

## **Global Labour Market Spring 2019**

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Answer Count: 15

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**1. According to the course syllabus, after finishing this course, the student should be able to:**

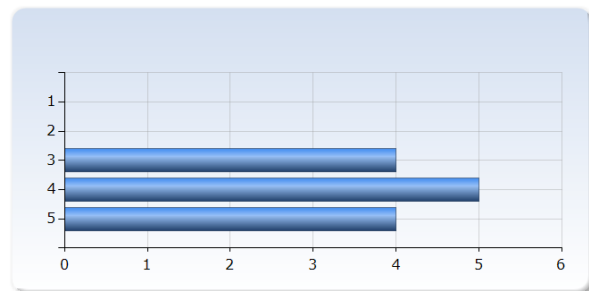
- demonstrate in-depth knowledge about the substance and interplay between legal frameworks on different levels and with the support of different legal theories analyse them.**
  - demonstrate the ability to identify, apply and based on a critical perspective analyse advanced and complex legal issues arising on the global labour market , requiring knowledge of relevant national, European and international legal frameworks.**
  - within prescribed time limits independently plan, author and defend an essay on a topic connected to the course and act as an opponent on another student’s essay.**
  - demonstrate in-depth ability to use theories from other disciplines critically discuss, analyse and value those legal frameworks relevant for the global labour market in an ethical and societal context.**
- Do you think you have achieved the objectives mentioned above while studying this course? (1= Not at all/5=Objectives totally achieved)***

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***Do you think you have achieved the objectives mentioned above while studying this course? (1= Not at all /5=Objectives totally achieved)***

	<b>Number of Responses</b>
1	0 (0.0%)
2	0 (0.0%)
3	4 (30.8%)
4	5 (38.5%)
5	4 (30.8%)
Total	13 (100.0%)



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**Comment**

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After writing an essay and participating in all seminars - the answer is yes. But I sometimes felt like I ought to have achieved this before entering the classroom. Not in the treatment (of course) but in the complexity of the questions for each seminar

The topic is so comprehensive so it is very difficult to get in-depth knowledge in all areas concerning migration law. If the course was the double amount of time on the same material, then there would be a better chance to get a really in-depth knowledge. The topic is very complex, but also very interesting and the course has given me a taste of international labour law.

I've learned a lot. My difficulty was to understand some of the English words in the beginning of the course, but it was much easier in the end.

Yes, I do believe the goals of the course were achieved through the seminars.

Efter det sista seminariet när saken knöts ihop var det väldigt tydligt hur de olika områdena vi berört hängde ihop.

The course should have focused more on the first two paragraphs in the syllabus since they represent the basis and changed the execution of the last two paragraphs.

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## 2. What did you like about this course?

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**What did you like about this course?**

teachers

Most of it! It was very interesting and exactly what I hoped for when applying for it. Very hands on when it comes to human rights in our society.

Detailed information

That the class was relatively small and the good cooperation within the student group.

Good teachers. Petra has been very helpful and it felt like we had a close relation to her.

Nice teachers, interesting subject.

The general subject was interesting and spanned several different legal disciplines. The subject was also not something that had been touched upon during earlier studies.

It is a very interesting subject which was far more complex than I had first thought

The set-up and in-depth seminars.

Nästan allt! Ämnet i sig är väldigt intressant, och alla mindre delområden har gett en djupare förståelse för den internationella arbetsmarknaden. Det var länge sen jag läste en kurs som var såhär intressant helt enkelt! Väldigt bra material (om än lite mycket material stundtals), bra seminarier, bra "gästföreläsare".

The general topic is interesting

Learning, in spite of the course.

The multi-disciplinary approach

Some parts of the subject

### 3. What do you think could be improved in the course?

#### **What do you think could be improved in the course?**

it was heavy to write a fairly big essay and have an exam on top of that that both equates 50% of the course each.

Perhaps some parts of the material could be more compromised, sometimes the amount was too heavy compared to the intervals between the seminars. It's easier to skim through a judgement or a smaller piece of the seminar rather than to skim through everything on the reading list.

