

Global Ethics

Philosophy 3307

M/W 11:00am-12:15pm

Class Number 54016 Section MW11

Instructor: Staff

Email:



Ethics is that area of human inquiry which aims to determine the way(s) in which a person should live: what is moral? What is the good life? What are my obligations to others? And to myself? What does it mean to be a person? “Globalization” is that multidimensional phenomena—which kicked into high gear in the 1990s—that has dramatically changed the ways in which human beings across the globe interact with one another.

Key questions include: should there be a global governmental system? Who should carry out this role? Are the universal human rights? Who decides? A special focus will be on participatory democracy with respect to international urban sustainability.

Readings from a variety of traditions including rights-based views, globalists, feminists, democratic theory and virtue ethics.

Assignments: two short assignments (2 pages), quiz, midterm, 10 page paper, final exam.

Prerequisite: one course in philosophy.

INEQUALITY AND HYPERWEALTH. SUPERSTORMS AND CLIMATE CHANGE. MASS EXTINCTION. REFUGEES. OBESITY AND STARVATION. TERRORISM AND TOTAL SURVEILLANCE. These are just some of the issues that the peoples and states of the world are grappling with in the 21st century. In this class we shall examine these issues and responses to them: ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY; HUMAN RIGHTS, PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE, BIOREGIONALISM, COSMOPOLITANISM.

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