contract law; special emphasis in this section of the course will be on corporate law. During parts of the course students will have the opportunity to focus on Swedish law or another country's legal framework.

## Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- know the key regulations relevant to the issue of corporate responsibility for human rights, and
- understand the interplay between the different regulations.

Skills and abilities

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- based on international legal methodology and from the perspective of human rights, analyse how and in what way public international law and other regulations are binding for various actors, including businesses.
- based on legal and economic materials and methods, independently and critically analyse the causes of conflicts between, on the one hand, norms of international law and, on the other hand, corporate law and

corporate governance, nationally and internationally

- independently and critically conduct a human rights analysis of a company's operations, identify negative impact and propose appropriate measures, and
- orally and in writing, present the results of a legal analysis within the subject matter of the course, as well as draw conclusions regarding state obligations and corporate responsibility.

### **Judgement and Approach**

After completing the course, the student is expected to:

- independently and critically assess and evaluate the interaction between, on the one hand, international legal instruments and other international standards and, on the other hand, national legislative provisions and mechanisms, for example, corporate governance.

### **Education**

Instruction consists of lectures, seminars and practical exercises. The language of instruction is English.

Active attendance is mandatory at the introduction, the seminars and the practical exercises. Active attendance means that the student shall have prepared the seminar assignments and be prepared to participate in discussions of the same. Exemptions from the attendance requirement are otherwise solely granted if the student has a lawful excuse, in which case the student should complete a pedagogically equivalent assignment as compensation for their absence.

### **Forms of examination**

Examination is conducted through active attendance at the mandatory seminars and the practical exercises in accordance with the instructions stated in the course description, through oral presentations and written assignments, as well as through a final exam.

The language of examination is English.

Assessment criteria for the written assignments:

- Subject and problem formulation
- Factual knowledge and insight into the subject
- Presentation
- Material
- Methodology
- Analysis and argumentation incl. independence of thought
- Conclusions drawn
- Sources and formal requirements
- Language

Assessment criteria for the oral assignments:

- Ability to formulate legal problems
- Ability to argue independently and systematically based on the problem formulation, within a limited time frame
- Ability to draw legal conclusions and communicate them
- Ability to present problem formulation, argumentation and conclusions in a clear and interesting way.

All examined component count towards the final grade in the course. The minimum score required on each examined course moment in order to pass the entire course, together with the maximum scores achievable, are stated in the course description. The final grade in the course is based on the total amount of points achieved on each course moment.

To pass the course, all of the course's learning outcomes must be met.

Permitted aids at the written examination and grading criteria are specified in the course description.

Students who receive a failing grade on a regular examination will have the opportunity to retake the examination. Students who have received a passing grade on an examination may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade. A student who has failed the same examination twice is entitled to have another examiner appointed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary.

The final grade in the course is set using the following seven-point scale: A (Excellent), B (Very Good), C (Good), D (Satisfactory) and E (Adequate). Failing grades are Fx (Inadequate) or F (Totally Inadequate).

A student with a certificate of special pedagogical support issued by Stockholm University has the right to alternative/accommodated forms of examination in accordance with the certificate.

**Misc**

Completed course requirements are valid for two years. This also applies to students who drop the course during the early course withdrawal period.

The course requirements in effect at the time of the student's first registration on the course may be completed within two years. After two years, the course requirements included in the most recently revised syllabus will apply.

Entry into force

These provisions will apply as of 17 January 2022.

**Required reading**

The course literature will be determined by the head of department. Please refer to the course website and the course description for information about the required reading. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.