Too much reading material in one seminar

Since it is a complex topic, it would be good to start each part with a lecture. For example an introduction on ILO, who they are and how the convention works. A lecture on the four fundamental EU directives, to get a understanding how they are connected and interact. A lecture on Ruhs, or even more interesting a lecture by Ruhs! That would really be something that also would be a credit for the university! The course is quite intense, even though it's only two seminars a week, since there is a lot of material to read and complex to understand, when you don't have any knowledge about the topic before. Also, when you are supposed to write the essay, the last week, there could be no seminars, so you have time to focus on the essay. Finally, it would be great if there was a way to attract more exchange students, then the discussions would be in more depth with inputs from other parts of the world.

I think it was too much material to read. It was hard to understand what was important in the text since we did not have any lessons. I also think that it maybe would be better to have less seminars and more lessons in order to show the students what to focus on.

Some of the seminars had very much preparations, which can make us students feel stressed. I do think this course managed to take away the pressure and I appreciated that Petra said that "you're here to learn". Maybe less material could be better though to be able to understand all of it. The essay was hard to write the same time as preparing seminars. Maybe the last two seminars could be without preparation. Compared to other courses it is a lot of seminars, that's ok but when writing an essay in a different language it takes a lot of focus.

The course is too heavy (16 mandatory seminars, a 6000 word essay and an exam) considering the subject is new and foreign to most participants. The series of seminars should be cut down heavily and interspersed with lectures. Since the subject is new it would be helpful with some lecture that gives a basic structure which can then be expanded upon. The course could therefore start with a lecture explaining the subject, different actors and sources of law that will be dealt with and their internal relationship. ILO and UN could have been covered more succinctly, in fewer seminars. The EU Law as well. All teachers should use powerpoints and put them online. Writing everything people say down on the white board can make it somewhat harder for the students to make good notes and know what is important. The mandatory lectures took time away from the big essay (which maybe could be shortened?) and should therefore be handled in April as much as possible, which would also make it easier choosing a topic and working with that. At least some percentage of seminars should be allowed to be missed without requiring complementary assignments. That would probably increase enrolment, as well. There should be a longer time before draft essay and final essay so that improvements can be made. Maybe participation in the seminars could render some grade points, as well.

The material was very extensive. Could have been shortened to get a much more deeper understanding of each seminar topic. I would have liked to have more lectures because this topic was quite difficult and to have had a lecture before answering the questions would have given us a more general view which would have made the work before each seminar easier

Less materials to each seminar and more lecture style seminars.

Jag hade önskat lite mer genomgångar av ämnena, bara för att få en tydlig bild av det mest relevanta. Kan även tycka att det blir lite mycket att även behöva komplettera med 2 sidors "inlämning" för de seminarier man missat, eftersom att seminarierna var så många.

The overall execution felt lazy, demanding a lot from the students and at the same time being unnecessarily ineffective and time consuming in its approach to learning, making fulfilment within the deadline harder. The course should go from general overview to minor detail in a better fashion. As it is now, it feels like the course can't see the forest for the trees. The course needs to know how unfamiliar most students are with the topic and that the workload is excessive given this fact. The essay was a horrible experience, which felt like having no map or guidance in unknown territory. The final response was also not in line with the response from the draft opposition or the general guidelines of the essay, which felt unnecessary. The teacher handling the draft opposition should give more feedback and the guidelines be more stringent and foreseeable. The relevant parts of the reference system should also be transcribed for the students to ease the workload, which is already way to heavy.

The essay part effectively presupposes knowledge that the course is supposed to provide and which it does in an inadequate fashion with a lack of a general focus. It almost feels like you should know more than the syllabus since the course focuses on specific directives and conventions without really explaining the general framework and treaties governing these and how they relate. The background should be the first stage. The grading criteria for the essay gives the impression of mostly focusing on formula and deadline while not doing this. This could be improved by a more thought out and clearly written essay formula which makes the experience foreseeable for the students. Maybe an example essay or the possibility to choose pre-chosen subjects could be an alternative for the most inexperienced students. More feedback, from other people than fellow confused students would also be helpful. An earlier "subject and method"-based opposition would probably be better than a late draft opposition.

