

## **International seminar: Human Rights and Diversity – their relevance for different fields of work**

University of Applied Sciences Bremen, Faculty of Social Sciences

### ***Summer Term 2018***

March 15<sup>th</sup> –17<sup>th</sup> 2018 (thurs – sat 9:45-17:15),  
and seven Thursdays: 22 March, 12 and 26 April, and 17, 24, and, 31 May and 8 June (14-17:15)

(6 ECTS)

### **Lecturer**

Prof. Dr. Marianne Hirschberg,

Area of Work: Human Rights, Disability Studies and its Importance for Social Work

### ***Content***

#### **Aim of this Course**

- To achieve, improve, and reflect knowledge and understanding of Human Rights and leading theories of Diversity discussed in international fields
- To offer an open forum to improve abilities to communicate in English.

This seminar will cover the development of Human Rights as a political instrument and a theoretically based conceptualization being regarded as a foundation for the profession of Social Work and its relevance for other disciplines.

Who has Human Rights? And who is able to enjoy them, to live according to them? We will approach this difference between theory and practice of having access to Human Rights by texts, films and different methods to deepen our understanding of it. Regarding the enjoyment of Human rights there is a relation to the construction of difference: gender, race, disability, class, and all other dimensions.

How is human diversity regarded? How did people achieve access to Human Rights? We will have a closer look on some Human Rights or Civil Rights Movements having experienced social injustice and how they fought for receiving the same Human Rights as others. Thereby, we follow some theoretical traditions of academic reflection on Human Rights and diversity from the perspective of international approaches and debates.

The seminar is designed to give a systematic overview on different theories and to compare the approaches. Students will be invited to work in small groups and to read, discuss and create presentations about the different theories. The lecturer will provide additional theory units. The seminar aims to support a positive group atmosphere that allows to learn and to improve skills and knowledge about the theories and the English language.

## **Requirements**

Please note:

This course is designed to improve your competences to communicate in English on a personal and a professional level. You should be able to speak and understand English on the level of good school knowledge (about six years of English) but this seminar will also be designed to refresh and improve your abilities. Most important for the success of this course would be, however, that you are interested in trying and practicing your communication skills actively without feeling anxious to make mistakes.

## **Working Forms**

Workshop with group work and presentations, theory and practice units

## **Exams and Grading**

Ungraded exam: Active participation in group work and one theory presentation

## **ECTS Options for Incoming Students**

For incoming students there is the possibility to participate:

1. In all units and to receive 6 ECTS
2. In only the block units (16-19 March) and the next thurs (april) to receive 3 ECTS
3. In the block units plus to submit a written essay about one theory/approach of choice and to receive 6 ECTS (The essay needs to be delivered in English language until June 8<sup>th</sup>, to be discussed in the seminar in the last session, expected length: 1 person: 8 pages, 2 persons: 10 pages, 3 persons 12 pages.

The length of the essays is shortened because of the demand to write in English.