

**Tel Aviv University**  
**Global Ethics**

**Instructor: Dr. Sarit Smila-Sened**  
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**Office Hours: Freely available by appointment**

**Meeting Time and Place: DD110 W 16-20**

**Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is to examine central issues in global ethics. We will start by exploring the theoretical debate surrounding the idea of the national state as opposed to cosmopolitan ideas in an era of globalization. We will then proceed to examine the most pressing global issues of our time such as terrorism, immigration, and more.

The syllabus below provides an outline of the course and a list of corresponding readings. *Note that the syllabus is subject to change and supplementation, and that it is the responsibility of each participant to follow these changes.*

**Texts:** Global Ethics: Seminal essays, Horton and Pogge (Eds.)  
Additional Readings

**Course Work:** Final paper (60%), mid-term exam (20%), attendance and participation (20%)

**Course Requirements and Policies:**

PREPARATION AND PARTICIPATION – students are expected to have carefully read the assigned readings prior to the class meeting in which they are to be discussed, and are expected to participate in discussions regarding the materials. An essential part of this course is critical thought and discussion of philosophical issues – that is, doing philosophy, not just reading about it. Note that a crucial part of participation involves respect for other people in the class and for their views.

MID-TERM EXAM – we will have a short, in-class exam on key concepts half way through the semester. Further details will be given during the first week of classes.

FINAL PAPER – specific details regarding the format and content will be provided in the weeks prior to the assignments due dates. The assignments will focus on the readings and on class discussion

## **Course Outline:**

### Week 1: (March 7) **Liberal Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism**

David Miller, “The Ethical Significance of Nationality”

<http://people.brandeis.edu/~teuber/David-Miller-The-Ethical-Significance-of-Nationality.pdf>

David Held, “Democracy: From City-States to Cosmopolitan Order?”  
(text posted on moodle)

### Week 2: (March 14) **Just and Unjust war**

David Luban, “Just War and Human Rights”

<https://koppa.jyu.fi/en/courses/134525/spring-2014/luban-just-war-and-human-rights>

Michael Waltzer, “The Moral Standing of States: A Response to Four Critics”

<https://www.law.upenn.edu/live/files/1516-walzerthe-moral-standing-of-statespdf>

### Week 3: (March 21) **Terrorism and Torture**

Alan Dershowitz “Should the Ticking Bomb be Tortured?”  
(text posted on moodle)

Michael Waltzer “Terrorism: A Critique of Excuses”  
(text posted on moodle)

### Week 4: (April 11 – class ends at 19) **Hunger and Poverty**

Peter Singer, “Famine, Affluence, and Morality”

<https://www.utilitarian.net/singer/by/1972----.htm>

Garrett Hardin, “Lifeboat Ethics: The Case Against Helping the Poor”

<http://web.ntpu.edu.tw/~language/course/research/lifeboat.pdf>

### Week 5: (April 25 – **Field Trip**) **Immigration and Refugees**

Christopher Heath Wellman, “Immigration and Freedom of Association”

<http://philosophyfaculty.ucsd.edu/faculty/rarneson/phil267fa12/Immigration%20Proofs.pdf>

Sarah Fina, “Freedom of Association is Not the Answer”

<http://www.mit.edu/~shaslang/mprg/SFineFANA.pdf>

Week 6 (May 2) **Review and Mid-Term**

Week 7: (May 9) **Women and Culture**

Uma Narayan “Cross-Cultural Connections, Border-Crossings, and ‘Death by Culture’: Thinking about Dowry-Murders in India and Domestic-Violence Murders in the United States”

<https://hamtramckfreeschool.files.wordpress.com/2014/05/narayan-uma-crosscultural-connections-bordercrossings-and-death-by-culture.pdf>

Susan Moller Okin “Is Multiculturalism Bad for Women?”

<http://pscourses.ucsd.edu/ps108/2%20Gender%20Equality%20and%20Multiculturalism/Okin%201999%20-%20Is%20Multiculturalism%20Bad%20for%20Women.pdf>

Week 8: (May 16) **Human Trafficking**

Grace Robertson “The Injustice of Sex Trafficking and the Efficacy of Legislation”

<http://digitalcommons.pepperdine.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1047&context=globalstudies>

Budiani-Saberi and Delmonico “Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism: A Commentary on the Global Realities”

Week 9: (May 23) **Economic Justice**

Hillel Steiner, “Just Taxation and International Redistribution”  
(text posted on moodle)

Michael Blake, “Distributive Justice, State Coercion, and Autonomy”

<http://philosophyfaculty.ucsd.edu/faculty/rarneson/Courses/BLAKEDisjusticeStateCoercion.pdf>

Week 10: (May 30) **Global Warming**

Stephen Gardiner “Ethics and Global Climate Change”

<https://courses.washington.edu/pbaf595/Readings/5b%20-%20Ethics%20and%20Equity/2006%20Gardiner%20EGCC.pdf>