Course Syllabus "Minority Rights: Comparative Practices"

Approved by
Academic Council
of the Master’s Programme
№1 dated 26.06.2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Dmitry Dubrovsky</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of credits</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact hours</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-study hours</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year of study</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational format</td>
<td>Without use of online course</td>
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I. Aim, Results of Mastering the Discipline and Prerequisites

Learning objectives of the course Minorities’ rights: comparative practices are: to introduce students to the main problems of the discriminations of minorities, to give them complex understanding of existing literature and to the state of research on the topic; to introduce them to variations both in state approaches to the problems of different minorities; to develop skills and competencies to propose strategies and technologies for vulnerable groups rights protection.

As a results, students should:

- **Know**
  - The main approaches of minorities studies
  - Strategies and technologies for protection minorities’ rights
  - The reasons and bases for inequalities and the main consequences
  - The main categories of minorities and social vulnerable groups
  - The major problems of different minorities and social vulnerable groups. Forms of their economic, political and cultural discrimination
  - Different types of state policy towards minorities and social vulnerable groups
  - National and international mechanisms of the protection of rights of minorities and social vulnerable groups
  - Best practices for advocacy minorities and social vulnerable.

- **Be able to**
  - Competently analyse the nature and character of problems connected with minorities and social vulnerable groups in concrete circumstances.
  - Use different technologies depends on vulnerable groups’ strategies (to develop them, if needed)
  - Advocate for their rights establishing democratic governance
  - Compare problems of minorities and social vulnerable groups in different regions and countries
  - Competently define priorities in resolving the problems of minorities and social vulnerable groups and problems connected with them.
• **Acquire the skills**
  - Working with primary sources and literature on the problems of minorities and social vulnerable groups
  - Studying processes of social stratification and exclusion and problems of minorities and social vulnerable groups as a whole.
  - Collecting objective and adequate information on the problems connected with minorities and social vulnerable groups
  - Designing and implementation special strategies for protection minorities and social vulnerable groups’ rights

This course strongly connected with the following courses:
- Contemporary political studies
- Human rights’ studies
- International Mechanisms of Human Rights Protection
- Soft Law and Regulatory Governance
- Freedom of Association and Freedom of Assembly: guidelines and "best practices“
- Foresight as a tool for democratic governance

The following knowledge and skills are needed to study this discipline:
- To know basic methods of political analysis
- To be able to analyse independently the most important aspects of political relations
- To have basic academic skills, such as collecting, analysing and logically presenting information and data on a certain topic, participating in a group discussion, writing an essay, making a presentation, etc.

The main skills developed by studying this discipline can be used to study the following disciplines:
- Academic research seminar
- Academic research practice

**II. Content of the Course**

The course focuses on comparative analysis of the policy practices in the following main spheres:
1. Race and nationality: cases of discrimination and strategies of protection
2. Ethnic minorities: comparative practices of rights protection
3. Religious minorities and their rights: causes of discrimination and the strategies of protection
4. LGBT minority: strategies and technologies of human rights protection

As the subject of this discipline is in the process of permanent evolution and academic publications get outdated quickly, students are advised to follow the latest developments in several academic journals on the topic, available at the HSE library, such as *Journal of Exclusion Studies, Immigrants and Minorities, International Migration Review, Journal of Population Economics*, etc., as well as in the general media, on the internet and around them, “in the street”.
III. Grading

The final grade is composed of a cumulative grade and the exam. The cumulative and final grades are composed according to the following formulas (O stands for “grade”).

\[ \text{O}_{\text{final}} = 0.50 \times \text{O}_{\text{cumulative}} + 0.5 \times \text{O}_{\text{exam}} \]

where

\[ \text{O}_{\text{cumulative}} = 0.5 \times \text{O}_{\text{assignment}} + 0.5 \times \text{O}_{\text{essay}} \]

If the final grade is non-integer, it is rounded according to algebraic rules. If has a half (.5) at the end, we are rounding upward.

IV. Grading Tools

Continuing assessment consists of grading students’ work at tutorials and of their essays. In class students have to show:
- their knowledge of required readings and their acquaintance with at least some of the recommended readings;
- their ability to collect information on a particular topic independently;
- their ability to analyze and generalize the collected information and data;
- their ability to present their material, point of view and arguments;
- their ability to participate in a group discussion
- their ability to discuss other students’ work

V. Sources

5.1. Main Literature

5.2. Additional Literature


5.3. Software

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<tr>
<th>№</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Access conditions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Microsoft Windows 7 Professional RUS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Microsoft Windows 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Microsoft Windows 8.1 Professional RUS</td>
<td>From the university’s internal network (contract)</td>
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5.4. Professional databases and reference systems. Internet resources (electronic educational resources)

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<tr>
<th>№</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Access conditions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Consultant Plus</td>
<td>From the university’s internal network (contract)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>URAIT Electronic library system</td>
<td>URL: <a href="https://biblio-online.ru/">https://biblio-online.ru/</a></td>
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5.5. Material and technical support

Classrooms for lectures on the discipline provide for the use and demonstration of thematic illustrations corresponding to the program of the discipline, consisting of:

- PC with Internet access (operating system, office software, antivirus software);
- multimedia projector with remote control.