

PSCI 5602

Ethics in International Relations

Thursdays 11:35-2:25

Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Professor: Fiona Robinson

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AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

How should we think about moral problems in global politics? What does it mean to think, and act, ethically in the world? What role do 'ethics' play in international relations? What is the relationship between ethics, politics and power? The aim of this course is to provide students with the necessary tools to think critically about theories and issues related to international ethics. International ethics is a rapidly expanding field within the discipline of International Relations; this growth has been driven partly by developments in related fields of moral and political philosophy, as well as by the evident moral urgency of many contemporary global problems – including questions of poverty and inequality, and the ethics of war and conflict. This course will begin by looking at competing theoretical perspectives on international ethics. We will then go on to examine issues and problems in international ethics, including the ethics of security and war, poverty, 'sweatshops', and humanitarianism. By the end of the course you should have a strong grasp of dominant and critical theoretical approaches to international ethics; you should also be able to use these approaches to make sense of the way ethical arguments work in international politics.

STRUCTURE AND ASSESSMENT

The course is organized as a seminar and meets weekly for three hours. Seminars will normally begin with a brief introduction from the instructor; this will be followed by presentations, general discussion and debate.

ASSESSMENT:

Participation (attendance, seminar participation):	30%
Presentation 1: Critical Analysis (weeks 2-6)	15%
- presentation: 5%	
- 5 page written analysis: 10%	
Presentation 2: Ethical Issue (weeks 6-12)	15%
Final Research Paper: (due week 13, Dec 3):	40%
Total:	100%

Participation: Attendance at weekly seminars is mandatory. Your participation grade will be based on your attendance at these meetings throughout the term, as well as the quality and quantity of your participation in discussions. Students are expected to have completed the required reading before the seminar and to arrive prepared to discuss that week's material. To earn an 'A' grade for participation, you must have perfect or near perfect attendance, and have made regular, informed contributions to the discussion. If you have to miss a seminar for a legitimate reason, please inform me as soon as possible (preferably before the seminar). All students are required to show respect for the instructor and the other students in the group during presentations and group discussions. **The use of laptops/iPads/smartphones in class will be restricted to consulting electronic versions of readings or occasional consultation of the internet when necessary.**

Presentation 1: Critical Analysis of Readings (including 5 page written analysis)

Each student must do one presentation during weeks 2-6. These presentations will consist of a critical/analytical reflection on the weeks readings. Each presentation must be 10-15 minutes in length, and must consist primarily of analysis, critique and reflections of the ideas presented in the readings. What are the key ideas? What are the common themes across the readings? How do the perspectives differ? What are the most important points/key strengths? What are the weaknesses, inconsistencies, omissions? Description of the content of the readings **MUST** be kept to a bare minimum (2-3 minutes maximum). These presentations must be accompanied by a 5 page written critical analysis which must be submitted on the day of the presentation. The oral presentation will be worth 5% of your grade, and the written analysis will be worth 10%.

Presentation 2: 'Issue' Presentation (weeks 6-12): Each student must complete a second presentation during weeks 6-12 on an 'issue' in global politics. These presentations are to be less formal and more creative. Emphasis will **NOT** be on the readings (although these should help you to think about the topic) but on the creative presentation of an issue and its manifestation as an ethical issue in the

'real world'. Presentations may focus on a topic addressed in class (the ethics of war; labour rights) or a specific sub-issue or aspect of one of our topics (e.g. the ethics of drones, children in war, fair trade coffee, the Canadian temporary foreign worker program for live-in caregivers, etc.). Students are encouraged to be creative and to use multi-media (video and audio clips; art; artifacts; etc.). Presentations should be informative (what is the issue?) and reflective (why does it matter? Why is this a 'moral' issue? How should we think ethically about this issue?) Finally, students are encouraged to use the theoretical ideas and perspectives from the first half of the course in order to analyse the issue in the presentation. Presentations should be approximately 15 minutes in length. Students MAY work in pairs or groups, but this is not required. Presentations will be marked on the following:

- 1) Suitability of issue chosen
- 2) Use of ideas, theories and concepts studied in the course to address the issue
- 3) Creativity, Organization and Clarity of presentation

Final Research Paper: All students will be required to write one substantial research essay (20 - 25 pages). The essay will be on a topic of the student's choice related to the general topic of ethics and international relations. Students MAY write on the topic of their second presentation, as long as the essay does not *directly* use significant material from the presentation. Essay topics may be purely theoretical; however, in most cases, students will choose to address a particular ethical issue or problem in IR. However, all essays must have a clear theoretical framework or 'lens' through which they examine the issue(s) in question. Students must use at least 10 scholarly sources (beyond class readings) in researching their essays. Research essays will be due in class on the final class of the term.

READINGS

All of the readings are on reserve and are available through the library's ARES reserve system. Most are available electronically; for book chapters, the books will be placed on reserve and will be available in the library.

** If you are not familiar with International Relations theory, I suggest reading through a good text like Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith, eds. (2013) *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity*. Oxford: OUP. 3rd Edition. (any edition will do).

