



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME**

**PHIL/INTP/POLS 264: Ethics and International Affairs**

**TRIMESTER 1 2013**

**4 March – 3 July 2013**

**Trimester dates**

Teaching dates: 4 March to 7 June 2013

Easter break: 28 March to 3 April 2013

Mid-trimester break: 22–28 April 2013

Last piece of assessment due: 16 June 2013, 11:59pm

**Withdrawal dates**

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds)

**Names and contact details**

Course Coordinator: Dr Ramon Das  
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Office hours: By appt.

Lecturer: Steven Riley  
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Tutor: Anton Killin  
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Office hours: By appt.

**Class times and locations**

Can be found on the Victoria website at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/subjects/coursecatalogue>

It is advisable to check the above for any changes to the timetable programme.

**Lecture Time:** Mon, Wed, Fri 12-1pm  
**Lecture Venue:** New Kirk LT 301

**Tutorial:**

For Tutorial times and venue see the website below

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/timetables/>

**Teaching/learning summary**

This course will involve three lectures and one tutorial per week. Attendance is strongly encouraged but not mandatory.

**Communication of additional information**

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the Course Blackboard site.

**Course prescription**

This course will examine some important topics that lie at the interaction of moral philosophy and international relations, including war and just-war theory, humanitarian aid and intervention, and nationalism and state-hood.

**Learning objectives**

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a broad 2nd year-level knowledge of the central philosophical issues covered in the course.
2. Demonstrate an ability to critically analyse some of those central philosophical issues.

**Graduate attributes**

As with all Philosophy 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

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/about/overview-of-the-school/phil-overview#grad-attributes>

**Expected workload**

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to it throughout the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at lectures and tutorials, completion of all set weekly readings, and research and writing for set assessment tasks.

**Readings**

Please see the *Schedule of Readings*, listed on Blackboard, for a complete list of required and recommended readings for this course.

## Recommended reading:

There are two recommended (though not required) textbooks for this course: Garrett Wallace Brown and David Held (eds), *The Cosmopolitan Reader*, Cambridge, Polity Press, 2010; and Helen Frowe, *The Ethics of War and Peace: An Introduction*, New York, Routledge, 2011.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre Foyer from 11 February to 15 March 2013, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from vicbooks' new store, Ground Floor Easterfield Building, Kelburn Parade. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks, Easterfield Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. 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/INTP/POLS 264 is assessed on the basis of three surprise tests, one essay, and one take-home final test:

- (a) *Surprise tests*: There are three surprise tests, to be given in class. Of these, the highest two scores will count (10% each) toward your final grade. Each test comprises three short answer questions and will last 20 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 required 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 Monday*. The schedule of readings, including all required and recommended readings, is posted on Blackboard. **Please note that there are no make-up tests.**
- (b) *Essay*: The essay is worth 30% of your overall final grade, and is due at 5:00pm, Thursday 16 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. No essays will be accepted after December.**
- (c) *Take-home final test*: The take-home final test, worth 50% of the final grade, comprises two questions drawn from material covered during the last four weeks of lectures. Each question should be answered with a short essay of approximately 1500 words. **The final test will be posted on Blackboard on Friday 7 June. It must be submitted electronically to Blackboard no later than 11:59pm, Sunday 16 June. Please note that no late tests will be accepted.** If for any reason you are unable to submit your test onto Blackboard, then you must email your test to me as an attachment, in Word format (no zipped or compressed files, please) by the due date: [ramon.das@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:ramon.das@vuw.ac.nz).

## **Penalties**

Philosophy Programme policy stipulates that late submission of essays is penalised. For each week or part thereof of lateness, a late assignment gets a 5 point penalty, up to three weeks, after which the assignment will get a zero mark. (i.e. 1-7 days late a loss of 5%; 8-14 days late a loss of 10 %; 15-21 days late a loss of 15%, and after that a zero mark.) Extensions may be granted in exceptional circumstances, but **all extensions require the student to provide documentation**. If granted an extension, students must agree to a new due date. Contact your lecturer as soon as a problem emerges. Extension forms are available in the School office.

## **Mandatory course requirements**

There are no mandatory requirements for passing this course.

## **Return of marked course work**

Essays and tests will be available on Blackboard at times to be advised.

## **Class representative**

A class representative will be elected in the first week, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

## **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>

### **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, 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.

### **Where to find more detailed information**

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study). Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress). Most statutes and policies are available at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy), except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar) (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the Academic Office website, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic).