Visiting Professors
Academic year 2018/2019

2nd term

COURSE TITLE
Negotiation and mediation of conflicts

Scientific area
Civil procedural law

Department of Law

Language used to teach
English

Teaching Commitment: 40 hours

Course summary
Latin American countries have recognized the multicultural character of the societies they command only in recent times. Before, State policies and legal frameworks were clearly ethnocentric and aimed at *civilizing* their population. The struggles of indigenous people at the international, national, and local levels have refashioned both the law and policies of most Latin America. Taking Peru as a case in point this course offers an overview of this complex process of negotiation and mediation of conflicts. Firstly, it shows how the role of the ethnocentric State was (and is) questioned by the political, cultural and economic demands of indigenous people. Secondly, it provides an overview of the legal and institutional changes that have reshaped the relations between the State and indigenous people. Thirdly, it provides ethnographic examples of the negotiations, accommodations and open conflicts that have shaped the process. These examples include the struggle over the implementation of the right to prior consultation to indigenous people, the conflicts unleashed by ethnocentric development projects, and the unsolved question of balancing indigenous or peasant rights vis a vis the expansion of mining and oil corporations, among others. Finally, an assessment of the accomplishments and failures in the construction of a truly multicultural and democratic political body is provided.

Learning objectives
By the end of this course, students will be able to:
- Display the usefulness of the anthropological approach to legal, institutional and political issues concerning the negotiation and mediation of conflicts.
- Study and reflect on the tensions between ethnocentric States and multicultural societies.
- Provide an overview of the emergence of indigenous people as international, national and local actors and of their struggles against discriminatory and unfair laws and policies.
- Understand the features of the tense dialogue and open conflict that characterize the relations between the Peruvian State and indigenous people.
- Invite the students to draw comparisons between the multicultural challenge in developed and developing countries and of the conflicts arising there from.
**Tutorship activities**

1. The Visiting Professor shall be available to students who wish to consult him/her on his/her field of expertise and shall supervise students who will prepare a paper under his/her guidance.
2. Themes and titles will be decided during the course and approved by the teacher, who will be available to meet the students who need advice on bibliographical consulting or other counseling.

**Other activities besides the course: i.e. seminars and conferences addressed to PhD students and research fellows, dissemination conferences**

Workshops will be offered toward the end of the course on issues of special interest to students. Each workshop will entail the presentation of the chosen subject by one or more students and its open discussion, under the teacher’s supervision. Possible topics to be covered are:

- Water rights, agribusiness, and the (un)sustainable exploitation of the water table (Ica, Peru)
- Legal pluralism, interlegality and peasant water organizations
- Expert witness testimony: an anthropological approach to indigenous defendants

**Visiting Professor Profile**

The candidate obtained degrees in Law and Anthropology, with a teaching experience related to University courses on Anthropology of Law, Law and Development, and related topics. A strong investment in several national and international research networks shall be highly appreciated, as well as an extensive fieldwork experience on local systems of water law and their relationship with the regulation of water law conflicts by State institutions.

**Contact person at the Department**

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