AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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 poverty and justice, the ethics of war and conflict, human rights and the environment. This course will be primarily devoted to the careful examination and critique of competing theoretical perspectives on international ethics. In order to do this, we will begin by thinking about the role and nature of ethical thought in the context of IR theory more general, especially in relation to debates about epistemology and methodology. From there we will go on to examine rationalist ethical theory as well as approaches to ethics from the perspectives of postmodernism and postcolonialism, feminism and constructivism. The second half of the course will be devoted to examining how these various approaches have been used to examine issues or problems in international ethics. These will include: globalization and global poverty; the ethics of war; security and humanitarian intervention.

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 general discussion and debate. The final two classes of the term will be reserved for our class ‘mini-conference’ on International Ethics. Students will present their papers in a ‘conference-style’, which will include comments, questions and general discussion.

ASSESSMENT:

Participation: 30%
Presentation: 15%
Short Paper: 15% (due week 6, October 13th)
Final Paper:  40% (due week 12, Nov 24)

Attendance and 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 a grade of 15 or higher out of 20, 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.

Presentation: All students will be required to present their final papers in our class ‘mini conference’ on International Ethics. Papers will be grouped together into ‘panels’; following the presentations, there will be time for comments, questions and discussion. The Presentation will be worth 15% of the final mark.

Short Paper: All students will be required to write one short paper (8 pages). The topic for the paper will be: ‘HOW CAN CONSIDERATION OF ETHICS HELP US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS’? Students may, but are not required to, use sources beyond the course reading list. The paper must be written as a formal essay, and it must be properly researched and documented.

Final 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. 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. Research essays should be e-mailed to me by 10am on Thursday November 24th. During the final two classes, students will have an opportunity to share the arguments, analyses and conclusions of their essays with the rest of the class. This final presentation will be worth 15% of the final mark.

TEXTBOOKS AND READINGS

Many of the readings for this course are available on-line through the Library’s electronic journals. All other readings (in books) have been placed on reserve in the Library. Since we will be reading almost all of Kimberly Hutchings’ Global Ethics: An Introduction, it has been ordered at the bookstore.

OTHER INFORMATION

Late Assignments: Extensions beyond the original due date will only be granted under exceptional circumstances and with proper documentation. If you are ill, or have another
legitimate reason for not submitting an assignment on time, please see me as soon as possible (preferably before the assignment due date) to arrange an alternate due date. One grade point per day will be deducted for late assignments. Friday to Monday will count as one day. Do not put assignments in my mailbox or slide them under my door.

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 AND READINGS

Week 1  Thinking about Ethics and International Relations Theory:
Sept 8  Untangling morality and ethics, normativity and epistemology


Week 2  Rationalist Ethical Theories
Sept 15


**Week 3**  
**Postmodernist Ethics and Postcolonialism**

**Sept 22**


**Week 4**  
**Gender, Diversity and Feminist Ethics**

**Sept 29**


**Week 5**  
**Norms and Change in World Politics**

**Oct 6**


**Week 6  Ethics of International Aid and Development**

Oct 13


Martha Nussbaum ‘Human Capabilities, Female Human Beings’ in Pogge and Moellendorf, eds., *Global Justice: Seminal Essays*.


*** SHORT ESSAY DUE THIS WEEK!***

‘HOW CAN CONSIDERATION OF ETHICS HELP US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS?’

**Week 7  Global Justice and Globalization**

Oct 20


Week 8  The Ethics of Transnational Care  
Oct 27


Week 9  Ethics of War  
Nov 3


Michael Walzer, Just and Unjust Wars: A Moral Argument with Historical Illustrations. 2006; especially chapters 1, 4 and 6.


Week 10  Ethics of Peace and Retributive Justice  
Nov 10


**Week 11 Humanitarian Intervention**

**Nov 17**


Alex Bellamy, ‘Responsibility to Protect or Trojan Horse? The Crisis in Darfur and Humanitarian Intervention after Iraq’, *Ethics and International Affairs, 19*(2), 2005:31-53.


**Week 12 and 13**

**Nov 24 and Dec 1**

No readings; Mini class conference on International Ethics (Student paper presentations).

**Academic Accommodations**

**For students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **(November 11, 2011 for fall term examinations and March 7, 2012 for winter term examinations)**.

**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 include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Oral Examination: At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be handed directly to the instructor 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. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading: The following is the Carleton University grading system.

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<th>Percentage</th>
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Grades: Final grades are derived from the completion of course assignments. Failure to write the final exam will result in the grade ABS. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

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.
**Connect Email Accounts:** All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via Connect. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

**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 in the after-hours academic life 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, please email carletonpss@gmail.com, visit our website at poliscisociety.com, 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.