



UNIVERZITET U SARAJEVU
CIS Centar za
interdisciplinarnu
studije

SP2 Form

UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO – CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

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Course Description

Course code:		Course name: Philosophy of Human Rights and Democracy	
Cycle: II	Study year: 2019/2020	Semester: I	ECTS: 5
Study mode: Obligatory		Total hrs. number: 56 Lectures: 56 Laboratory/practical exercises:	
Teaching participants	Prof. Asim Mujkić, University of Sarajevo Prof. Nenad Markovikj, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University - Skopje Prof. Zdenek Kavan, University of Sussex Prof. Igor Štiks, Faculty of Media and Communications, Belgrade Prof. Gerd Oberleitner, University of Graz Prof. Gvozden Flego, University of Zagreb		
Enrolment preconditions:	None		
Course goal(s):	This educational cluster covers the theoretical and philosophical foundations of human rights and democracy, from their birthplaces to the present day. It deals with the specifics of the philosophical approach to human rights, as opposed to the legal, social or political one. Different disciplines of philosophy and different schools in relation to human rights are presented, alongside with the historical construction of the concept. The course also provides insight into the contemporary debate over the foundations of human rights. Furthermore, it offers the basis and interpretation of the philosophical terminology used in the interpretation of human rights, as subject/object, politics–law–morality, individual/collective, right/obligation-duty. The contractual theories and human rights concept relation is addressed, as well as the contemporary philosophy of human rights. Courses give introduction into the modern concepts of democracy and human rights providing the students with elementary understanding of the modern age democracy and human rights. The modern age understanding of man; natural rights; parliamentary, liberal democracy; necessity and freedom; complexity of modern democracy and human rights as well as contemporary theories of democracy and theories and practices of citizenship, as, paradoxically, the basis for human rights are critically examined. The main goal of the course is to present the basic theoretical/philosophical sources of democracy and human rights as well as to introduce the students into elementary understanding of the modern age democracy and human rights.		
Thematic units: <i>(if needed, the weekly work schedule is established taking into account the</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Philosophy of Human Rights (8h) 2. Introduction to International Human Rights Law and the UN (12h) 3. Birthplaces of Human Rights and the Modern Age Democracy (12h) 4. Political Theory (8h) 5. Contemporary Theories of Democracy (8h) 		

<i>organizational units' peculiarities)</i>	6. Theories and Practices of Citizenship: States, Nations, Citizens (8h)
Learning outcomes:	<p>KNOWLEDGE: Intellectual history of the concepts of human rights, democracy and political theory; key paradoxes and problems that shaped self-understanding of modern political community and dominate contemporary discussions about moral and political foundations of global political commonwealth; Basic elements and problems of political theory; Key critical perspectives regarding understanding human rights and democracy in the context of citizenship, nationalism and modern polity.</p> <p>COMPETENCIES: Critical understanding and analysis of contemporary problems regarding human rights and democracy globally and regionally; expertise in intellectual history of the development of the ideas of human rights, democracy, and political theory; open critical perspectivism.</p>
Teaching methods:	Teaching methods include a combination of frontal lectures with interactive learning modes from discussions to group work and activities. Students have the obligation to read mandatory literature, prior to the lectures, and participate in discussions.
Knowledge assessment methods with grading system¹:	Knowledge assessment consists of evaluating an academic paper of 3000 to 4000 words (bibliography and footnotes excluded) that carries 50 % of the grade and an ORAL EXAM that also weights 50 % of the final grade.
Literature²:	<p>Baker, John: <i>What is participatory democracy?</i> In: Community Workers Co-Operative. Strategies to Encourage Participation: a series of practical case studies from local, regional and national development in Ireland. Community Workers Co-Operative, 1997. Available at: http://hdl.handle.net/10197/2085.</p> <p>Bauman, Zygmunt. "Freedom From, In and Through the State: T.H.Marshall's Trinity of Rights Revisited " in <i>Theoria</i>, December 2005.</p> <p>Chambers, Simone (2003). "Deliberative Democratic Theory", Annual Review of Political Science. Vol.6. 307-326.</p> <p>Costas Douzinas: "The end of human rights?" in <i>Human Rights and Empire. The political philosophy of cosmopolitanism</i>, Routledge-Cavendish, 2007; pp.: 3-33;</p> <p>Dahl, Robert A., <i>On Democracy</i>, Chapter. 7.</p>

¹ The system of points and the grading criteria for each subject shall be defined by the organizational unit's Council prior to the commencement of the academic year in which the teaching activity is performed in accordance with the Article 64, paragraph 6 of the Sarajevo Canton Law on Higher Education.

