

POL 469S/POL 2226S
Ethics and International Relations: Research Seminar
Winter 2013
Wednesday 12-2, University College, Room 330

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Office Hours: Wednesday 2:30-4 (appointments recommended)

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The seminar explores the possibilities for and requirements of ethical action in international affairs. It is common to study international relations in terms of interests and power, but in actual practice, important actors invoke normative language all the time in their international interactions. This has not gone unnoticed, with investigations of ethics in the international arena multiplying in recent years. Drawing on readings from normative international relations theory and political philosophy, the course takes up ethical dilemmas encountered in world affairs in the context of debates about intervention, development, and international institutions. Students are expected to write a major research paper on an approved topic related to the course.

READINGS

The following reading materials will be used in the course:

- 1) Charles Beitz, *Political Theory and International Relations*, 2nd ed. (Princeton, 1999)
- 2) John Rawls, *Justice As Fairness: A Restatement*, (Harvard, 2001)
- 3) John Rawls, *The Law of Peoples*, (Harvard, 1999)
- 4) Peter Singer, *One World: The Ethics of Globalization*, 2nd ed. (Yale, 2004)
- 5) Blackboard site (containing weblinks and PDF copies of assigned articles and chapters)

The books will be available on short-term loan at Robarts Library. For students interested in purchasing the books, copies will be available at U of T Bookstore, located at 214 College Street.

FORMAT AND REQUIREMENTS

The course will meet for two hours of seminar discussion per week. Additional hours may be scheduled on the weeks of the student presentations, if required by high enrolment.

Performance will be evaluated on the basis of the following components:

Research Proposal	10%
Research Paper	40%
Research Presentation	10%
Summaries	20%
Participation	20%

Research: The course is a research-intensive seminar that aims to giving students several opportunities to develop and further refine their work. Three course components serve that

purpose: the research proposal, the research paper, and the research presentation. The research paper (40%) will involve the preparation of a 20-page ethical analysis of an approved topic of relevance to the course. For approval, students will submit a research proposal (10%) consisting of a 2-page description of their topic accompanied by a detailed bibliography. It is essential to start working on the proposal early. Students will also make a 5-minute class presentation on their research findings, accompanied by a 2-page handout that will be distributed to the class (10%) followed by a brief Q&A session. Students are expected to work closely with the instructor in all stages of their research and are encouraged to book meetings to receive feedback on their work.

Participation: Seminar participation (20%) will be assessed on an ongoing basis on the basis of the extent and quality of contributions to class discussions. Adequate preparation is essential.

Summaries: Several 1-page reading summaries (20% total) will be assigned and marked on an ongoing basis. The exact number of reading summaries assigned will depend on enrolment. A hard copy of assigned summaries must be submitted to the main office of the political science department before 12 noon on the Tuesday before the class they are for. Students will also be expected to post their summaries on blackboard at that time.

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 13	Waiting list for course closes
Jan 20	Deadline to enroll in course
Feb 6	Research Proposal due
Mar 10	Last day to drop course without academic penalty
Mar 13	Research Paper due
Mar 27 and Apr 3	Research Presentations
Apr 5	Last day to request late withdrawal at college registrar
Apr 30	Last day to file a petition regarding term work

COURSE POLICIES

Extensions and make-ups: No extensions will be granted on term work, unless students have serious reasons beyond their control that are adequately documented—for example, a medical emergency supported by a ROSI absence declaration AND an official U of T medical certificate. Appropriate documentation must be submitted within one week of missed term work. Assignments or tests from other courses scheduled for the same date or work commitments do not constitute acceptable reasons, so plan in advance accordingly.

Late penalties: Written assignments are to be handed in *at the beginning of class* on the date that they are due. Late assignments will be penalized. There is no allowance for computer problems, printer problems, late buses, late trains, and so on. The late submission penalty is 2% per each late day, *weekends included*. The cut-off time for the determination of the number of late days is 5 pm. (Please note: To be fair to students who submit their assignment on time, there is also a 1% penalty for assignments received after class has started but before 5 pm on the due date.)

