Discrimination and anti-discrimination: socio-legal perspectives

Prof. Tobias Eule (uniBE) and Prof. Christin Achermann (uniNE)

1. UniBE: General information and introduction: Friday, 21 February 2020, 9-12h
2. UniNE: Friday, 24 April 2020, 8h45-12h and 14h-17h15
3. UniBE: Friday, 8 May 2020, 9h15-12h30 and 14h-17h15
4. UniNE: Friday, 15 May 2020, 8h45-12h and 14h-17h15

Discrimination, understood here in the broad sense of an unequal and disadvantaging treatment of individuals based on their attribution to a particular social group, is both a wide-spread social phenomenon and a politically contested issue. All over the world, equal access to rights and resources has been restricted with reference to various and changing criteria, such as gender, religion, race or health. This has been challenged by social and political movements, and addressed by national and international legal instruments seeking to fight particular forms of discrimination and systematic mistreatment. Over the last decades, research in both law and the social sciences has examined origins and types of discrimination as well as the effects of legal and societal anti-discrimination remedies. Many studies have focused on a) particular groups that are discriminated against (e.g. ethnic, linguistic or religious minorities, women, homosexuals and other sexual minorities, disabled people), b) particular sites where discrimination is occurring (e.g. interpersonal, institutional or public levels) or c) mechanisms and movements fighting against discrimination.

This interdisciplinary seminar attempts to bring these diverse perspectives together. It is open to interested students in law, the social sciences and anthropology at the Universities of Bern and Neuchâtel. In three one-day block courses, students will be asked to analyse and discuss the interplay of social processes and legal regulations in the field of discrimination and anti-discrimination.
in an interactive setting. Particular attention will be given to the
criteria of race, ethnicity and religion; gender and sexual
orientation; disability and health.

Students taking the seminar do not need a background in public
law or sociology, but should be open minded and interested in a
broad and ongoing debate that strikes the heart of our
understanding of the states. Written coursework can be submitted
in German or English.

To register to the course, send an email with your contact details
(name, matriculation number, degree and semester) to
noemie.hirsig@oefre.unibe.ch.

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<tr>
<th>Learning outcome (DE)</th>
<th>Learning outcome (EN)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Die Studierenden sollen am Ende des Seminars</td>
<td>At the end of the seminar, students should</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Theorien, Fälle und Studien zum Thema Diskriminierung und Anti-Diskriminierung kennen,</td>
<td>- have gained knowledge on theories, cases and empirical research on discrimination and anti-discrimination</td>
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<td>- sich eine eigene Perspektive auf die theoretischen Strömungen bilden</td>
<td>- have developed their own perspective on the theoretical debates</td>
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<td>- und somit Probleme interdisziplinär und kritisch betrachten können.</td>
<td>- and can examine problems relating to discrimination in a critically and interdisciplinary manner.</td>
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