

## ANNEX 2 – COURSE DESCRIPTION

<b>Course title</b>	<b>Human Rights Law</b>				
<b>Course code</b>	<b>LAW-108</b>				
<b>Course type</b>	<b>Compulsory</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Undergraduate</b>				
<b>Year / Semester</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> /B				
<b>Teacher's name</b>	Petros Konstantinidis				
<b>ECTS</b>	6	<b>Lectures / week</b>	3 hour per week	<b>Laboratories / week</b>	
<b>Course purpose and objectives</b>	<p>The main objectives of the course are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the theoretical and historical underpinnings of fundamental rights.</li> <li>• Understand the concept of the rule of law, the State-citizen relations and examine through a historical approach how human rights have been shaped to date.</li> <li>• To understand the sources of human rights as well as to realize their multi-level protection at both national and supranational levels.</li> <li>• Examine the constitutional framework for the protection of fundamental rights in Cyprus as well as generally understand the various sources of rights protection, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ECHR, the EU Charter, the Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus and International Conventions.</li> <li>• Analyzing and understanding of the categories of fundamental rights, the way of development of their normative character, the holders and recipients of the rights.</li> <li>• Understanding of the fundamental rights of the Cyprus Constitution.</li> <li>• The ability to interpret fundamental rights and apply them to specific situations.</li> <li>• The ability to critically analyze judicial decisions concerning issues of fundamental rights.</li> <li>• To develop skills for the correct interpretation and application of fundamental rights.</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development of critical thinking on current social issues where human rights are affected.</li> <li>• Be able to apply interpretative methods of fundamental rights such as the principle of proportionality and balancing between conflicting rights.</li> </ul>		
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>Upon completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the theoretical background of fundamental rights.</li> <li>• Perceive the functioning of the rule of law and the role of human rights within it.</li> <li>• Develop critical thinking and analytical methodology for interpreting fundamental rights.</li> <li>• Identify the agents and recipients of fundamental restrictions.</li> <li>• Comprehend cases of restriction, conflict, and balancing of rights.</li> <li>• Know the specific fundamental rights of the Cypriot Constitution.</li> <li>• Perceive and identify instances of violation of fundamental rights.</li> <li>• Critically study Cypriot Court decisions and the case-law of the ECHR and other supranational judicial bodies in order to find solutions to complex issues related to fundamental rights.</li> </ul>		
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None	<b>Required</b>	None
<b>Course content</b>	<p>The structure of the course is divided into two sections: the first one concerns the general theory of rights, such as their three categories, the concept of the rule of law, the normative content of rights, their holders and recipients as well as the cases of limitation, conflict and confluence of rights. Also in the first section, reference is made to the basic characteristics of the fundamental rights of the Cyprus Constitution and its correlation with the ECHR as well as with other supranational legal texts. In the second section, there will be an examination of the specific rights of the Cyprus Constitution.</p> <p>Section A</p> <p>Constitution and fundamental rights and freedoms.</p> <p>The concept of the rule of law and the Republic of Cyprus.</p> <p>Legal nature of fundamental rights and freedoms</p> <p>The distinction of fundamental rights</p> <p>Holders and recipients of fundamental rights.</p> <p>The limitations of fundamental rights.</p>		

	<p>The limitations of the Restrictions.</p> <p>The principle of proportionality.</p> <p>Protection of fundamental rights and freedoms in the Republic of Cyprus.</p> <p>The sources of fundamental rights in the Cyprus legal order.</p> <p>ECHR and ECtHR jurisprudence and their effect on the Cypriot Constitution.</p> <p>Section B</p> <p>Article 6 – Prohibition of discrimination between communities and their members</p> <p>Article 7 – The right to life</p> <p>Article 8 – Prohibition of torture</p> <p>Article 9 – The right to a decent living and social security</p> <p>Article 10 – Prohibition of slavery</p> <p>Article 11 – The right to freedom</p> <p>Article 12 – The rights of the accused.</p> <p>Article 13 – The right of free movement</p> <p>Article 16 – The inviolability of residence. The right to privacy.</p> <p>Article 17 – Privacy of correspondence and communication.</p> <p>Article 18 – The right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.</p> <p>Article 19 – Freedom of speech.</p> <p>Article 21 – The right of assembly and association.</p> <p>Article 22 – The right to marry and found a family.</p> <p>Article 23 – The right to property.</p> <p>Article 24 – The obligation to contribute to public burdens.</p> <p>Article 28 – the principle of equality.</p> <p>Article 30 – the right to a fair trial and access to justice.</p>
<p><b>Teaching methodology</b></p>	<p>Lectures with the help of powerpoints and encouraging active participation and dialogue. Assignments and presentations.</p> <p>Analysis of relevant cases of the Cyprus Courts, the European Court on Human Rights and other relative Courts.</p>

	Case studies/examples.
<b>Bibliography</b>	<p>K. Paraskevas, Constitutional Law: Fundamental Rights and Freedoms (Nomiki Bibliothiki, 2nd edition 2024).</p> <p>A. Loizou, Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus (Nicosia, 2001).</p> <p>G.M. Pikis, Constitutionalism, Human Rights, Separation of Powers, The Cyprus Precedent (Martinus Nijhoff Publishers 2006)</p> <p>P.A. Dagtoglou, Constitutional Law, Individual Rights (Sakkoulas, 4th edition 2012).</p> <p>Vlachopoulos Sp./Chrysogonos K., Individual and Social Rights (Nomiki Bibliothiki, 4th edition 2017).</p> <p>Iliopoulou-Strangas Tz., General Theory of Fundamental Rights - Aspects of Multilevel Protection in the European Space (Sakkoulas, 2018).</p> <p>Manganas A./Karadza L., European Convention on Human Rights (Decisions and Practice of the European Court of Human Rights) (Nomiki Bibliothiki, 2005).</p> <p>L-A. Sisilianos (ed.), European Convention on Human Rights, Article Interpretation (Nomiki Bibliothiki, 2nd edition 2017).</p> <p>Aimilianides A.K., Constitutional Law in Cyprus (Kluwer International Law 2024).</p> <p>B. Rainey/ P. McCormick/ C. Ovey, Jacobs, White, and Ovey: The European Convention on Human Rights 8th Edition (Oxford 2020).</p> <p>R. Alexy, A Theory of Constitutional Rights (Oxford University Press, 2010).</p> <p>C.M. Buckley, K. Kamber, P. McCormick, The European Convention on Human Rights – Principles and Law (Council of Europe Bookshop 2022).</p>
<b>Assessment</b>	<p>Assignment 30%</p> <p>Participation 20%</p> <p>Final exam 50%</p>
<b>Language</b>	Greek