



Università
per Stranieri
di Perugia

EXAM PROGRAM

Master Degree: **International Relations and Development Cooperation (RICS)**

Subject: **Human rights and gender issues**

Year of study: **I/II**

Term: **I**

Professor: **S.E. Moushira Khattab**

SSD: **IUS/13**

CFU: **6**

Global workload: **150 hours**

Distribution of workload: **40 hours of lectures and 110 hours of study at home**

Language: **English**

Academic Year 2011-2012

PREREQUIREMENT

A good competence of English language.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Familiarize Students with human rights.
- Deepen student's knowledge of the right based approach; including to development.
- Deepen the knowledge that equal rights for women are not about charity or a human issue, but rather a legal obligation on the States as the primary duty bearer.
- Raise awareness of the cost of not granting women equal rights; the cost to the family; the nation and men.
- Democracy is not fulfilled unless women enjoy equal rights.

The above mentioned objectives will be achieved through a participatory approach. Students will participate in the class debate; will do research and field study.

COURSE CONTENTS

First: international efforts to deal with gender based discrimination.

It will briefly examine the history of the international movement for the rights of women. This examination will include:

- The Universal declaration for Human rights
- The international Covenant for civil and political rights
- The international Covenant for Economic; social and cultural rights
- A thorough examination of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women and its optional protocol –Reservations by States Parties to CEDAW - reports submitted by SP to the Committee on CEDAW- CoBs of CEDAW- evaluation of progress achieved.
- Beijing conference and its platform of action- Follow up conferences.
- The establishment of UN Women in July 2010 and the body it comprises

Second: International mechanisms:

1. Committee on CEDAW
2. The creation of UN Women merging:

- Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)
- International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)
- Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI)
- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

Third: Areas of focus

Gender and development is about equal rights for women:

It entails examination of :

- Violence against Women
- Peace and Security
- Leadership and Participation
- Engendering budgeting and planning
- Education and gender discrimination
- Economic empowerment

Fourth: Practical; research and field work of student:

- Participation in the debate during classes.
- Doing research on the United Nations human rights system.
(Students will be asked at a later stage to follow the performance of certain countries)
- Using certain countries as case study- examination of the status of women through the report to CEDAW and CoB's. This will enable students to assess achievements and obstacles facing implementation of the rights of women.
- Follow up to Beijing platform of action- citing examples of implementation at the national level
- Students will also examine developments reading the outcome document of each follow up conference.

Fifth: Documents needed for the course:

In preparation for the course students will be required to read:

- The Universal declaration on Human Rights
- The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Beijing platform of action

Visit the website of:

CEDAW- CRC- UNIFEM - UN Women- Commission on the Status of Women

There will be more readings required as we progress during the course.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Lectures.

TYPE OF EXAMINATION

Information about the exam will be available during the classes.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Lecture notes by the Professor.

Other information will be available during the classes.

REFERENCE BOOKS

There will be more readings required as we progress during the course.