

Spring 2015 – PHIL / POLISCI 28 – Ethics & Society II

MW 12:00 – 12:50, SOLIS 107

TAs- Aaron Finley, Blythe Greene, Gil Hersch, Kyle Sereda, Andrew Wong

Prof. Saba Bazargan

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Office: HSS, 8061, OHs: 2-3:30

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. Some topic 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 the 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 10 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 papers 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>
10	A+
9	A
8	A-
7	B+
6	B
5	B-
4	C+
3	C
2	C-
1	D
0	F

Readings

All the readings will come from articles which can be found on the class’s TED website (ted.ucsd.edu).

Academic Integrity

Any violations of academic integrity will be turned over to the Dean of Judicial Affairs. Familiarize yourself with what counts as cheating: academicintegrity.ucsd.edu. Consult me if you have any doubts or questions. 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 1:30 to 3:00. 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. **If you email me, be sure to include your full name, your TA's name, and your student ID number.**

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE – Subject to Change!

Week 1 – Self-Defense

- M - [Intro]
- W - Thomson, "Self-Defense" (§§ I, II, III, IV, VII, VIII, IX)

Week 2 – Self-Defense

- M - Otsuka, "Killing the Innocent in Self-Defense"
- W - McMahan, "Moral Liability to Defensive Killing"

Week 3 – History of Just War Theory

- M - Reichberg, "Just War and Regular War- Competing Paradigms" (pp. 193-200)
- W - Reichberg, "Just War and Regular War- Competing Paradigms" (pp. 200-213)

Week 4 – War and International Law

- M - McMahan, "The Morality of War and the Law of War"
- *Wednesday, April 24th - Test 1*

Week 5 – The Moral Status of Non-Combatants

- M - Nagel, "War and Massacre"
- W - Fabre, "Guns, Food, and Liability to Attack in War"

Week 6 – Jus in Bello and Jus ad Bellum

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

Week 7 – Humanitarian Wars and Preemptive Wars

- M - Tesón, "The Moral Basis of Armed Humanitarian Intervention Revisited"
- W - McMahan, "The Conditions of Liability to Preventive Attack"

Week 8 – Torture

- *Monday, May 18th – Test 2*
- W - Sussman, "What's Wrong with Torture?"

Week 9 – Terrorism

- M - [no class]
- W - Scheffler, "Is Terrorism Morally Distinctive?"

Week 10 – Pacifism

- M - May, "Contingent Pacifism and the Moral Risks of Participating in War"
- W - McMahan, "Pacifism and Moral Theory"

FINAL EXAM DUE- Wednesday, June 10th, Noon