

**Tel Aviv University International
Global Ethics**



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

Meeting Time and Place: TBD

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%), Midterm 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.

Attendance – it is the school policy that attendance would be mandatory in all courses. Each student can have up to 3 absences each semester. That includes both excused and unexcused absences. If you come in late to class it is your responsibility to make sure that your attendance is recorded. This will only be done at the end of the class and not in subsequent classes.

Midterm Exam – we will have a short midterm exam during the semester. The exam is designed to test your ability to develop and argues for a coherent view regarding the issues that we will discuss in class.

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: 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: 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: 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: 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: 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: Review and Midterm

Week 7: 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 9: 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 10: 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/BLAKEDistributiveJusticeStateCoercion.pdf>

Week 11: Global Warming

Stephen Gardiner "Ethics and Global Climate Change"

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

TAU International Course Guidelines

Rules and Respectful Behavior

- No cell phones or laptops permitted in class unless approved by instructor for use
- Tardiness to class is not permitted
- As our courses bring together students from many different styles of learning and from a wide variety of home institutions, we ask that students remain respectful to and patient with fellow classmates at all time as some students may be more familiar with certain course material or procedures than others.

Learning Accommodations

In accordance to University guidelines, students with learning disabilities or accommodation requests must submit official documentation from their home country / university (translated into English by notary if not already in English) to TAU International (tauiacademic@tauex.tau.ac.il) in advance of arrival describing in detail any specific needs they have. Students must also bring a copy of this documentation with them on-site and give it to their faculty on the first day of class while introducing themselves so that the faculty know who they are and what sorts of needs they may have. TAU International and its faculty cannot guarantee that all accommodations received at the home school can be similarly met at TAU but certainly does the best it can to make any suitable accommodations possible that are needed.

In-class Exams

TAU does not permit, under any circumstances, taking any in-class (including mid or final) exams early or later than the scheduled exam day. When selecting courses, it is thus very important to note below if there is an in-class midterm or final exam as this date/exam cannot be changed. Early departures from the program are not approved, nor are early or exception in-class exams.

TAU International Absence Policy

Attendance is **mandatory** in all of the courses. Missing classes will be reflected in the final grade of the course. Up to three justified absences from classes will be accepted (for example: emergency matter or illness, both of which will require an official doctor's note sent to the faculty **on the day of the absence**). Such cases of absence should be reported to your lecturer immediately and again, a doctor's note is required. Students are required to arrive on time for classes. Teachers are entitled to treat any single case of lateness and/or repeated lateness as an unjustified absence. Please note that according to TAU Academic Policy, if a student's behavior or attendance during the semester is disagreeable his/her course participation may be cancelled at the discretion of TAU.

Students are responsible for reading and adhering to the policies and procedures in the TAU International Academic Handbook [posted here](#) at all times.