

INTA 2030: Ethics and International Affairs

Fall 2011

Instructor:

Tahseen Kazi

Office: Habersham, Room 143

Office Hours: Thursdays, 11am -12 noon

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Course Description

This is a survey course intended to introduce you to the main traditions of international ethics. As you learn about their theories, we will also explore their impact and significance for issues and controversies in world politics today. The contemporary issues to be considered include the justice of war, international humanitarian intervention, and global poverty.

Required Texts and Interactive Aids

The following required texts are available at the Engineers' Bookstore:

Michael Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars* (New York: Basic Books). All readings by Walzer in the Reading Schedule below refer to this book unless otherwise noted.

Peter Singer, *One World* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2002). All readings by Singer in the Reading Schedule below refer to this book unless otherwise noted.

All other required readings will be placed on T-Square or are available online at the given Internet address.

While participating in this class, you are expected to have a reasonable familiarity with current world events. This can be accomplished by reading at least one major newspaper daily, such as *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post*. I would highly recommend that reading from among such periodicals become a regular part of your daily routine for the rest of your life, if it has not already.

Recommended Readings

For those of you interested in further study, here are some important texts on international ethics:

Immanuel Kant, *Kant: Political Writings* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991)

Martha Nussbaum et al., *For Love of Country?* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1996)

John Rawls, *The Law of Peoples* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press)

Academic journals that focus on or publish articles on international ethics include *Ethics and International Affairs*, *Millennium*, and *American Political Science Review*.

Course Evaluation

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|------------------------|-----|
| In-class Quizzes: | 25% |
| In-class Midterm Exam: | 33% |
| In-class Final Exam: | 33% |
| Class Attendance: | 9% |

The quizzes, midterm exam and final exam will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. They will cover both class lectures and course readings. Although the final exam will not be cumulative, it will be difficult for you to do well on the final if you did not learn or understand the material covered for the midterm.

Class attendance is mandatory for this course. You will be allowed 3 unexcused absences. Every absence after the third absence will result in 3% being taken off your final grade, up to 9% taken off your final grade. This is a strict policy and will be firmly enforced. If you are too ill to come to class or have a personal emergency then you must submit a written absence request with appropriate documentation, such as a doctor's note.

Readings Schedule

The readings schedule is subject to additions or removals of readings in accordance with course needs as the semester progresses. Refer to our T-Square site for the latest schedule. All readings are available online at the url given or are posted on T-Square.

Note: **The readings under class dates should already be read before that class.** Be prepared to discuss the readings for each class, to be able to answer questions that I may pose about the readings, and to answer quiz questions on the readings.

Week 1

August 22: Introduction

August 24: The Study of Morals

Advance reading:

1. James Rachels, "What is Morality?"

August 26: Realism in International Ethics

Advance readings:

1. E.H. Carr, "Morality in International Politics"

Week 2

August 29: Realism in International Ethics II

1. Hans Morgenthau, "International Morality"

August 31: Realism in International Ethics III

Continue lecture on Realism

September 2: **Quiz 1**

Week 3

September 5: No class

September 7: Realism and International Ethics

Advance reading:

1. Nardin, "Introduction: Two Modes of International Association."

September 9: The International Society Perspective in International Ethics

Advance reading:

1. Hedley Bull, "Society and Anarchy in International Society"

Week 4

September 12: Conviction and Responsibility in International Society

In class film: *Remains of the Day*

September 14: Conviction and Responsibility in International Society

In class film: *Remains of the Day*

September 16: Finish and discuss film

Week 5

September 19: The English School and International Ethics

Advance reading:

1. Hedley Bull, "Order Versus Justice in World Politics"

September 21: **Quiz 2**

September 23: Cosmopolitanism in International Ethics

Advance reading:

1. Immanuel Kant, Essay 1 from *Perpetual Peace*

Week 6

September 26: Cosmopolitanism in International Ethics II

Advance reading:

1. Immanuel Kant, Essays 2 and 6 from *Perpetual Peace*

September 28: Cosmopolitanism in International Ethics III

Continue Lectures on Kant

September 30: ****Midterm Exam****

Week 7

October 3: Exam Review and Communitarianism in International Ethics

Advance reading:

1. Michael Walzer, Chapters 2-6

October 5: Communitarianism in International Ethics II

1. Finish reading Walzer, Chapters 2-6, and begin Chapters 8-10, 12

October 7: Communitarianism in International Ethics III

Advance readings:

2. Michael Walzer, Chapters 8-10, 12

Week 8

October 10: Contemporary Cosmopolitanism

Advance reading:

1. Martha Nussbaum, "Patriotism and Cosmopolitanism"
2. Skim the *New York Times* immigration site and look at the global migration interactive graphic at

http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/subjects/i/immigration_and_refugees/index.html?scp=1-spot&sq=immigration&st=cse.

October 12: Looking beyond the Cosmopolitan and Communitarian Debate

1. Molly Cochran, "Introduction"

October 14: **Quiz 3**

Week 9

October 17: No class

October 19: International Law

Advance readings: Peter Singer, "One Law" and "One Community" (from *One World*)

October 21: Global Economy

Advance reading: Peter Singer, "One Economy"

Week 10

October 24: Concern for Distribution of Wealth: The Millennium Declaration

Advance readings:

1. The UN Millennium Declaration
<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.pdf>
2. The Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. Read “Forward” and “Overview,” skim rest

October 26: Global Distributive Justice

Advance reading

1. Peter Singer, “Famine, Affluence and Morality” (available on T-Square)

October 28: Contemporary case: Famine in Somalia

Advance reading

1. Read recent *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, or *Washington Post* articles on the famine in Somalia

Week 11

October 31: Does International Society Have a Responsibility to Protect?

In-class documentary film: *Frontline: Ghosts of Rwanda*

November 2: Continue in-class documentary film

November 4: Discuss film, and the Responsibility to Protect Doctrine

Advance readings:

1. “R2P Education Tools.” Read the “2006 R2P-CS Brochure” and “A Summary of the ICISS Report.” Both are available at
<http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/features/556?theme=alt5>
2. Skim the website for *On Our Watch*:
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/darfur/>

Week 12

November 7: **Quiz 4**

November 9: Ethics and Scarcity I

Advance reading:

1. Garrett Harding, “Tragedy of the Commons”

November 11: Ethics and Scarcity II

Advance readings:

1. Peter Singer, “One Atmosphere” and “A Better World”

Week 13

November 14: Should Democracies Form a League Separately from the UN?

Advance readings:

1. Journal Editors, James Lindsay, Stephen Schlesinger, Kishore Mahbubani, and Ruth Wedgewood, Roundtable in *Ethics and International Affairs* on whether democracies should “go it alone,” pp. 1-37

November 16: Continue the discussion on an international democratic league

November 18: TBD

Week 14

November 21: In-class documentary film: *Restrepo*

November 23: Continue and discuss *Restrepo*

November 25: No class

Week 15

November 28: Ethics and 21st Century War

Advance reading:

1. B. Orend, “War” Stanford Online Encyclopedia of Philosophy
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/war/>

November 30: **Quiz 5**

December 2: Debating the Iraq War

Advance readings:

1. Anthony Lang, Chris Brown and Michael Byers, Roundtable in *Ethics and International Affairs* on the Iraq War, pp. 1-16

Week 16

December 5: Debating the Iraq War II

Advance reading and listening:

1. Richard Betts, Thomas Nichols and Neta Crawford, Roundtable in *Ethics and International Affairs* on the Iraq War, pp. 17-36
2. Listen to Robert Siegel's interview with Michael Walzer, Richard John Neuhaus and Wesley Clark on NPR's *All Things Considered*. Available at http://www.npr.org/programs/atc/features/2002/sept/war_interviews/index.html

December 7: Debating the Afghanistan War

In class videos: Congressmen Dennis Kucinich, Ike Skelton, Ron Paul and Ted Poe debate the Afghanistan War in the U.S. House of Representatives

December 9: Final review

**** The in-class final exam will be held on Monday, December 12 at 11:30 am****