² Acting on behalf of the higher education institution as a public institution, the Senate or organizational unit Council respectively, shall define the mandatory and recommended textbooks and manuals list as well as the other recommended literature as a basis for preparing and taking the examination by rendering a special Decision which is to be published on their websites before the start of the academic year in accordance with the Article 56, paragraph 3 of the Sarajevo Canton Law on Higher Education.

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Donati, Pierpaolo (2013). "Social Capital and Associative Democracy: a Relational Perspective", *Journal for the Theory of Social Behavior*, Vol.44, No1: 24-45.

Gillens, Martin and Page, Benjamin I. (2014). "Testing Theories of American Politics: Elites, Interest Groups, and Average Citizens", *Perspectives on politics*, Vol.12, No.3: 564-581.

Habermas, J., "The European Nation-State: On the Past and Future of Sovereignty and Citizenship," *Public Culture* 10:2 (1998): 397-416, 404

Hannah Arendt: "The Decline of the Nation-State and the End of the Rights of Man", Hannah Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*, San Diego, New York, London: A Harvest Book, Harcourt Brace & Co., 1976; pp.: 267-304;

Ilias Bandekas and Lutz Oette, *International Human Rights - Law and Practice*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press 2016 (2nd ed.), Chapter 4 "The United Nations Charter system", pp. 154-191, and Chapter 5 "The UN human rights treaty system", pp. 192-234

Isin, E. (2009), 'Citizenship in Flux: The Figure of Activist Citizen', *Subjectivity*, 29: 367-88.

IV. Book, chapters 1-2.

Joppke, Christian. "Transformation of Citizenship: Status, Right, Identity". *Citizenship Studies*, Vol. 11, No.1, February, 2007:37-48.

Judith Butler: "Precarious Life and the Ethics of Cohabitation", Judith Butler, *Notes Toward a Performative Theory of Assembly*, Cambridge, London: Harvard University Press, 2015; pp.: 99-122.

Kant, Immanuel, [The Foundation of Metaphysics of Morals \(1st page \)](#)

Locke, John, [Second Treaty on Government](#): II. chapter, V. Ch. # 25-51, VII. Ch. # 77-90, # 94, VIII. Ch. # 95-99, IX. Ch.

MacDonald, Margaret. „Natural Rights“ in *Theories of Rights*, Waldron, Jeremy (ed.), Oxford University Press, 1992;

Michael Ignatieff: "Human Rights as Politics", *The Tanner Lectures on Human Values*, Delivered at Princeton University, April 4–7, 2000; pp.: 287-319;

Nozick, R. Moral Constraints and Distributive Justice

Rawls, J. Justice as Fairness: Political not Metaphysical

Richard Rorty: „Justice as a larger loyalty“ in Rorty, *Philosophy as Cultural Politics*; *Philosophical Papers* Vol. 4; Cambridge University Press, 2007; pp.: 42-55;

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Rousseau, Jean-Jacques, The Social Contract: I. Book, II. Book, chapters 1-4.

Sen, A. *Poverty and Famines: An Essay on Entitlement and Deprivation*, Oxford, 1998

Shue, H. *Basic Rights*, Introduction and chapter 1, pp.5-34

Štiks, I. (2013), 'A laboratory of citizenship: shifting conceptions of citizenship in Yugoslavia and post-Yugoslav states', in J. Shaw and I. Štiks (eds), *Citizenship after Yugoslavia*, Abingdon: Routledge