COURSE OBJECTIVES
This course will offer students the necessary tools to think critically about theories and issues related to ethics in international relations. How can one think about moral dilemmas in global politics? What does thinking and acting ethically in the world entail? What are the “ethical” dimensions of international relations? What is the dynamics of relationship between ethics, politics and power? The study of ethics in international relations (or simply international ethics) has grown rapidly over the past two decades. This is driven by expansion in intellectual developments in related fields of moral and political philosophy and the growing urgency of moral concerns surrounding various contemporary global problems such as issues of poverty, inequality and ethics of war and conflict. The initial few weeks of the course will survey and examine the diverse theoretical perspectives on international ethics. This will be followed by study of issues and problems in international ethics, such as poverty, human rights, international law, ethics of war, humanitarianism and humanitarian interventions, citizenship, immigration and boundaries, global health and bioethics. Upon completion of the course, students will have a solid understanding of mainstream and alternative theoretical approaches in international ethics. They will be able to use these theoretical tools to make sense of the way ethical arguments work in international politics.

COURSE PREREQUISITES
Students are required to have successfully completed POL S 261 or 260 (Introduction to International Relations) or else contact the instructor for consent.

CLASS FORMAT
This is a weekly seminar course, which meets for three hours. Each session will begin with a brief introduction from the instructor, which will be followed by presentations, general discussion and deliberations. Some weeks may also involve smaller group discussions and breakout sessions. There will be a fifteen-minute break half way through each weekly session.
### ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation (including attendance)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Seminar Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Response</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Proposal (due October 31 @ 4 pm)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Research Paper (due December 7@ 4 pm)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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**Participation (20%):** Attendance at weekly seminars is mandatory. Students’ participation will be evaluated based on their attendance at these meetings throughout the term. **Evaluation will take into account both quantity and quality of your participation in discussions.** Students are expected to have completed the required reading before the seminar and to arrive prepared to discuss that week’s material. To earn an ‘A’ grade for participation, students must have perfect or near perfect attendance, and have made regular, informed, intellectually stimulating contributions to the discussion. If the student has to miss a seminar for a legitimate reason, the student should inform the instructor as soon as possible (and preferably, before the seminar). All students must show respect for the instructor and the other students in the group during presentations and group discussions. **Please limit the use of electronic devices such as laptops, iPads and smartphones to consulting electronic versions of readings or occasional consultation of the Internet when required.** The instructor will present each student with mid-term participation grade during week of Oct 31 (that is, Week 9). This grade will be based on participation in first five weeks of the course (Weeks 2 to 8).

**Group Seminar Presentation (20%):** Each week, there will be one seminar presentation organized by two or three students working together as a team. The size of weekly seminar teams will depend on class enrollment and will be finalized in class during week 2. This presentation shall include the following: 1) a summary of key ideas of the week’s readings (including, where possible, ideas that overlap across the readings); 2) students responses to these ideas (insights, questions, critiques, including any respectful intellectual disagreements between team members); 3) demonstration of how the key ideas apply to at least one contemporary example or case study of an ethical issue or problem in international relations (this will involve research and accessing material outside the course); 4) at least one discussion question per required reading for that week. Please document the sources properly in citing ideas from the required readings and other sources. **Each presenter should read and be prepared to lead class discussion and debate all readings for that specific week.**

Presenters may use power point for their presentations or distribute handouts to their peers, should they choose not to use visual aid. Both paper and electronic format is acceptable for handouts. **The instructor should receive an electronic copy of the power point presentation or handout via email ([Surma@ualberta.ca](mailto:Surma@ualberta.ca)) on the Sunday BEFORE class by 4 pm.** A hard copy should be submitted to the instructor in class.
**Reading Response (15%):** Each student will submit one reading response during the course of the semester. This will constitute responding to all the required readings assigned under a weekly seminar topic. Students can choose to prepare the reading response on any of the weekly seminar topics (between weeks 3 and 14) **but they are not allowed to do a reading response for the same week as their seminar presentation.** The reading response must be submitted via e-class on Sunday (by 4 pm) **BEFORE that particular weekly seminar.** Reading responses should be between 3 to 4 pages (double-spaced, 12-point font), and set out briefly the following: 1) the key ideas of the week’s readings (including, where possible, ideas that overlap across the readings), 2) the student’s responses to these ideas (insights, questions, critiques), and 3) at least **two** discussion questions arising from the readings. Students are only required to use the course readings for the week for these, but they shall document the sources properly in citing ideas from the readings and other sources in their reading responses. A hard copy should be submitted to the instructor in class.