OTHER INFORMATION

Submission of Written Assignments: Students must submit hard copies of all written assignments on the dates specified above. Students who are unable to submit their written assignments on time may deposit them in the Departmental “Drop Box” (a mail slot in the wall) located in the corridor outside of room B640 Loeb. Assignments are retrieved once every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. Assignments submitted after 4:00pm will be date stamped as received the next business day. Late submissions will be accepted but penalized by one third of a letter grade per day (e.g. from A- to B+) (Friday to Monday will count as one day!) for up to seven calendar days. Written assignments will not be accepted after one week without consultation with the instructor.

Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the course instructor and only for serious and documented medical reasons or for other emergency personal circumstances. Requests for extensions submitted after the due date will not be considered. It is the students’ responsibility to manage their time effectively.

Office hours and e-mail: If you wish to discuss any aspect of the course with me, please attend my office hours (posted above). If you cannot make it to my office hours, please see me in class to arrange an alternate meeting time. Please DO NOT e-mail me regarding questions you have concerning the course (unless it is a brief procedural or information-related question requiring a brief answer). Students are strongly encouraged to meet with me during my office hours to discuss the course and their progress.

WEEKLY TOPICS AND READINGS

Week 1 Introduction **Sept 3**

This week will go through the course outline, discuss expectations and aims for the course, and assign weeks for presentations.

Take a look at the website <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/>

(Be prepared to share some thoughts on it during class).

Week 2 Thinking about Ethics in International Relations **Sept 10**

Kimberly Hutchings (1992) 'The Possibility of Judgement: Moralizing and Theorizing in International Relations', *Review of International Studies* 18(2): 51-62.

Mervyn Frost (1998) 'A Turn not Taken: Ethics in IR at the Millennium', *Review of International Studies*, 24, Special Issue: 119-132.

Richard Price (2010) 'Chapter 1, Introduction' in *Moral Limit and Possibility in World Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Amy Allen (2010) 'Ethics and Post-structuralism' in Duncan Bell, ed., *Ethics and World Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Week 3 Realism, Necessity and International Ethics

Sept 17

Kimberly Hutchings (1999) 'Realism and Idealism', Chapter 1 in *International Political Theory: Rethinking Ethics in a Global Era*. London: Sage.

Duncan Bell, 'Political Realism and the limits of Ethics' in Duncan Bell, ed., *Ethics and World Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Michael Walzer (1977) (any edition) *Just and Unjust Wars*. Chapter 1, 'Against Realism' and Chapter 16 'Supreme Emergency'.

Patricia Owens (2008) 'The Ethic of Reality in Hannah Arendt', in D. Bell, ed., *Political Thought and International Relations: Variations on a Realist Theme*. Oxford: OUP: 105-121.

Week 4 Globalizing Citizenship, Democracy and the Public Sphere

Sept 24

Andrew Linklater (1998) 'Cosmopolitan Citizenship', (1998) *Citizenship Studies*, 2(1):23-41.

Onora O'Neill (2000) 'Bounded and Cosmopolitan Justice', *Review of International Studies*, 26(5): 45-60.

Carol Gould (2010) 'Do Cosmopolitan Ethics and Cosmopolitan Democracy Imply Each Other?', *Questioning Cosmopolitanism: Studies in Global Justice*, Volume 6, Part 2: 153-166. Available on-line at <http://www.springerlink.com/content/t7x724j7q3123234/>

Nancy Fraser (2014) 'Transnationalizing the Public Sphere: On the Legitimacy and Efficacy of Public Opinion in a Post-Westphalian World' in Nancy Fraser et al., *Transnationalizing the Public Sphere*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Week 5 Global Justice

Oct 1

Charles Beitz (1975) 'Justice and International Relations', *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 4(4): 360-389,

David Miller (2008) 'National Responsibility and Global Justice' in *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, 11(4): 383-399.

Alison M. Jaggar, 'Introduction: Gender and Global Justice: Rethinking Some Basic Assumptions of Western Political Philosophy' and 'Chapter 1: Transnational Cycles of Gendered Vulnerability' in Alison M. Jaggar, ed. (2014) *Gender and Global Justice*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Margaret Kohn (2013) 'Postcolonialism and Global Justice', *Journal of Global Ethics*, 9(2): 187-200.

Week 6 A Global Ethic of Care

Oct 8

Fierke, K.M. (2014) 'Who is my neighbour? Memories of the Holocaust/al Nakba and a global ethic of care', *European Journal of International Relations*, 20(3) : 787-809.

Robinson, Fiona (2013) 'Global Care Ethics : Beyond Distribution, Beyond Justice' in *Journal of Global Ethics* 9(2) : 131-143.

Eva Feder Kittay (2014) 'The Moral Harm of Migrant Carework: Realizing a Global Right to Care' in Alison Jaggar, ed., *Global Gender Justice*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

J.A. Parks (2010), 'Care Ethics and the Global Practice of Commercial Surrogacy', *Bioethics*, 24(7): 333-340.