Submission procedures for late assignments: Late assignments are to be submitted to the reception desk of the Political Science Department on the 3rd floor of Sidney Smith Hall. Please ensure that all late work is stamped by departmental staff when submitted and that the course number and the name of your instructor are clearly noted on the cover. Submit your work during business hours (9 am to 5 pm) or no one will be there to receive it. Assignments submitted by fax or email will not be accepted, unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Plagiarism: All sources used in written assignments must be properly cited. Failure to acknowledge sources constitutes plagiarism—a serious academic offense. To guard against plagiarism, students may be asked to submit their written work to Turnitin.com for textual similarity review, under terms set by the University of Toronto and as described on the Turnitin.com website.

Blackboard and emails: Blackboard will be used to manage and coordinate the course. Students are required to have an active University of Toronto email for this purpose. Reading materials and important course announcements will be posted electronically on blackboard. Students are expected to check their emails and the course blackboard page regularly to ensure they have access to these materials and announcements.

Double-sided printing: To help conserve paper, please print all written assignments double-sided if you can. You can learn how at: printdoublesided.sa.utoronto.ca.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

		1. Overview
Jan 9	Week 1	Distribution of Syllabus
Jan 16	Week 2	Realist Ethics
Jan 23	Week 3	Liberal Ethics
		2. Theorizing Justice: Rawls
Jan 30	Week 4	Basic Framework
Feb 6	Week 5	Principles and Institutions (<u>Research proposal due</u>)
Feb 13	Week 6	Pluralism and Stability
Feb 27	Week 7	International Justice
		3. Selected Ethical Issues
Mar 6	Week 8	Intervention
Mar 13	Week 9	Development (<u>Research paper due</u>)
Mar 20	Week 10	International Institutions
Mar 27	Week 11	Research Presentations
Apr 3	Week 12	Research Presentations

READING ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1: Distribution of Syllabus

- No reading assignment

Week 2: Realist Ethics

- Terry Nardin and David Mapel, [*Traditions of International Ethics*](#), (Cambridge, 1992), ch. 1, 4, 5
- Beitz, part I

Week 3: Liberal Ethics

- Terry Nardin and David Mapel, [*Traditions of International Ethics*](#), (Cambridge, 1992), ch. 7, 8, 9, 10
- Beitz, afterword

Week 4: Basic Framework

- Rawls, *Justice As Fairness*, parts I, III

Week 5: Principles and Institutions

- Rawls, *Justice As Fairness*, parts II, IV

Week 6: Pluralism and Stability

- Rawls, *Justice As Fairness*, part V (Review also sections: 9, 11)
- Rawls, *The Law of Peoples*, pp. 129-180

Week 7: International Justice

- Rawls, *The Law of Peoples*, pp. 1-128

Week 8: Intervention

- Singer, ch. 4
- Beitz, part II
- Michael Walzer, [*Just and Unjust Wars*](#), (Basic Books, 2006), ch. 6
- Iris Young, [*Global Challenges*](#), (Polity, 2007), ch. 3

Week 9: Development

- Singer, ch. 1, 3, 5
- Beitz, part III
- David, Miller, [*National Responsibility and Global Justice*](#) (Oxford, 2007), ch. 9. E-res

Week 10: International Institutions

- Singer, ch. 2, 6
- Thomas Pogge, [*World Poverty and Human Rights*](#), 2nd edition, (Polity, 2008), ch. 6
- Thomas Pogge, “Incentives for Pharmaceutical Research: Must they Exclude the Poor from Advanced Medicine?” in Roland Pierik and Wouter Werner (eds.), [*Cosmopolitanism in Context*](#), (Cambridge, 2010), ch. 5. E-res
- Thomas, Pogge [*Cosmopolitanism in Context*](#)
- Tim Hayward, “[Thomas Pogge’s Global Resource Dividend: A Critique and an Alternative?](#)” *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, 2/3 (2005), pp. 317-332.

Weeks 11 and 12: Student presentations

- No reading assignment