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 war, poverty, and ‘sweatshops’. 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. Class will begin promptly at 8:50 am and will end at 11:25am. Please be on time. There will be a short break between 10 and 10:30am each week.

ASSESSMENT:

Participation (attendance, seminar participation, debates): 25%
- Attendance: 6 marks
- Debate Participation: 9 marks
Seminar Leading: 4 marks
Weekly Participation: 6 marks

Debate Write-Ups (3 x 10%) 30%
Presentation of Final Research Paper 10%
Final Research Paper 35%

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. Each week (except for ‘debate’ weeks), one or two students will be required to lead the discussion. This is not a formal presentation; rather, your job is to be prepared to lead the discussion of the general topic and readings. Please come prepared with some opening remarks (3-5 minutes) and two discussion questions to lead off the conversation. 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 must miss a seminar for a legitimate reason, please inform me as soon as possible (preferably before the seminar). Unless required for special accommodations, 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.

Debates: In Weeks 5, 7 and 9, most of the seminar time will be devoted to informal debate on case studies/empirical issues related to the broad themes of the course. Students will prepare for them by doing the required readings for the week. Students will be assigned ‘sides’, and will have approximately 20 minutes at the beginning of class to discuss and prepare. This will be followed by an informal debate; each student will be required to make at least one opening point/argument before we move to an open debate. After the debate we will reconvene for a class discussion on what we have learned. Students will be marked on both the quantity and quality of their debate participation; ‘quality’ participation will demonstrate a familiarity with the required readings for the week.

Debate Write-ups: All students will be required to submit a short ‘write-up’ of each debate. These write-ups will be due the week after the debate takes place. The write-ups will summarize the arguments for and against the resolution, and will take a position (either the one you argued for in class, or the one you found most convincing) and explain why this position is most convincing. Write-ups should cite the week’s readings in order to support arguments/claims. Write
ups should be between 1000 and 1500 words (4–6 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font). Debate write-ups are due Weeks 6, 8 and 10.

**Final Research Paper:** All students will be required to write one substantial research essay (18-20 pages, double-spaced). The essay will be on a topic of the student’s choice related to the general area of ethics and international relations. 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 6 scholarly sources (beyond class readings) in researching their essays. Research essays will be due in class on the final class of the term. Students will present their research in the final two classes of the term.

**READINGS**

All 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.


**OTHER INFORMATION**

**Submission of Written Assignments:** Please submit all written assignments electronically via CU learn. Late assignments should also be submitted via CU learn. 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. Please speak the instructor as early as possible, and certainly BEFORE the assignment due date (if possible). 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 their essay topic and progress.

Weekly Topics at a Glance (highlight denotes written assignment due)

Week 1: Introduction September 11
Week 2: Ethics and IR Theory September 18
Week 3: Critical Voices: Ethics and Power September 25
Week 4: Ethics of War October 2
Week 5: Case Study Debate: UAVs, Robots and Ethics October 16
Week 6: Humanitarianism and Humanitarian Intervention October 30
Week 7: Case Study Debate: R2P after Iraq and Libya November 6
Week 8: Poverty, Global Capitalism and Global Justice November 13
Week 9: Case Study Debates: The Global Garment Industry and Global Commercial Surrogacy November 20
Week 10: Recognition and Representation in Development and Humanitarianism November 27
Week 11: Research Paper Presentations December 4
Week 12: Research Paper Presentations December 8

WEEKLY TOPICS AND READINGS

Week 1  Introduction
Sept 11


Week 2  Ethics and IR Theory
Sept 18

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


**Week 3 Critical Voices: Ethics, Power and Global Politics**
**Sept 25**


Schick, Kate. ""To lend a voice to suffering is a condition for all truth’: Adorno and International Political Thought." Journal of International Political Theory 5.2 (2009): 138-160.

**Week 4 Ethics of War**
**Oct 2**


Week 5  Case Study Debate: ‘UAVs, military robots and precision targeting are effective AND ethical’. 
Oct 16


Week 6  Humanitarianism and Humanitarian Intervention (Debate write-up due!) 
Oct 30


Week 7  Case Study Debate: ‘The Norm of R2P is robust and still morally legitimate since the Iraq wars and Libya’.
Nov 6


Bellamy, Alex J. "From Tripoli to Damascus? Lesson learning and the implementation of the Responsibility to Protect." International Politics 51.1 (2014): 23-44.

http://home.sogang.ac.kr/sites/jaechun/courses/Lists/b6/Attachments/28/8.\%20R2P\%20and\%20RIP.pdf


Week 8  Poverty, Inequality and Global Justice (Debate write-up due!)
Nov 13


**Week 9 Case Study Debate:** *The gendered global capitalist economy is unjust and practices such as women’s sweatshop labour and global commercial surrogacy/ova trade are immoral*. Nov 20


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


**Week 10**
**Representation and Recognition in Development and Humanitarianism**
(debate write-up due!)
Nov 27


#InstagrammingAfrica: The Narcissism of Voluntourism’

**Week 11: Presentations**
Dec 4

**Week 12: Presentations**
(final research paper due!)
Dec 8

**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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>80-84</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>77-79</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>57-59</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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.