

Course Description

This class consists of five modules; each is on a different topic in applied ethics. Listed below are the sorts of questions each module focuses on. The ultimate purpose of this course is to develop the analytic skills necessary to cogently apprehend and diagnose complex contemporary ethical problems.

- *Secession*
What sorts of groups have a moral right to secede?
Under what conditions do such groups have a moral right to secede?
To what extent, if at all, should international law recognize a right to secede?
- *Terrorism*
What is the best definition of terrorism?
What makes terrorism morally different from other forms of violence?
Can terrorism ever be morally permissible?
- *War*
Are combatants fighting on the unjust side in a war morally responsible for doing so?
To what degree, if any, are civilians to blame for unjust wars fought by their government?
What are the criteria determining whether a war is morally just?
- *Compensation*
Do beneficiaries of racism and sexism owe compensation to the victims?
If beneficiaries of racism and sexism owe compensation, can this serve as a basis for affirmative action?
Is it ethical to demand of non-voluntary beneficiaries of an injustice that they compensate the victims?
- *Consent*
What is the moral importance of consent?
What is the relation between consent and autonomy?
Does ‘yes mean yes’ in cases where the party giving apparent consent is intoxicated?

Grading

Your final grade will be determined by two 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. Every scheduled discussion session will meet unless explicitly indicated otherwise.
2. *Tests* – there will be three in-class short answer essays. The first is worth 20% of your total grade. The second and third are each worth 35% of your total grade. Each test 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 upcoming test, you may be eligible to take the test earlier. The last of the three tests will take place during the allotted final examination – it will be the same length as the second test.

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	B+
7	B
6	B-
5	C+
4	C
3	C-
2	D+
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.

Contact & Misc.

I am available at my office hours (HSS 8061) every Thursday from 2:30 to 4:00, or by appointment. **If you email me, be sure to include your full name, your TA’s name, and your student ID number. My email: sbazargan@ucsd.edu.** TA’s emails: **Emma Duncan** - erduncan@ucsd.edu, **Leonardo Moauro** - lmoauro@ucsd.edu, **Jon Ross** - jross@ucsd.edu, **Tanya Hall** - tanyahall@ucsd.com

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE – Subject to Change!

MODULE A – SECESSION

Week 1

- Tu: [class intro]
- Th: Buchanan - 'Theories of Secession'

Week 2

- Tu: Copp - 'International Law and Morality in the Theory of Secession'
- Th: Wellman - 'A Theory of Secession'

MODULE B - TERRORISM

Week 3

- Tu: *Test 1, on Secession*
- Th: Coady - 'Terrorism and the Innocent'

Week 4

- Tu: Scheffler - 'Is Terrorism Morally Distinctive?'
- Th: Rodin - 'The Moral Definition of 'Terrorism''

MODULE C - WAR

Week 5

- Tu: McMahan - 'The Morality of War and the Law of War'
- Th: Fabre, 'Guns, Food, and Liability to Attack in War'

Week 6

- Tu: Hurka - 'Proportionality and the Morality of War' (I-III)
- Th: Hurka - 'Proportionality and the Morality of War' (IV-VI)

MODULE D - COMPENSATION

Week 7

- Tu: *Test 2, on Terrorism and War*
- Th: Thomson - 'Preferential Hiring'

Week 8

- Tu: Fullinwider - 'Preferential Hiring and Compensation'
- Th: Butt - 'On Benefiting from Injustice'

MODULE E - CONSENT

Week 9

- Tu: Kleinig - 'The Nature of Consent'
- Th: [no class]

Week 10

- Tu: Archard - 'Informed Consent: Autonomy and Self-Ownership'
- Th: Wertheimer - 'Consent to Sexual Relations'

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, March 17th, 11:30 – on Compensation and Consent