Week 7

Inequality and Poverty

Oct 15

Thomas Pogge (2005) 'World Poverty and Human Rights', *Ethics and International Affairs*, 19(1): 1-7.

Peter Singer (1972) 'Famine, Affluence and Morality', *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 1(3): 229-43.

Scott Wiser (2011) 'Against shallow ponds: an argument against Singer's approach to global poverty'. *Journal of Global Ethics*, 7(1): 19-32.

Patrick Hayden, 'Superfluous Humanity: An Arendtian Perspective on the Political Evil of Global Poverty', *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 35(2), 2007: 279-300.

Week 8

Global Labour Standards: The Sweatshop Debate

Oct 22

Iris Marion Young (2006) 'Responsibility and Global Justice: A Social Connection Model', *Social Philosophy and Policy*, 23(1): 102-130.

Naila Kabeer, 'Globalization, Labor Standards, and Women's Rights: Dilemmas of Collective (In)action in an Interdependent World'. *Feminist Economics*, 10(1), 2004, 3-35.

'Flee Sweatshops or Stay and Change them?', Room for Debate, *The New York Times*, May 2, 2013

<http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2013/05/02/when-does-corporate-responsibility-mean-abandoning-ship>

Nora J. Kenworthy, 'A Manufac(RED) Ethics: Labor, HIV and the Body in Lesotho's "Sweat-free" Garment Industry'. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, 28(4): 459-479.

****Fall Term Reading Week October 26-October 30; classes suspended**

Week 9 The Ethics of War

Nov 5

Michael Walzer (2002) 'The Triumph of Just War Theory (and the Dangers of Success), *Social Research*, 69(4): 925-944.

Neta Crawford (2003) 'Just War Theory and the U.S. Counterterror War', *Perspectives on Politics*, 1(1): 5-25.

Laura Sjoberg (2008) 'Why Just War needs Feminism now more than ever', *International Politics*, 45: 1-18.

Daniel Brunsletter and Megan Braun (2011), 'The Implications of Drones on the Just War Tradition', *Ethics and International Affairs* 25(3): 337-358.

Week 10 Ethical Security Studies

Nov 12

Browning, Christopher S. and Matt McDonald, 'The Future of critical security studies : Ethics and the Politics of Security'. *European Journal of International Relations*, 19(2) : 235-255.

Burke, Anthony (2013) 'Cosmopolitan Security', *Critical Studies on Security*, 1(1) : 13-28.

Forums on 'Cosmopolitan Security', *Critical Studies on Security*, 1(1) : 13-28 (2013) and 2(2) : (2015)

Week 11 Humanitarianism

Nov 19

Alan Woolfolk (2003) 'An impossible yet necessary ethic of resistance', *Journal of Human Rights* 2(2): 247-252.

Jenny Edkins (2003) 'Humanitarianism, Humanity, Human'. *Journal of Human Rights*, 2(2): 253-258.

Fuyuki Kurasawa (2013) 'The sentimentalist paradox: on the normative and visual foundations of humanitarianism', *Journal of Global Ethics*, 9(2): 201-214.

Barnett, Michael (2013) 'International Paternalism and Humanitarian Governance', *Global Constitutionalism*, 1(3): 485-521.

Jemima Repo and Riina Yrjola (2011) 'The Gender Politics of Celebrity Humanitarianism in Africa', *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 13(1): 44-62.

Week 12 Commodity Ethics

Nov 26

Roopali Mukherjee and Sarah Banet-Weiser, eds., *Commodity Activism: Cultural resistance in Neoliberal Times*. New York: NYU Press. 'Introduction'.

MK Goodman (2004) 'Reading Fair Trade: Political Ecological Imaginary and the Moral Economy of Fair Trade Foods', *Political Geography*, 23(7): 891-915.

Sirkku Hellsten and Chris Mallin (2006) 'Are 'Ethical' or 'Socially Responsible' Investments Socially Responsible?' *Journal of Business Ethics*, 66: 393-406.

Ivan Manokha (2006) 'Business Ethics and the Spirit of Global Capitalism': Moral Leadership in the Context of Global Hegemony, *Journal of Global Ethics*, 2(1): 27-41.

Week 13 'Africa': Misrecognition and Satire in Development Aid

Dec 3

Radi-Aid: Africa for Norway <http://www.africafor norway.no/>

Olav Edland-Gryt, Sindre, 2014 'When NGOs attack!', *Al Jazeera*, March 10, 2014
<http://america.aljazeera.com/opinions/2014/3/making-fun-of-westernaid.html>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/11/17/they-know-its-christmas/>

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/nov/11/band-aid-30-patronising-bob-geldof-ebola-do-they-know-its-christmas>

Dubgen, Franziska (2012) 'Africa Humiliated? Misrecognition in Development Aid', *Res Publica*, 18:65-77.

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic

medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual

property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Carleton E-mail Accounts: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/> or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.