



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**PHILOSOPHY/POLITICS/INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
264: ETHICS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

TRIMESTER 1 2010
1 March to 4 July 2010

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 1 March 2010 to 4 June 2010
Mid-trimester break: 5 April to 18 April 2010
Study week: 7 June to 11 June 2010
Examination/Assessment period: 11 June to 4 July 2010

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator:
Ramon Das
Room no.: Murphy (MY) 608
Phone no.: 463 5038
Office hours: Tuesday 9-10 or by appt.

Class times and locations

Lecture time[s]: T, W, Th 12:00-12:50
Lecture venue[s]: Hugh Mackenzie LT 205

Course delivery

This course will involve 3 lectures per week. Attendance is strongly encouraged but not mandatory. There are no tutorials for this course.

Communication of additional information

Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students via class Blackboard.

Course content

This course addresses some central questions in international affairs from an ethical perspective. Some of the topics covered include political realism, war, humanitarian intervention, global justice, immigration, and the environment. The course should provide a solid foundation for further work in the discipline, and also help students think more carefully and critically about a wide range of issues.

Course schedule

A schedule of topics and required readings for the course is available on Blackboard.

Learning objectives

Students passing the course should be able to demonstrate a broad 2nd year-level knowledge of and an ability to critically analyse some of the central philosophical issues in the topics covered in the course.

Graduate attributes

As with all PHIL courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific attributes in the areas of logical and critical thinking, conceptual analysis and rational and ethical decision-making. For more details please consult our website www.victoria.ac.nz/phil/degrees/index.aspx

Expected workload

In accordance with Faculty of Humanities and Social Science guidelines, the overall workload for this course is 200 hours in total.

Textbook and other readings:

There is a required textbook for this course: *Ethics and International Affairs, A Reader*, 3rd edition, edited by Joel H. Rosenthal and Christian Barry (Georgetown University Press, 2009). Additional required readings are posted on Blackboard. For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from vicbooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment requirements

PHIL/POLS/INTP 264 is assessed on the basis of three surprise in-class tests, one essay, and a take-home final exam:

- (a) *Surprise in-class tests:* There are three surprise in-class tests, only two of which will count (10% each) toward your final grade. Each test comprises four short answer questions and will last 25 minutes. The tests are meant to provide an incentive to complete the readings. They will test *only your comprehension of – not your ability to evaluate – the readings for the week in which the text falls*. Any reading for that week *may* (but not necessarily will) be tested. What this means is that *you should complete all of the readings for each week before the start of the first class on Tuesday*. The schedule of readings, including readings from the textbook and any additional required readings, is posted on Blackboard.

- (b) *Essay*: The essay is worth 30% of your overall final grade, and is due at 5:00pm on Monday, 10 May. The essay is designed to test your ability to critically analyse one of the key issues discussed in class. The essay should be approximately 2,500 words. It must be submitted electronically to Blackboard; a hard copy is not required. The essay topics are available on the assignments page of Blackboard. **Please note that essay extensions will be granted only for doctor-verified medical reasons or other emergencies.**
- (c) *Take-home final exam*: The take-home final exam comprises two questions drawn from material covered in the last four weeks of the course. Each question should be answered with a short essay of approximately 1500 words. *The exam will be posted on Blackboard immediately following the last class on Thursday, 3 June. It must be submitted electronically to Blackboard no later than 11:59pm, Sunday 6 June. Please note that no late exams will be accepted.* If for any reason you are unable to submit your exam onto Blackboard, then you must email your exam to me as an attachment, preferably in Word format, by the due date: ramon.das@vuw.ac.nz.

Penalties

Late essays will be penalized at the rate of 2 marks per day, including weekends.

Mandatory course requirements

There are no mandatory requirements for passing this course.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected on the first day of class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator. The representative's contact details will be made available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator, and the class.

Statement on legibility (applies only to the in-class tests; other work must be typed)

Students are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', the options are:

- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame after which penalties will apply;
- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) and lateness penalties apply;
- if the student does not transcribe it to an acceptable standard, the work will be accepted as 'received' (so any associated mandatory course requirements are met) but not marked.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable

to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, any handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic/Publications.aspx