**Research Paper Proposal (15%):** All students will submit a research paper proposal. The proposal should be approximately 3-4 pages (double spaced, 12-point font), and should include the following: 1) a working title; 2) a research question or a working argument/thesis; 4) a paragraph outlining the direction or the analysis and issues to be addressed; and 5) an annotated bibliography (at least **5 academic sources beyond class readings**). It is recommended that students consult with the instructor in person during office hours or by e-mail on the topic **before submitting the proposal. The research paper proposal is due on October 31, 2016. Please submit an electronic version via e-class and also submit a print copy in the Political Science Office by 4:00 pm located in the corridor outside of room 10-16 (Tory Building).**

**Final Research Paper (30%):** All students will be required to write one substantial research essay (approx. 15 pages, double spaced, 12-point font). The essay will be on a topic of the student’s choice related to the general topic of ethics in international relations. Essay topics may be purely theoretical; however, students can choose to address a particular ethical issue or problem in international relations. However, all essays must have a clear theoretical framework or ‘lens’ through which they examine the issue(s) in question. **The deadline for submission is December 7, 2016 at 4:00 pm. The instructor will circulate a rubric in class, which will be used to evaluate the final research paper.**

**All writing assignments must have identifying information (student name and id number), else they will not be graded. They must be formatted in 12-point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, 2 centimeters margin style. They must indicate page numbers. Students must ensure that writing assignments are free of spelling and grammar errors. Points will be deducted otherwise. **

**POLICY FOR LATE ASSIGNMENTS**
Late submission of assignments will be accepted but penalized by 5% per day for up to a maximum of 5 calendar days (Saturday and Sunday count as one day). Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the course instructor and only for serious medical reasons or for other emergency personal circumstances. Requests for extension submitted after the due date will **not** be considered. It is the students’ responsibility to manage their time effectively.
GRADING SCHEME

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OFFICE HOURS & E-MAIL
If the student wishes to discuss any aspect of the course with the instructor, the student should meet with the instructor during office hours posted at the beginning of the course outline. If for any reason the student is unable to visit the instructor during scheduled office hours, please e-mail the instructor and arrange an alternate meeting time. Additionally, please restrict e-mail usage to brief procedural or information-related question requiring a brief answer; it is difficult to answer substantive questions about the course and its content via e-mail. Students are strongly encouraged to meet the instructor during office hours to discuss their essay topic and progress.

COURSE READINGS
Nearly all of the required readings for this course are available on-line through the Library’s electronic journals. All other required readings (in books) have been placed on reserve in the Library. If for any reason students experience any difficulties accessing the required course material, please contact the instructor immediately.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at [www.governance.ualberta.ca](http://www.governance.ualberta.ca)) and avoid any behaviour, which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”
LEARNING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT
The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behavior is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department. For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student ombudservice: (http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/). Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL a https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
All students should consult the information provided by the Office of Judicial Affairs regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook and Information for Students). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor. An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the Academic Discipline Process.

RECORDING OF LECTURES:
Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan.

ATTENDANCE, ABSENCES, AND MISSED GRADE COMPONENTS:
Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

SPECIALIZED SUPPORT & DISABILITY SERVICES:
If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; ssdsrec@ualberta.ca; 780-492-3381; www.ssds.ualberta.ca).

FEELING OVERWHELMED? (In need of student, social, financial or security services?): The Student Distress Centre is there to listen, offer support, supply information and provide services:
• Call: 492-HELP (492-4357)
• Drop in: 030-N in the S.U.B.
• Visit: www.su.ualberta.ca/sdc
• Chat: http://www.campuscrisischat.com/

WEEKLY TOPICS AND READINGS

****Please note that the instructor may revise this course outline at any time. Any changes will be announced in class and via the course e-class website ****

Week 1

**No class, Monday, September 5th; Labour Day

Week 2

Introduction

September 12

This week I will go through the course outline, discuss expectations and aims for the course, and assign reading responses and presentations. I will also briefly introduce the sub-field of ethics in international relations, its origins and development so far, key issues and arguments addressed by normative theories in international relations, methodologies used to develop normative theories and their limitations, and the implications of changing character of world politics for normative theorists.

Further Readings:

Week 3

Rationalist Traditions in International Ethics

September 19


Further Readings:


**Week 4**  
**Beyond Rationalism in International Ethics**  
**September 26**  


*Further Reading*:  


**Week 5**  
**Global Justice**  
**October 3**  


*Further Reading*:  


**Week 6**  
**No class, Monday, October 10th; Thanksgiving Day**
**Week 7  Poverty**  
**October 17**


**Further Readings:**


**Week 8  Human Rights, International Law and Ethics**  
**October 24**


**Further Readings:**


**Week 9**  **No class, October 31st; Research Proposal submission due date**

**Week 10**  **No class, November 7th, Fall Reading Week**

**Week 11**  **Ethics of War**  
**November 14**

*Further Readings:*

**Week 12**  **Humanitarianism and Humanitarian Interventions**  
**November 21**

*Further Readings:*

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**Week 13  Citizenship, Borders, and Sovereignty  
November 28**


Further Readings:

**Week 14  Global Health and Ethical Challenges & Concluding Discussion  
December 5**


Further Readings: