



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME PHIL 264: Ethics and International Affairs 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 29 February to 29 June 2016

Teaching dates: 29 February to 5 June 2016

Easter break: 24–30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Last assessment item due: 13 June 2016

Study period: 6–9 June 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 10–29 June 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures: Tues, Wed, Fri. 3:10-4:00 pm

Tutorials: Students should enrol in tutorials through myAllocator

Venue: HULT 323

Tutorials

Please see the Academic Timetable 2016 www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Ramon Das

Room No: MY 608

Phone: 463 5038

Email: ramon.das@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Wed. 11-12 and by appointment

Lecturer: Anton Killin
Room No: MY 715
Phone: x6664
Email: anton.killin@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: by appointment

Tutor: Felice Marshall
Room No: MY 705
Email: felice.marshall@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: by appointment

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 tutorial programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

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.

Course content

See *Schedule of Readings* on Blackboard for a complete list of topics and readings for the course. Students are responsible for completing the required readings ahead of the week in which they are discussed.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. demonstrate an in depth understanding of a variety of debates in the field of ethics and international affairs
2. critically evaluate a variety of arguments in the field of ethics and international affairs using established methods of formal or informal logic
3. analyse or elucidate complex ideas and concepts in the field of international affairs.

Teaching format

PHIL 264 is taught in three 50-minute lectures per week, plus one 50-minute tutorial per week. The tutorial sessions, which are strongly recommended but not required, reinforce lecture themes and help you prepare for the assessments.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been designed on the assumption that students will devote approximately 200 hours to it throughout the trimester. This is an average of 13 hours per week across the trimester. This includes attendance at 3 lectures each week. The

remainder of your time will need to be shared between reading preparation and making progress on assignments.

Things to consider when planning your time:

Reading preparation involves careful reading of set texts for meaning and argument, as well as note-taking and preparation of responses to discussion questions. As you become more skilled throughout the trimester, this may take fewer hours each week but in the first instance 1 hour per reading is worth 'budgeting' for.

Essays and other written assignments may require enough time for location, retrieval and reading of a range of sources. Note-taking, planning, drafting and editing the draft will all be necessary before writing up a final version.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	2 out of a possible 3 x 15-min surprise in-class tests (10% each)	20%	2, 3	TBA
2	1 essay (approx. 2,500 words)	30%	1,2,3	13 May
3	1 Take-home final test	50%	1,2,3	13 June

PHIL 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 15 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, Friday 13 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. **No essays will be accepted after 3 June at 5pm.**
- 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 at 5pm on Friday 3 June. It must be submitted electronically to Blackboard no later than 11:59pm, Monday 13 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 .

The essay and final test will be evaluated against the following five criteria:

1. directness and clarity in answering the question
2. support of answer with relevant and reasoned argument
3. knowledge of relevant material presented in readings and lectures
4. consideration of alternative viewpoints and arguments
5. quality of writing.

Submission and return of work

Essays should be submitted electronically through Blackboard, together with completed cover sheet available on Blackboard. Marked essays will be available on Blackboard to students no later than 3 June at 5pm.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Late submission of **assignments** will **not be accepted** unless the student makes an appointment as soon as practically possible with the course coordinator to explain the lateness (preferably before the assignment is due to be submitted). The circumstances under which an extension will be considered are outlined in section 3.2.1 of the Assessment Handbook.

(See: www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf).

There will be no make-ups of surprise tests for any reason.

Penalties

Philosophy Programme policy stipulates that late submission of essays is penalised. Late essays submitted without extensions having been obtained will receive a penalty of 5 points per day (or part thereof) late. **No essays will be accepted after 3 June 2016. No final tests will be accepted after 13 June 2016.**

Set texts

Please refer to the Schedule of Readings on Blackboard for a list of all required and recommended readings. All readings will be available on Blackboard, including links to e-books in the VUW Library.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

Student feedback

Based on student feedback we continue to run surprise tests as responses have been positive about this as an assessment item.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism

- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz