

INTA 2030: Ethics and International Affairs

Fall 2012

Instructor:

Tahseen Kazi

Office: Habersham, Room 143

Office Hours (at CULC Starbucks): Monday, 9:00 am -9:50 am

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Teaching Assistants:

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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 text is available at the GT Barnes and Noble Bookstore:

Duncan Bell, ed., *Ethics and World Politics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

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)

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.

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

Course Evaluation

In-class Quizzes:	24%
Course Essay	16%
In-class Midterm Exam:	30%
In-class Final Exam:	30%

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.

Course essay: The course essay will be written out of class. The topic of the essay should be on how a current issue in international politics relates to theories discussed in class.

The course essay should be *no more than five pages in length*. The course essay is due on Monday, November 19th, at the start of class. Turn in your essay on TSquare. Essays submitted any other way will not be accepted.

Although class attendance is not mandatory for this course, I highly recommend that you attend class regularly.

This class adheres to the Georgia Tech Honor Code:

Cheating off of another person's test or quiz is unethical and unacceptable. Cheating off of anyone else's work is a direct violation of the GT Academic Honor Code, and will be dealt with accordingly.

Unauthorized use of any previous semester course materials, such as tests, quizzes, homework, projects, and any other coursework, is prohibited in this course. Using these materials will be considered a direct violation of academic policy and will be dealt with according to the GT Academic Honor Code.

For any questions involving these or any other Academic Honor Code issues, please consult me, my teaching assistants, or www.honor.gatech.edu.

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 texts 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 20: Introduction

August 22: The Study of Morals
James Rachels, "What is Morality?"

August 24: The Study of Morals, contd.

Week 2

August 27: Bell, Chapter 4: Ethics and Politics

August 29: Bell, Chapter 5: Political Realism and the Limits of Ethics

August 31: Morgenthau, "International Morality"

Week 3

September 3: School Holiday

September 5: Continue Morgenthau, "International Morality"

September 7: ****Quiz 1****

Week 4

September 10: Nardin, "Introduction: Two Modes of International Association"

September 12: Hedley Bull, "Society and Anarchy in International Society"

September 14: Bell, Chapter 6: The Ethics of International Society

Week 5

September 17: Conviction and Responsibility in International Society

In class film: *Remains of the Day*

September 19: Conviction and Responsibility in International Society

In class film: *Remains of the Day*

September 21: Finish and discuss film

Week 6

September 24: Bell, Chapter 7: Defending Community

September 26: ****Quiz 2****

September 28: Bell, Chapter 8: Cosmopolitanism

Week 7

October 1: Bell, Chapter 13: Human Rights

October 3: Bell, Chapter 14: Poverty and Global Distributive Justice

October 5: Singer, "Famine, Affluence and Morality"

Week 8

October 8: Case Study: The UN Millennium Declaration

The UN Millennium Declaration

<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.pdf>

The Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. Read “Forward” and “Overview,” skim rest

October 10: TBA

October 12: Midterm Review

Week 9

October 15: Student Recess

October 17: ****Midterm Exam****

October 19: Bell, Chapter 19: Terrorism

Week 10

October 22: Bell, Chapter 16: The Ethics of War

October 24: In-class documentary film: *Restrepo*

October 26: Continue and discuss *Restrepo*

Week 11

October 29: Debating the Afghanistan War

B. Orend, “War” Stanford Online Encyclopedia of Philosophy

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/war/>

In class videos: Congressmen debate the Afghanistan War in the U.S. House of Representatives

October 31: Debating the Iraq War: Richard Betts “Striking First,” Thomas Nichols “Just War, Not Prevention” and Neta Crawford “The Slippery Slope to Preventive War”

November 2: Bell, Chapter 17: Critical Alternatives on the Ethics of War

Week 12

November 5: Bell, Chapter 1: Ethics and Analytical Political Philosophy

November 7: Bell, Chapter 2: Ethics and Critical Theory

November 9: ****Quiz 3****

Week 13

November 12: Ethics and Scarcity I

Advance reading:

1. Garrett Hardin, "Tragedy of the Commons"

November 14: Ethics and Scarcity II

Advance readings:

1. Peter Singer, "One Atmosphere"

November 16: Bell, Chapter 10: Green Political Theory

Week 14

November 19: Bell, Chapter 18: Humanitarian Intervention

**** Course Essay Due ****

November 21: TBA

November 23: School Holiday

Week 15

November 26: In-class film, *Frontline: Ghosts of Rwanda*

November 28: In-class film, *Frontline: Ghosts of Rwanda*

November 30: In-class film, *Frontline: Ghosts of Rwanda*

Week 16

December 3: Bell, Chapter 9: Feminism

December 5: Bell, Chapter 11: Post-colonial Theory

December 7: Final review

**** The in-class final exam will be held on Monday, December 10 at 8:00 am in our regular classroom****