

ETHICS OF WAR AND PEACE

COURSE NUMBER: TESP 159

SECTION NUMBER: 48543

SPRING 2009: MWF 9:15-10:20 a.m.

ROOM: Casa Italiana 8

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. David DeCosse

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:30 p.m. and by appointment

OFFICE: Room 172, Markkula Center for Applied Ethics (the Ethics Center is on the first floor of the Arts and Sciences Building)

CONTACT INFO: Phone: 554-5715, email: ddecosse@scu.edu

Purpose: The purpose of the class is twofold: First, to acquaint students with key elements in the Western theological and philosophical tradition of moral reasoning on war and peace. Second, to invite students to apply this moral reasoning to contemporary questions of war and peace. We will do this by studying the ethics of war and peace at a general and at an applied level. As to the general level, we will consider the theological and philosophical development of the just war and pacifist traditions. In terms of theology, we will pay particular attention to the Christian tradition of thought on war and peace. As to the applied level, we will consider such ethical issues as questions of justice raised by the start of the Iraq War; the morality of saturation bombing; the genocide in Rwanda; and torture.

Required Texts:

Just and Unjust Wars by Michael Walzer

The Powers That Be: Theology for a New Millenium by Walter Wink

***Many of the readings for the class are available on ERes (password is "warandpeace") and elsewhere online (URLs are provided on this syllabus). Students should consider getting a binder or folder to keep these readings in order.

***Handouts will also be occasionally provided in class.

***All students should have a Bible.

Requirements:

Class Participation: Discussion in class is a crucial aspect of TESP 159. Hence, students are required to complete all reading before class for which reading is assigned; to consider the reading in light of the "focus question" assigned for each class; and to be prepared to discuss the reading in class. Only two unexcused absences from class permitted without resulting in reduction in grade. 20% of final grade. Class participation grades will be handed out at the time of each mid-term.

Midterm Exams: There will be two mid-term exams. 40% of final grade.

Final Exam: 40% of final grade.

Student class participation will be evaluated on the basis of the willingness to speak up; the quality of reasoning in what is said; the demonstrated achievement of being able to express a perspective with which one disagrees; and the respect with which one addresses and listens to one's peers in this class.

Student exams will be evaluated on the basis of accurate description of key points in the reading material; a willingness to argue on behalf of one's own positions; and the quality of reasoning and writing in the exam responses.

Academic Integrity: All standards of academic integrity at Santa Clara University will be strictly adhered to. Failure to observe these standards will result in failure of the class.

Disability Accommodation Policy: To request accommodation for a disability, students must contact Disability Resources located in the Drahmman Center in Benson, Room 214 at 554-4111; TTY 554-5445. Students must provide documentation of a disability to Disability Resources prior to receiving accommodation.

Classes:

March 30: Introduction

- View in Class: Selections from "The War Tapes"

April 1: CASE: Vietnam and Iraq: What Should Martin Do?

- "Case: Vietnam and Iraq," in Christian Ethics: A Case Method Approach by Stivers, et al., 2005: 63-83 (handout)
- View in Class: Selections from "Soldiers of Conscience"

April 3: Is War Moral?

- Preface and "Against Realism," from Just and Unjust Wars by Walzer: xvii-xxiii and 3-20

April 6: Jus ad bellum and the Crime of War

- "The Crime of War," Just and Unjust Wars: 21-33
- "Jus ad bellum" criteria/explanation from the online Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy; available at <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/war/#2.1>
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April 8: Jus in bello and the Rules of War

- "The Rules of War," Just and Unjust Wars: 34-47
- "Jus in bello" criteria/explanation from the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy; available at <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/war/#2.1>
SCROLL DOWN TO FIND ENTRY

April 10: NO CLASS: GOOD FRIDAY

April 13: Aggression and Peace

- "Law and Order in International Society," Just and Unjust Wars: 51-73
- Readings from the United Nations Charter: Preamble, Chapters 1,6, and 7; available at <http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>

April 15: Jus post bellum

- “Justice After War,” by Brian Orend, Ethics and International Affairs 2002: 43-56; AVAILABLE ON ERes
- “Jus post bellum” criteria/explanation from the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy; available at <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/war/#2.1>
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April 17: War and the Challenge of Radical Islam

- Fatwa or Declaration of War by Osama Bin Laden; available at http://www.pbs.org/newshour/terrorism/international/fatwa_1996.html
- “Epilogue,” from Islam: The Straight Path by Esposito: 253-271; AVAILABLE ON ERes

April 20: Islam, Secularity, and the State: The Thought of Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im

- “The Interdependence of Religion, Secularism, and Human Rights,” by An-Na'im, Common Knowledge 2005: 56-80

April 22: CASE: Jus ad bellum, Just Cause, and the Iraq War

- “Anticipations,” Just and Unjust Wars: 74-85
- Speech of March 17, 2003, by President George W. Bush; available at <http://www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/meast/03/17/sprj.irq.bush.transcript/>

