Ethics of War
PHIL 3140/GIST 3500
Spring 2018

Course Description: There has been a long, intellectual tradition in thinking about the moral justification of war, ranging at least from Thomas Aquinas's writings in the 13th century to Michael Walzer's *Just and Unjust Wars* to contemporary work by Jeff McMahan and others. The tradition draws distinctions between the justice of war itself (*jus ad bellum*), restrictions on our conduct within war (*jus in bello*), and our obligations following the conclusion of war (*jus post bellum*).

      The contemporary advent of terrorism arguably challenges central tenets of this just war tradition, replacing the doctrine of preemption with that of prevention, blurring the distinction between civilians and combatants, accelerating both the speed and potential damage of attacks, and so on. How, if at all, should these features of terrorism lead to a revision of just war principles? Finally, consider modern military technologies, including weaponry, robotics, drones, cyber, and warfighter enhancement. Do these alter the state of play such that traditional just war principles become displaced? Or can these principles accommodate novel technologies?

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	Monday 11:00-1:00; Moore 3006
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Website:	elearning.wmich.edu
Texts:	Fritz Allhoff, *Terrorism, Ticking Time-Bombs, and Torture* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2012) (required)
	Helen Frowe, *The Ethics of War and Peace: An Introduction*, 2nd ed. (London: Routledge, 2015) (required).
	Fritz Allhoff, Nicholas G. Evans, and Adam Henschke (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Ethics and War: Just War Theory in the Twenty-First Century* (New York: Routledge, 2013) (optional).
	Other readings will be made available from the course site.

Grading:

Multiple Choice Quizzes	20 pts/module * 15 modules	300 pts
Short Answer Questions	30 pts/module * 15 modules	450 pts
Discussion Forums	20 pts/module * 15 modules	300 pts
Final Paper		450 pts
	Total:	**1,500 pts**

Grading Scale: This course uses a standard scale: >92%+ = A; 88%-92% = BA; 82%-88% = B; 78%-82% = CB; 72%-78% = C; 68%-72% = DC; 60%-68% = D; <60% = E. In unusual cases, there will be a (small) curve, but that will not be known until calculation of final grades. There may also be extra credit, which will be announced when available; please do not ask for additional opportunities.

Readings: For each module, complete the assigned video and readings (see below). Reading in philosophy is *very* difficult, both because philosophers often write technically and because the questions they seek to answer are not always ones with which we are familiar. It is therefore of critical importance that you invest heavily in the reading, both by going slowly and, sometimes, by going through it more than once. Understanding the reading is the key to success in this course.

Quizzes: For each module, you will complete a multiple choice quiz and short essay questions. The multiple choice quiz comprises ten questions—each worth two points—and has an allowance of thirty minutes. There are three short essay questions—each worth ten points—that have a combined allowance of ninety minutes. Short essay questions should be answered in two to three paragraphs each; that said, use your judgment on what sort of detail is required. You may use the text for both the multiple choice quiz and the short essay questions, but, because of the time limits, should prepare before you begin.

Quizzes open at 12:00 a.m. on Monday and close at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday. Note that they must be *completed* (i.e., not just started) by the expiration times. Also note that the correct answers do not display until after the quiz *closes* (i.e., not when you complete it).

Discussion Forums: For each module, you should make a post reacting to either the theme of that module or to particular readings within it. These posts should be *no fewer than 100 words*. You should also *respond* to at least two different posts from your classmates; you should generally reply to the original post, but may engage themes emergent in the discussion thread as well. These responses should be *no fewer than 50 words*. Your original post is worth 10 points and your reply posts are worth 5 points each.

The original posts must be submitted no later than Thursday at 11:59 p.m. during the module's release period; the response posts must be submitted by the close of the module on Sunday at 11:59 p.m.

Journal Entries: Quizzes *cannot be re-opened for any reason*, nor can be they be made available beyond the release dates provided below*.* However, with the understanding that personal exigencies or technical difficulties sometimes arise, a missed quiz—comprising the multiple choice and short answer questions—can be replaced with a *journal entry of 1,000 words (± 10%)*, worth fifty points*.* Journal entries can also be used to *replace* quizzes *after* the quizzes (or some part thereof) are attempted (e.g., if you have technical difficulties during)*.* These journal entries should engage the reading assignment for the module and be *half exegetical* and *half analytical.* They are due within a week of the close of the quiz that it services, and late submissions will not be accepted. Journal entries should be submitted through e-learning, not sent by email.

No more than two journal entries are allowed; any more misses will result in a zero for the quiz. No module for which a journal entry is submitted can serve as the basis for the final paper (see below). E-learning cannot automatically replace quizzes with journal entries—we have to do this manually at the end of the semester—so do not worry if it still looks like you have a zero for a missed quiz.

Final Paper: By the end of the course, you will write a final paper on some module of your choosing. It should be *2,500 words (± 10%)*; deviations from this range will be penalized. You should spend approximately half of the paper *summarizing* the key ideas from the module, and the other half *evaluating* those ideas. (Do not discuss *all* of the ideas in the module, but rather choose *some* ideas and develop a coherent and integrated essay around them.)