Legal material should be provided as a book. In other courses they order these for those interested so it shouldn't be that difficult.

The course lacks a lot in terms of self-awareness and empathy in that the high demands put on students isn't reciprocated by high quality teaching, good administration or a thoughtful syllabus based on an understanding of the learning curve of the subject. Even things like what legal material to bring to the exam and how to access it felt decided at the last minute after the issue was raised by concerned students. The course lacked a constructive approach to the essay and left students quite lost in the dark. There was also a lack in uniform and equal treatment since some students draft essay was assessed by the grader and some were not. It felt like way too much responsibility which should fall on the course director was outsourced to the students.

I feel that having a big essay in a new subject requires that the course provides good guidance and helps out with the subject, finding relevant sources and giving good constructive feedback during the process. I felt that this was missing.

#### **4. Anything else you would like to share with us?**

##### **Anything else you would like to share with us?**

Keep up the great work! Also more lecture styles seminars would make it easier to comprehend the information.

To summary, it was a really interesting and important course and you could do some promotion for the course during the courses on basic level, arbetsrätt and internationell privaträtt. Finally, thanks for really interesting course, that I for certain will have use for in my continuous career..

Interesting to write an essay where we were able to choice the topics ourselves. I do not think all 16 seminars can be mandatory and that it would be okay to miss 2-3 ones without having to do a complementary PM. Anyone can get sick or maybe have personal reasons for missing a seminar. I therefore think that it should be ok to miss a few ones

I really loved the course. The feeling and the environment in the class was very good. The opposition took place before final deadline - first time in the law program. That was really good.

Good job and have a nice summer!

I would have appreciated if there would have been at least one or two seminars that you could miss without having to complement each time. The work load to some of the seminars was also quite extensive and I think that could be arranged in another way. Because this course is in English which is a second language for most of the student, it takes much longer to read through everything and actually understand it in a way it wouldn't if the course had been in for example Swedish. I think that is important to keep in mind when you're going through or handing out material for us to go through in the seminars.

Good luck on improving the course next semester!

Över lag så är jag extremt nöjd med denna kurs. Jag känner att jag lärt mig väldigt mycket, och att allt vi pratat om har varit ovanligt intressant.

I hope you will make the course more humane the next time around and use more guidance and overviews to facilitate learning. Use a top-down perspective. Start with the forest and then show us the trees.

Setting high standards while at the same time being fair can be a pleasant learning experience. This course set high standards while inadequately providing the relevant tools for fulfilment and wasting a lot of valuable time on peripheral sub-topics without using almost any well-proven didactic instruments and approaches. The seminars felt somewhat anarchic without any guidance and almost always went over time. Overall, the course felt unreasonably difficult and fundamentally unfair, which I felt was a general sentiment among fellow students.

Maybe let someone external and not familiar with the subject assess how reasonable the syllabus is, or compare it to other courses. As it is now, a lot of people left for other courses immediately because they felt it was too draconian. A lot of those who stayed was also displeased with the over-optimistic planning and mediocre execution. Only one exchange student stayed even though the course was supposed to attract them. Since earlier courses in labour law has had a hard time attracting students and the institution haven't offered one in a while, it feels like a self-destructive approach to make it so unnecessarily demanding that no one can enjoy it. The course should assess the value of each individual student assignment and think about if there may be a more humane approach which leads to the same end result and if there is a better way to assess the quality that is looked for. Learning is best done when it also feel joyful and not like a continous punishment. As it stands, I would not recommend it to fellow students interested in labour law because of all these practical deficits. It felt somewhat kafkaesque in the discrepancy between the expectations set out and execution that followed.

The course had some moments but I was overall disappointed with the course layout.

Comment from course director Petra Herzfeld-Olsson: "Thank you for your constructive comments. I will take them into account when preparing for the course next time."