

Spring 2013 – PHIL / POLISCI 28 – Ethics & Society II

TuTh 11:00 - 12:20, PETER 110

TAs: Ryan Stringer, Noel Martin, Gil Hertshten, Casey McCoy, Nanhee Byrnes

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Course Description

We will explore contemporary thought on the morality of self-defense and war. We will focus on the conceptual foundations of the morality of war, rather than on the morality of particular wars (though we will invoke particular wars in applying candidate theories). Each week we will cover a different topic in the morality of self-defense and war.

Some topics we will cover include:

- *The Conditions for a Morally Permissible Resort to Self-Defense*
What are the conditions of liability to preventive attack?
Is it permissible to defend against non-culpable aggressors?
What are the duties of care to culpable aggressors?
- *The Conditions for a Morally Permissible Resort to War*
What are the conditions for a morally permissible resort to war, besides that of having a just cause?
Can preemptive or preventive wars be morally permissible?
Are the only morally justified causes for a resort to war self-defensive in nature?
- *The Liability of Civilians and Combatants*
To what degree, if any, are civilians to blame for unjust wars fought by their government?
Are combatants fighting on the unjust side in a war morally responsible for doing so?
Is it morally permissible to attack combatants on the just side in a war?
- *Morally Permissible Conduct in a War*
Can terrorism be morally permissible?
Is there a moral difference between terrorism and strategic bombing?
Should the conditions determining permissible conduct in a war depend on whether the war is just?
- *Post-War Obligations and Permissions*
What are the conditions under which a country can be permissibly occupied?
What sorts of obligations, if any, does a victorious country have to a defeated one?
Who ought to be legally liable for the commission of war-crimes?

Grading

Your final grade will be determined by three factors:

1. *Attendance* – attendance at discussion is worth 10% of your total grade. Each class missed will lower your score by one point. You start off with 12 points.
2. *Tests* – there will be two in-class short-answer tests, each worth 25% of your total grade. Each will be on lectures and readings covered since the previous test. A missed test can be rescheduled for *later* dates only in cases of very serious emergencies. If you have a schedule conflict, and know that you will be unable to take an up-coming test, you may be eligible to take the test earlier.
3. *Research Paper* – A single research paper will be due on the day of the final, and is worth 40% of your grade. You will submit your paper electronically, via Turnitin on the course's TED page.

Warren College students must take course for a letter grade in order to satisfy the Warren College general education requirement.

Grading Scale:

<u>points</u>	<u>grade</u>
12	A+
11	A
10	A-
9	B+
8	B
7	B-
6	C+
5	C
4	C-
3	D+
2	D
1	D-
0	F

Readings

All the readings will come from articles which can be found here: <https://sites.google.com/site/bazarganthings/>

Academic Integrity

Any violations of academic integrity will be turned over to the Dean of Judicial Affairs. Details regarding what counts as cheating can be found here: academicintegrity.ucsd.edu. Consult the site or an instructor if you have any doubts or questions regarding what counts as cheating. All research papers will be run through the Turnitin service, which will determine whether the author has plagiarized from other papers or from Internet sources. If you have any doubts whatsoever, cite your sources.

Contact & Misc.

I am available at my office hours (HSS 8061) every Thursday from 1 to 2:30. If you cannot attend at that time, you should feel free to make an appointment by talking to me right after class, or by contacting me by email.

Unless you have language or hearing difficulties, I prefer that you refrain from recording lecture.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE – Subject to Change!

Week 1 – History of Just War Theory

Readings:

- Part 2 of the Stanford Encyclopedia Entry on War
- Reichberg, "Just War and Regular War: Competing Paradigms"

Week 2 – Self-Defense

Readings:

- Thomson, "Self-Defense"
- Otsuka, "Killing the Innocent in Self-Defense"

Week 3 – Collectivism vs. Individualism in War

Readings:

- McMahan - "On the Moral Equality of Combatants"
- Kutz - "The Difference Uniforms Make"

Week 4 – War and International Law

Readings:

- McMahan - "The Morality of War and the Law of War"
- Test 1 - April 25

Week 5 – The Moral Status of Non-Combatants

Readings:

- May - "Killing Naked Soldiers"
- Fabre - "Guns, Food, and Liability to Attack in War"

Week 6 – Jus in Bello and Jus ad Bellum

Readings:

- Hurka - "Proportionality and the Morality of War"
- McMahan - "Just Cause for War"

Week 7 – Preventive War and Humanitarian Wars

Readings:

- (TBD)
- (TBD)

Week 8 – Torture

Readings:

- Sussman – "What's Wrong with Torture?"
- Test 2 - May 23

Week 9 – Terrorism

Readings:

- Scheffler - "Is Terrorism Morally Distinctive?"
- Coady - "Terrorism and the Innocent"

Week 10 – Just Post Bellum and Pacifism

Readings:

- Bellamy - "The Responsibilities of Victory"
- McMahan - "Pacifism and Moral Theory"

FINAL EXAM DUE: Tuesday, June 11th, Noon