In addition to the textbook, you must have *at least five external sources* that you incorporate into your paper, and *at least ten footnotes*. Use whatever footnote format you are most comfortable with and include a bibliography at the end of the paper. Try to use authoritative, peer-reviewed sources as opposed to only websites. Wikipedia is not an acceptable source, though you may use it to get suggestions for other sources.

Because final grades are due immediately following the end of the course, *late papers will not be accepted*. Papers should be submitted through under the "Assignments/Papers and Journals" link and not sent by email.

Technical Support: For any technical support pertaining to the course, contact the Help Desk at (269) 387-HELP. Neither the professor nor graduate assistant is able to provide technical support.

Statement on Academic Honesty: You are responsible for making yourself aware of and understanding the policies and procedures in the Undergraduate Catalog that pertain to Academic Honesty (pp. 274-276). These policies include cheating, fabrication, falsification and forgery, multiple submission, plagiarism, complicity and computer misuse. If there is reason to believe you have been involved in academic dishonesty, you will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. You will be given the opportunity to review the charge(s). If you believe you are not responsible, you will have the opportunity for a hearing. You should consult with me if you are uncertain about an issue of academic honesty prior to the submission of an assignment or test.

Course Schedule

Module	Topic	Opens	Closes	Readings
1	Introduction to Ethics of War	1/8	1/14	• John Green: War & Human Nature: Crash Course World History (Video) • *BBC*: Article on Just War Theory • Frowe: Chapter 2
2	*Jus ad Bellum*	1/15	1/21	• Michael Walzer: Was War in Iraq Just? (Video) • David Coates: Weighing the Arguments on U.S. Military Actions Against ISIS • Frowe: Chapter 3
3	Pre-Emption, Prevention, and Humanitarian Intervention	1/22	1/28	• Dan Boyle: The Bush Doctrine (Video) • *BBC*: Rwanda Genocide: 100 Days of Slaughter • Frowe: Chapter 4
4	*Jus in Bello*	1/29	2/4	• David Rodin: Ethics of War & Conflict (Video) • *New York Times*: Israel Polarized over Soldier Who Killed Wounded Palestinian • Frowe: Chapters 5 & 6
5	*Jus post Bellum*	2/5	2/11	• Brian Orend: Justice After War: Toward a New Geneva Convention (Video: 36'-52') • Carsten Stahn *et al.*: Jus post Bellum and the Ethics of Peace • Frowe: Chapter 12
6	What Is Terrorism?	2/12	2/18	• Test Tube News: What Is Terrorism? (Video) • ABC News: How Do You Define Terrorism? • Allhoff: Chapter 1

7	The Moral Status of Terrorism	2/19	2/25	• Stanford: What Causes Terrorism? (Video)
				• Eylon Aslan-Levy: Violence against Soldiers Is Terrorism
				• Allhoff: Chapter 2
8	Terrorism and Just War	2/26	3/4	• Michael McGowan: Ethics, War and Terrorism (Video)
				• John Yoo: Terrorists Have No Geneva Rights
				• Allhoff: § 3.1
				• Frowe: Chapter 10 (pp. 205-211 only)
9	Torture and Ticking Time-Bombs	3/12	3/18	• CNN: The Torture Debate (Video)
				• Conor Friedersdorf: Torture, Ticking Time Bombs, and Waterboarding Americans
				• Allhoff: §§ 4.1, 4.3, Chapter 6
10	Torture and the Real World	3/19	3/25	• John Yoo on the Daily Show (Video; watch parts 1 & 2)
				• John Yoo: If the Torture Report Is True, CIA Officers Are at Legal Risk
				• Allhoff: §§ 7.1-7.4, Chapter 8
11	Non-Lethal Weapons	3/26	4/1	• Stephen Coleman: Non-Lethal Weapons: A Moral Hazard? (Video)
				• Allhoff: The Paradox of Non-Lethal Weapons
				• Michael Gross: Shooting to Stun: The Paradox of Nonlethal Warfare
12	Military Robots and Drones	4/2	4/8	• TDC: Future Military Robots (Video)
				• Patrick Lin: Drone-Ethics Briefing: What a Leading Robot Expert Told the CIA
				• Frowe: Chapter 11

13	Cyberwarfare	4/9	4/15	• Thomas Rid: Cyberwar: Does it Exist? (Video)
				• Fritz Allhoff *et al.*: Is It Possible to Wage a Just Cyberwar?
				• Randall Dipert: The Ethics of Cyberwarfare
14	Soldier Enhancement	4/16	4/22	• Bloomberg: Lockheed's Bionic Exoskeleton a Super-Human Reality (Video)
				• Patrick Lin: More Than Human?: The Ethics of Biologically Enhancing Soldiers
				• Fritz Allhoff *et al.*: Ethics of Human Enhancement: 25 Questions & Answers (pp. 5-38)
N/A				**Final Paper due 4/22 at 11:59 p.m.**