



Comillas Summer School

Comparative Human Rights: Europe, the United States and Latin America

This course offers a comparative analysis of human rights standards and their interpretation across Europe, Latin America, and the United States. Students examine how supposedly universal rights are applied differently through case law from the US Supreme Court, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the European Court of Human Rights. The course also addresses comparative migration issues and compliance with international law, encouraging active participation and discussion drawing on students' own national contexts.

General Information

Credits: 5 ECTS

Language: English

Delivery mode: On-site

Location: Alberto Aguilera 23 (Madrid)

Dates: 22/06/2026 – 03/07/2026

Duration: 2 weeks (full-time)

Academic area: Law

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Compare how human rights frameworks and jurisprudence operate across the US, Europe, and Latin America, including implications for vulnerable groups
 - Apply human rights and migration standards to current events using legal reasoning grounded in case law
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Fees, deadlines, and discounts

- Price: €1,000
- Enrolment deadline: 15 May. Late applications may be accepted, subject to availability.
- Early Bird: until 15 April, 20% off
- Additional discount: €100 for students from the IAJU Network and IPBS Network
- Summer School materials indicate the course price includes enrolment + course materials, diploma, transcript of records, access to university services, and site/cultural visits/activities.

Course content

Block 1

- International human rights law and domestic implementation
- UN mechanisms and regional systems (European and Inter-American)
- Comparative perspective: the US Supreme Court, ECtHR, and IACtHR

Block 3

- Discrimination based on race and ethnicity
- SOGI rights in international and regional practice
- Reproductive rights: US vs Europe and international standards

Block 2

- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of religion: free exercise and establishment
- Torture and ill-treatment
- Death penalty, life sentences, and solitary confinement (comparative rulings)

Block 4

- Migration, asylum, and non-refoulement
- Trafficking and protection obligations
- Comparative policies and key jurisprudence

Assessment, exams, and attendance

- Attendance: minimum 90% required
- Exams: Assessment is based on participation, assignments and course deliverables, and/or exams when specified by the professor.
- Final grade:
 - 0 – 4.9: Suspenso (SS) - Fail
 - 5.0 – 6.9: Aprobado (AP) - Pass
 - 7.0 – 8.9: Notable (NT) - Very Good
 - 9.0 – 10: Sobresaliente (SB) - Excellent

Entry requirements

- Aimed at undergraduate students.
- For English-taught courses, a minimum B2 English level is required. Accepted proof includes certificates such as Cambridge, IELTS and other equivalents or an official confirmation of English level issued by the student's home university.

Application process

- Email pre-registration: Send an email to summer.school@comillas.edu indicating: Course name; Full name; Email address; Passport number.
- Access to the application platform: After your registration is processed, Comillas will open access to the online application platform.
- Upload required documents (via the platform), typically including: Passport copy; ID photo; Proof of health insurance



Accommodation

Comillas collaborates with official partners to offer students a range of recommended accommodation options during Summer School, including Lodgerin, Neelo, Homiii, Colegio Mayor Loyola.

- [Lodgerin](#)
- [Neelo](#)
- [Homiii](#)
- [Colegio Mayor Loyola](#)

If you would like to explore more options, you can also visit our [website](#)

Cultural activities

- Experience Spain beyond the classroom. All courses include cultural activities, such as city tours, visits to nearby cities, museum visits, sports activities, and other social events.
 - Welcome & closing ceremony: All participants are invited to the official welcome and closing ceremonies.
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Informational sessions

Two online informational sessions are organised each month. If you would like to participate, please contact the Comillas Summer School team and we will send you the invitation details.

For more information, please contact:

- Xinyi Ying - yxinyi@comillas.edu
- Summer.School@comillas.edu