



**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS**

**POLI 587 L01
International Ethics
Winter 2021**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Antonio Franceschet
TELEPHONE: (403) 220-2583
EMAIL: afrances@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Available by appointment via telephone or Zoom.
COURSE DAY/TIME: Wednesdays 12:00 PM – 1:45 PM for required synchronous participation.
DELIVERY METHOD: Web-Based
COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: POLI 310 or POLI 381.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the role of ethical reasoning and moral norms in the political decision-making, institutions, and processes that constitute international politics. We start by learning about foundational concepts and theories of international politics and ethics. These concepts and theories are key to understanding topics such as war and terrorism, foreign intervention, human rights, global inequalities, poverty and climate change. This course is significant because most political issues have ethical ramifications, and because political actors are often motivated by ethical standards of conduct; their actions are also judged by their citizens and the international community by such ethical standards. At the same time, both politics and ethics are made more complicated by the reality of humanity being divided by separate memberships in different political communities, each claiming sovereignty. Moreover, international ethics is an important area of inquiry because it helps us understand our individual beliefs and choices as national citizens and/or as global citizens.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Show a deep understanding of the ethical dimensions and dilemmas of international politics. This understanding is multifaceted because it includes knowledge about the history and contemporary realities of such politics in relation to ethical principles and moral judgements.
2. Identify different theories and concepts of international ethics; be able to understand their sources, assumptions, strengths and weaknesses, as well as how to apply them to specific issues and problems.
3. Demonstrate knowledge about these theoretical perspectives through participation and writing assignments.
4. Write an extended essay on an international ethical subject that forwards an original argument.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)

Mark R. Amstutz, *International Ethics: Concepts, Theories, and Cases in Global Politics*. Fifth Edition. Rowman & Littlefield, 2018. Note: earlier editions of this textbook should **not** be used, as the updates to content and case studies are significant.

Other required readings for this course are available electronically either via D2L or the university's library services. A full list of planned weekly readings is posted to D2L.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY

As per the university's *Technology Requirements for Students Taking Online, Remote, and Blended Courses*, students enrolled in this course must have reliable access to the following:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection

For further information, please go to <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/technology-requirements-for-students/>

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Participation	25%	Throughout the term
"Theory Matters" Take Home Test: Submitted to D2L Dropbox folder	25%	Due no later than 11:59 PM on March 1, 2021.
International Ethics Essay Project including the following subcomponents: Subcomponents: 1. Subject Selection document 2. Topic Research Questions and a provisional thesis document 3. Essay map document 4. Final essay	50% total Subcomponent weightings 1. 3% 2. 5% 3. 10% 4. 32%	1. February 12, 2021 at 11:59PM 2. March 12, 2021 at 11:59PM 3. March 25, 2021 at 11:59PM 4. April 15, 2021 at 11:59PM
Total	100%	

If a student misses a required course component, please get in touch the instructor as soon as possible.

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS

A more detailed list of topics with weekly required reading assignments is available on D2L.

Week	Topic
1	Introduction to International Ethics
2	Background: Foundations and Concepts
3	Foreign Policy Choice & International/Global Society
4	Theoretical Traditions: Realism and Liberalism
5	Theoretical Contestations: Feminism and Post-Colonialism
6	Justice and War
7	Terrorism
8	Human Rights
9	Intervention
10	Justice, Aid, and Poverty
11	Accountability, Crime, and Punishment
12	The Environment and Climate Justice
13	Conclusions

Please note that the above schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.

“Theory Matters” Take-home Test

This is a take-home (open book) test. You must respond to two essay questions about the **theoretical perspectives** we learn as well as their possible applications to political-moral issues and problems. More detailed information will be discussed in class and posted on D2L.

The questions will be distributed February 24, 2021 at 3pm, and your responses are due March 2, 2021 at 11:59pm. Responses must be posted to the appropriate D2L dropbox folder.

Late exams will not be graded. Extensions are permitted only for legitimate extenuating circumstances and in accord with university policy.

International Ethics Essay Project

Detailed instructions for this project's various components are posted on the D2L course page. Each component must be posted to the appropriate D2L dropbox folder.

For each component of this project, late submissions will not be graded, and extensions are permitted only for legitimate extenuating circumstances and in accord with university policy.

PARTICIPATION

This is an upper-level, small enrolment course in which there are a number of opportunities to achieve the course learning objectives through individual and collective reflection. Students will earn a participation grade by being present and active in the synchronous participation sessions that start at 12:00 and will not go past 13:45 every Wednesday until the end of scheduled classes (except reading week). Starting January 20, 2021, participation will be graded.

In order to participate effectively, students are expected to have completed the assigned weekly readings for the topic, and to have viewed available recorded lectures for the topic posted by the instructor on D2L.

In general, the participation activities will consist of:

- Opportunities for short individual writing reflections on questions posed by the instructor, and/or written recall of important facts and concepts from the weekly reading or recorded lecture materials, prompted by the instructor.
- Assigned group participation of subsets of enrolled students, using the Zoom breakout rooms. Such group work will involve a discussion aimed at generating a collective response to a problem or questions posed by the instructor. To qualify for this portion of participation grades, the group individual members needs to share responsibilities for completing and submitting a written form that outlines the results of your group discussion.
- Periods in which all class members participate in a discussion on questions and issues arising from topic and required weekly readings.

Generally speaking, the more often that you attend the synchronous class, actively show your interest, learning, and communication skills in the discussion activities with other students and with the instructor, the higher your participation grade.

More detailed information about participation assessment will be available on D2L.

WRITING STATEMENT

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre by contacting them at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

GRADING SCALE: The following grading scale will be used:

A+ = 94-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 87-93	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 50-56
A- = 80-86	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	F = 0-49

RECORDING OF LECTURES

Recording of lectures is permitted for accommodation purposes or for individual private study at the discretion of the instructor. Any other use of recording constitutes Academic Misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion. Both the student and the instructor must sign the appropriate form(s) to facilitate recording lectures.

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL AND COMMUNICATION POLICY

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak by appointment with the instructor by Zoom. Though email is commonly used by students to communicate with their instructor, it does limit the effectiveness of the communications and may not be the best way for instructors to answer student questions, especially those requiring an explanation of concepts covered in this course or some personal concerns. **Therefore, the instructor may ask students to speak with him by appointment via telephone or Zoom to answer questions concerning the course curriculum, the Theory Matters Take Home test, and the various International Ethics Essay Project components.**

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration

As stated in the University Calendar:

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at ucalgary.ca/registrar). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus. For a list of locations to access a Commissioners for Oaths, visit ucalgary.ca/registrar).

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

This statement is accessible at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

Absence From a Mid-term Examination

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

Deferral of a Final Examination

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Appeals

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

University Regulations

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html.

Student Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Plagiarism and Other Forms of Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such

offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Required Access to Technology

Please see the University's resource page at https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it?id=kb_article&sys_id=86e7438013753ac06f3afbb2e144b031

Copyright Legislation

As stated in the University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, "students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright and requirements of the copyright act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy."

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-electronic-resources-and-information-policy.pdf> and <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP)

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

For program planning and advice, please consult with the Arts Students' Centre by calling 403-220-3580 or by email at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625].

Important Contact Information

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: askgsa@ucalgary.ca

URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Campus Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

Student Wellness Services:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

Campus Mental Health Strategy website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.