



JOHN FELICE

**ROME
CENTER**

ROST 382 Human Rights: The View from Rome

John Felice Rome Center

Spring 2023

Sala Addis

Tuesday - 6:45 PM – 9:15 PM

Instructor: Dr. Nicola Di Mauro – ndimauro@luc.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Please note: this is an Engaged Learning course, approved for the Service-Learning category, satisfying the Loyola University Chicago Engaged Learning requirement. All students must complete the service learning experience and related assignments in order to successfully pass this course.

Course Description

The course aims to discuss with the students the socio-juridical developments of human rights and their applications in the Mediterranean area. The course provides basic tools for understanding the history and principles underlying human rights. It is organized in three parts to discuss human rights related to three fundamental issues of the contemporary age: migration, interreligious dialogue and climate change.

Human rights are closely linked to the concept of justice. The general aim of the course is, therefore, to reflect on the forms of justice and on the different paths for its construction. To do so, the course includes a project-based Service Learning component, which culminates in students' presentations during the last session. As part of their Service Learning experience, which should take at least 20 hours, students are asked to learn, through encounter and engagement (in person and/or virtually), how individuals and specific populations in Italy and the Mediterranean area are affected by one or more of the themes explored during the course.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course students should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of history and principles underlying human rights;
- assess application of human rights related to migration, interreligious dialogue and climate change;
- identify current challenges regarding the enjoyment of human rights in the Mediterranean area;
- demonstrate self-reflection, anchored in the service-learning experience.

Course Material

Assigned readings and other assigned material shall be posted and/or linked on the course's Sakai page.

Course Structure

This course approaches human rights from an interdisciplinary perspective, analyzing different layers that affect human rights discourse. Course sessions are generally designed to include three main components:



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- a lecture by the instructor or guest lecturer;
- Student presentations and seminar conversations on assigned class readings;
- project-based Service Learning.

Grading

94-100: A

90-93: A-

87-89: B+

84-86: B

80-83: B-

77-79: C+

74-76: C

70-73: C-

67-69: D+

60-66: D

59 or lower: F

Assessment Components

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| • Participation | 40% |
| • Self-assessment quiz | 10% |
| • Final paper | 20% |
| • Service Learning Project | 30% |

Please find below a description of the assessment components:

- Participation is demonstrated by good class attendance and completion of in-class group presentations and discussions.
- The self-assessment quiz is meant to help you assess your knowledge of the first part of the course as well as familiarity with how/where to locate relevant information.
- The final paper will be focusing on the realities and needs of migrants. Further instructions will be shared during the course.
- For the Service Learning component of the course, further details will be shared during the course.



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Attendance Policy

In accordance with the JFRC mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, all courses adhere to the following absence policy. Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student.

- For all classes meeting once a week, students cannot incur more than one unexcused absence.
- For all classes meeting twice a week, students cannot incur more than two unexcused absences.
- For all classes meeting three times a week, students cannot incur more than two unexcused absences.

This course meets once a week, thus a total of one unexcused absence(s) will be permitted. Unexcused absences beyond these will result in 1% lowering of the final course grade, for every absence after the “approved limit”. The collective health of the JFRC is everyone’s responsibility. Do not attend class if you are ill.

Academic Honesty

You are expected to respect copyright and intellectual property rights.

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago’s guidelines. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola’s standards here: http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml. You are responsible to comply with the LUC Student Handbook.

Remember to cite any sources that you use in your work.

You can find info on citation styles here: <https://libguides.luc.edu/citing>

Late or Missed Assignments

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor.

Accessibility Accommodations

Students registered with the Student Accessibility Center requiring academic accommodations should contact the Office of the Dean at the John Felice Rome Center, the first week of classes.

Course schedule

Session 1 (1/17): Course Intro and Overview

Session 2 (1/24): History of Human Rights

Please find course material on Sakai (“Session 2”)



Session 3 (1/31): Introduction to Human Rights and Migration

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 3")

Session 4 (2/7): Rights and Mobility - International law and its applications

Please find course material on Sakai ("Session 4")

Session 5 (2/14): Rights and Mobility in the Mediterranean - Human Rights at the Frontier

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 5")

Session 6 (2/21): Migration, Development and Human Rights

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 6")

Session 7 (2/28): Introduction to Human Rights and Religion

During the session you will take the **self-assessment quiz**

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 7")

Session 8 (3/14): Rights and Religion - Islam in Italy, the State and Religious Freedom

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 8")

Session 9 (3/21): Rights and Religious Freedom in Italian Prisons

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 9")

Session 10 (3/28): Human Rights and Inerreligious Dialogue in the Mediterranean

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 10")

Session 11 (4/4): Introduction to Human Rights and Climate Change

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 11")

Session 12 (4/11): Climate Change, Migration and Human Rights

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 12")

Session 13 (4/18): Climate Change, Climate Justice

Please find course material due by class time on Sakai ("Session 13")

Session 14 (4/25): Presentations – Service Learning

4/27: Final paper due (details TBA)

Please note: The course syllabus is subject to change. Changes will be announced to the class.