7 P.M. ON EVENING OF APRIL 22: **ATTENDANCE OF ALL IN CLASS IS REQUIRED** AT LECTURE AT SCU BY PROFESSOR ABDULLAHI AHMED AN-NA'IM; THE LECTURE WILL BE IN THE ST. CLARE ROOM IN THE LEARNING COMMONS

April 24: NO CLASS: FATHER ENGH'S INAUGURATION

- BEGIN READING, “The Morality of Obliteration Bombing,” by Ford, Theological Studies (1944): 261-309; AVAILABLE ON ERes

April 27: CASE: Jus in bello, Double Effect, and Saturation Bombing of Japan

- “The Morality of Obliteration Bombing,” ctd.
- “The Nature of Necessity,” Just and Unjust Wars: 251-55
- Selections from Retribution, Max Hastings, 2008: 281-285 and 295-305; AVAILABLE ON ERes
- View in Class: Selections from “The Fog of War”

April 29: CASE: Jus post bellum, Forgiveness, and Civil War in El Salvador

- “The Convergence of Forgiveness and Justice: Lessons From El Salvador,” by Stephen Pope, Theological Studies, 2003: 812-35; AVAILABLE ON ERes

May 1: MIDTERM #1

May 4: Just War and Terrorism I

- “Terrorism,” Just and Unjust Wars: 197-206
- “After 9-11: Five Questions About Terrorism,” Michael Walzer, Arguing About War, 2002: 130-142; AVAILABLE ON ERes

May 6: Just War and Terrorism II

- “Introduction: Plagues in the Time of Feast,” Philip Bobbitt, Terror and Consent: The Wars for the Twenty-First Century, 2008: 3-20; AVAILABLE ON ERes

May 8: Humanitarian Intervention I

- “Interventions,” Just and Unjust Wars: 86-108
- View in Class: “The Triumph of Evil”

May 11: Humanitarian Intervention II: CASES

- Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; available at http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/p_genoci.htm
- Review in class the cases of Rwanda, Darfur, and Myanmar

May 13: Terrorism and the Challenge of Fighting Ethically

- “Weighing Crimes and Ethics in the Fog of Urban Warfare,” Steven Erlanger, The New York Times, January 17, 2009; available at http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/17/world/middleeast/17israel.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=steven%20erlanger%20weighing%20crimes%20and%20ethics&st=cse
- “The Downside of Letting Robots Do the Bombing,” Mark Mazzetti, The New York Times, March 22, 2009; available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/22/weekinreview/15MAZZETTI.html?scp=1&sq=predator%20March%2022,%202009&st=cse>
- “Counterinsurgency Field Manual: Afghanistan Edition,” Nathaniel C. Fick and John A. Nagl, Foreign Policy, January/February 2009; available at http://www.foreignpolicy.com/story/cms.php?story_id=4587

May 15: Terrorism and Torture I

- “The Truth About Torture: It’s Time to Be Honest About Doing Terrible Things,” by Charles Krauthammer, The Weekly Standard, December 5, 2005; AVAILABLE ON ERes
- “The Abolition of Torture: Saving the United States From a Totalitarian Future,” by Andrew Sullivan, The New Republic, December 19, 2005; AVAILABLE ON ERes
- “Tales From Torture’s Dark World,” Mark Danner, The New York Times, March 15, 2009; available at

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/15/opinion/15danner.html?scp=1&sq=mark%20danner%20new%20york%20times&st=cse>

May 18: Terrorism and Torture II

- “The Crime of Aggression: Political Leaders and Citizens,” Just and Unjust Wars: 287-303
- Department of Justice Memo by John Yoo, October 1, 2002; AVAILABLE ON ERes
- Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; available at http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/h_cat39.htm
- Text of Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions; available at <http://www.nytimes.com/ref/us/AP-Guantanamo-Geneva-Conventions.html>

May 20: Feminism and War

- “A Feminist Ethical Perspective on Weapons of Mass Destruction,” Carol Cohn and Sara Ruddick, Ethics and Weapons of Mass Destruction, 2004: 405-435; AVAILABLE ON ERes

May 22: MIDTERM #2

May 25 NO CLASS: MEMORIAL DAY

May 27: Christianity and War: Augustine, the Sermon on the Mount, and Just War

- Selection from The Political Writings of St. Augustine, ed. Paolucci; AVAILABLE ON ERes
- Selection from the Sermon on the Mount, Gospel of Matthew 5:38-48

May 29: Christianity and War: Walter Wink and Christian Non-Violence

- Introduction and Chapter 1, The Powers That Be, Walter Wink, 1998: 1-36

June 1: Christianity and War: Walter Wink II

- Chapter 2 and selection from Chapter 3, The Powers That Be: 37-73

June 3: Christianity and War: Walter Wink III

- Selections from Chapter 4 and Chapter 5, The Powers That Be: 82-93 and 98-111

June 5: Christianity and War: Walter Wink IV

- Chapter 9, The Powers That Be: 161-179

FINAL EXAM TO BE TAKEN DURING EXAM WEEK