

# Philosophy 28: Ethics & Society II

Fall 2019, MW 12-12:50, Peter 110

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## Course Description

This class consists of five modules; each is on a different topic in applied ethics. They together form a thematically related whole. 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?  
                          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 in a war morally responsible for doing so?  
                          Are civilians to blame for unjust wars their government fights?  
                          What are the criteria determining whether a war is morally just?
- *Compensation* Do beneficiaries of racism and sexism owe compensation to the victims of bigotry?  
                          Can compensation owed for discrimination serve as a basis for affirmative action?  
                          Must non-voluntary beneficiaries of an injustice compensate the victims?
- *Immigration*   Should there be open borders?  
                          What rights do immigrants have?  
                          What are the criteria for membership in a society?

## Grading

*Exams* - There will be three take-home essays. Each will be worth 30% of your total grade, respectively. Each exam will consist of a set of short-answer questions. All exams will be turned in electronically. Essay due dates are TBD. The final will be the same format and length as the previous exams. The exams will only cover material presented after the previous exam.

*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.

*Excuses* - Extensions to an exam's due date will be granted for religious observances provided I am informed beforehand. Extensions will also be granted for very serious emergencies (hospitalization, bereavement, etc.) provided suitable evidence is provided afterwards. Otherwise, exams will be docked ten points for every day that they are late (including weekends).

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

### Grading Scale

97-100	A+
93-96.9	A
90-92.9	A-
87-89.9	B+
83-86.9	B
80-82.9	B-
77-79.9	C+
73-76.9	C
70-72.9	C-
67-69.9	D+
63-66.9	D
60-62.9	D-
0-59.9	F

### **Reading**

All readings are available electronically on the class's TritonEd page. The readings are not extensive, but they *are* difficult. Part of the purpose of lecture is to help you comprehend and analyze the reading. There is no set schedule for how long we will spend on each reading.

### **Technology**

The use of laptops, tablets, and cell phones will not be allowed while class is in session.

### **Contact**

I am available at my office hours (HSS 8061) every Friday from 2:30-4:00, or by appointment. If you cannot attend at that time, feel free to make an appointment. If you miss a lecture, please do not contact me to ask what you missed. **If you email me, be sure to include your full name, your TA's name, and your student ID number.** Do not email me to ask who your TA is. My email: sbazargan@ucsd.edu. TA's emails are hyperlinked at the top of the first page.

### **Academic Integrity**

Any suspected 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](http://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu). Consult the site or an instructor if you have any doubts or questions regarding what counts as cheating. Student caught cheating often don't realize that what they were doing even counts as cheating. For this reason, it's imperative that you review the guidelines. 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.

### **Special Accommodations**

Students requesting accommodations due to a disability should provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), located in University Center 202 behind Center Hall. Students are required to present their AFA letters to Faculty (please arrange to contact me privately) and to the OSD Liaison in the department in advance so that accommodations can be arranged. For further info, see: [disabilities.ucsd.edu](http://disabilities.ucsd.edu)

## Readings & Topics

*This list is tentative and subject to change.*

### **MODULE A – SECESSION & FEDERALISM**

#### Week 1

- M: [class intro]
- W: Buchanan - 'Theories of Secession'

#### Week 2

- M: Copp - 'International Law and Morality in the Theory of Secession'
- W: Copp - 'International Law and Morality in the Theory of Secession' (cont).

#### Week 3

- M: Wellman - 'A Theory of Secession'
- W: Wellman - 'A Theory of Secession' (cont).

#### TEST 1

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### **Module B – TERRORISM & WAR**

#### Week 4

- M: Scheffler - 'Is Terrorism Morally Distinctive?'
- W: Scheffler - 'Is Terrorism Morally Distinctive?' (cont).

#### Week 5

- M: McMahan - 'On the Moral Equality of Combatants'
- W: McMahan - 'On the Moral Equality of Combatants' (cont).

#### Week 6

- M: Frowe - 'Collectivism and Reductivism in the Ethics of War'
- W: Hurka - 'Proportionality and the Morality of War'.

#### Week 7

- M: [no class]
- W: Hurka - 'Proportionality and the Morality of War' (cont).

#### TEST 2

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### **MODULE C – IMMIGRATION & HISTORICAL COMPENSATION**

#### Week 8

- M: Thomson - 'Preferential Hiring' (selections) & Fullinwider - 'Preferential Hiring & Compensation'
- W: Hull - 'Affirmative Action and the Choice of Amends'

#### Week 9

- W: Hull - 'Affirmative Action and the Choice of Amends' (cont).
- M: Butt - 'On Benefitting from Injustice'

#### Week 10

- M: Kukathas - 'The Case for Open Borders'
- W: Miller - 'The Case for Limits'

#### TEST 3

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