

Course Staff

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I am available for consultation during normal working hours, either face-to-face or by email. If you would like to meet with me, please email or phone first to make a time.

Course Details

Some of the most serious and vexing moral and political dilemmas of our time are global rather than national. These include issues such as world poverty, migration and refugees, climate change, failed and failing states, and so on. What, if anything, should we do about these problems? And why? This course examines issues such as these, and asks who - whether particular states, international organisations or individuals - should ultimately be responsible for trying to fix them. (UNSW Handbook, 2012)

Global Justice and World Politics will introduce students to the normative dimensions of global politics. While theoretical in nature, the aim of the course is to look at applied cases, such as the nature of global poverty. Although a liberal political outlook makes up the backbone of the course, students are free to approach the course from a variety of normative standpoints. Within political theory, global justice is an exciting and emerging field of study with a lot of new and interesting work coming out. The course aims to familiarise students with the main arguments within these debates, and also help inform their own positions on these key global issues.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course you should be able to:

LO1. Understand the nature of negative and positive moral duties in relation to the global poor.

LO2. Evaluate the level and type of responsibility individuals and states may (or may not) have for addressing key global problems.

LO3. Form their own well-reasoned views on some of the major global normative issues.

LO 4. Read and understand key essays in international political theory.

Developing Graduate Attributes

Students will be encouraged to develop the following graduate attributes by undertaking the course activities and mastering the knowledge content. These attributes will be assessed within the assessment tasks:

GA1. The skills involved in scholarly enquiry

GA2. An in-depth engagement with the relevant disciplinary knowledge in its interdisciplinary context

GA3. The capacity for analytical and critical thinking and for creative problem-solving

GA4. The ability to engage in independent and reflective learning

GA12. The skills of effective communication

Assessment Requirements

Assessment	Due Date	Weighting
Short essay (1500 words)	Tuesday 10th April	30%
Major Essay + presentation (2500-3000 words)	2 weeks after class/forum presentation	60%
Class/forum participation	ongoing	10%

The question for the **Short Essay** will be made available at the start of the course, and will involve knowledge from the first three weeks of teaching.

The **Major Essay** involves two parts; the essay itself, and a presentation online or in class. On campus students will choose a topic from weeks 4-12, and make a presentation on the topic to the group. Distance students will also choose a topic from weeks 4-12, and will post a discussion starter on the forum at the beginning of the relevant week. Both students are expected to be involved in the general discussions that follow. Students will then have two weeks to write their research essay.

Participation: all students are expected to contribute to the success of the course. On campus students should come to class having done the required readings and with questions in mind. They will be assessed on their *participation* in class. This includes attentive listening, evidence of having done the reading, and not necessarily constant talk. One pithy intervention can score a higher mark than many irrelevant interventions. Distance students should do all the required reading for each week and form questions in their mind. Once the forum on a weekly topic is open, you are expected to participate – and it is this participation that will be assessed. Please remember quality matters. Brief question raising and direct on-the-point posts are usually preferable to longer more verbose posts.

All written work should be submitted via Olive, on campus students should also hand in a hard copy.

Assessment Criteria: Compulsory components or minimum performance standards

You must submit all pieces of assessment in order to pass the course. Full details for each piece of assessment can be found later in the course manual, and on Olive.

Outcomes-Assessment Matrix

Assessment item	LO 1	LO 2	LO 3	LO 4
Short Essay	X		X	X
Major Essay + Presentation		X	X	X
Participation			X	X

Late Submission of Assessment

A late penalty of 5 per cent per day will apply to any assessable work delivered after the due date, and for which an extension has not been granted by the course convenor.

If you think you have grounds for an extension, please contact the course convenor immediately. Substantial extensions will require medical or compassionate grounds, and will need to be substantiated by the appropriate paperwork.

Teaching Strategies

The course comprises a weekly 2 hour seminar for on campus students and online Olive forum for distance students. By doing the weekly reading and engaging in discussion in either the class or the forum, students will learn about the key issues, read the important texts, and be able to form their views on important global normative issues. The two other assessments require students to go deeper in their understanding and knowledge of global moral responsibility, and form a well-reasoned and clear argument.

Like most classes of this nature, the more students put into the course, the more they will get out of it. My role as course convenor is to push and challenge you. By this I mean to expose you to some key global issues, help you to explore your own normative position, and whichever position you end up with, insist that you have sound logical and well informed reasons for holding it.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism is a type of intellectual theft. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

For more information, please refer to the UNSW@ADFA Academic Misconduct website (<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/academiclife/assessment/StudentConductPolicy.html>).

Resources for Students

There is no set textbook for the course. The Olive site will have weekly readings and further readings. Most of these will be taken from academic journals.

Course Schedule

Week 1:	Introduction
Week 2:	Assisting the global poor?
Week 3:	Harming the global poor?
Week 4:	National partiality & the importance of states
Week 5:	Global egalitarianism?
Week 6:	No Class (Easter public holiday) Short Essay Due
Week 7:	Migration
Week 8:	Trade
Week 9:	Human rights
Week 10:	The environment
Week 11:	Global democracy
Week 12:	International criminal justice
Week 13:	Course review

Course Evaluation and Development

This is the first time this course has been run. I have consulted with lecturers at other universities who teach similar courses, as well as with current UNSW students and staff from other Masters level courses. I welcome your feedback, both formally in the form of CATEI, and informally as you see fit throughout the semester.

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The University of New South Wales
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course outline