

Ethical Theories and Political Actions (Results)

Ethics and Politics--2010-01

Fall 2018

Lecturor / Facilitor: Rev.Richard Quirk,Ph.D

Class Time : Monday,Wednesday,Friday

@ 9:00 AM-9:50 AM

Location: Xavier Hall G08

Office Hours : By Appointment

E-mail- quirkrj@slu.edu

Required Texts

**Ethics Theory and Contemporary Issues by: Barbara MacKinnon, Andrew Fiala
Eighth Edition-Concise (2015) refer to as : ET**

The Common Good by: Robert B Reich First Edition (2018) refer to as: CG

Special Note

This course helps fulfill (in the college of Arts & Science) a core requirement for studies in cultural diversity . (Refer to required information from the A&E Committees.)This course is also an approved class in the Catholic Studies Program.

Course Description

The course will provide an introductory overview of historical and contemporary political dilemmas and ethical options. This is to be understood as a holistic study of making moral choices about political actions and political agents. Focus will be placed on becoming familiar with various philosophical writings, classical, medieval, modern, and their influences on our public discourses.

All Political/Ethical Choices have consequences for ourselves and others in society. Ultimately our judgments stem from each individual's on-going socialization process. Sharing a variety of life-experiences together both civic and or non- civic will enhance the class's overall appreciation for a more personally conscious effort at engaging the ethicaland the political spheres.

Course Objectives.

- A. To intellectually recognize that political action and ethical behaviors emanate from the mind and the heart of each person.
- B. To begin to think about how to collaborate with others agents in society for the “common good” all of creation’s diversities.

Social Science Core Requirement

Student outcomes: Students will acquire conceptual tools and methodologies to analyze and understand their social world. With these tools, they will be able to act in their world more effectively and become forces for positive change. They will gain a better understanding of human diversity. Students will be able to think and write critically about human behavior and community. They will become aware of the various methodological approaches used by social scientists.

Core Diversity in the United States Requirement

This class fulfills the Core Diversity in the U.S. requirement. The Cultural Diversity in the United States requirement is designed to help students gain a better understanding of the cultural groups in the United States and their interactions. Students who complete a Cultural Diversity course in this category will gain a substantial subset of the following skills:

1. Analyze and evaluate how various underrepresented social groups confront inequality and claim a just place in society.
2. Examine how conflict and cooperation between social groups shapes U.S. society and culture.
3. Identify how individual and institutional forms of discrimination impact leaders, communities and community building through the examination of such factors as race, ethnicity, gender, religion, economic class, age, physical and mental capability, and sexual orientation.
4. Evaluate how their personal life experiences and choices fit within the larger mosaic of U.S. society by confronting and critically analyzing their own values and assumptions about individuals and groups from different cultural contexts.
5. Understand how questions of diversity intersect with moral and political questions of justice and equality.

Lectures/Discussions Themes

Ethical terms, decision making process, how to research and write an ethical paper; religion; renovation; egoism; social contract; utilization; democratic ethics; nature's law; human rights; virtue theories; feminism equality; discrimination; social and economic justice; environmental ethics; animal ethics; bioethics; war; ethical leadership; models ethical thought in Catholic social teaching.

COURSE-METHODS

- . Lectures (interactive by inviting questions, answers and observations from the class).
- . Required readings, in addition ,to text reading includes (political/ethical Journal magazine articles, newspaper, case studies).
- . Guest speakers.
- . Internet links.
- . Small Groups Dialogues
- . Reflection Papers
- . Formal Ethical Research

Learning Outcomes

- . Explain the ethical framework of proposed laws and enacted legislation.
- . Increase the student's self awareness of his/her ethical priorities and the resistant impact on his/her self, family, friends, and community.
- . Be able to reference classical and contemporary ethical philosophers. (Become aware of basic concepts found in Scripture (Bible), the Qur'an, religious right, judgmentalism , and in the principles of Catholic social teachings.)

Modes of Assessment

All students are expected to complete the readings and other assignments and be ready to actively participate in class. (20%Overall grade)

Written Assignment - A requirement of 4 one page papers. The exact topics will be presented one week before the due date.(10%)

Mid Term Exam-in class test primarily focused on vocabulary, definition and concepts from the readings and lectures.(30% of overall grade)

Final Exam- A paper of 7-8 pages will be required.This will be a researched project with endnotes not a reflection piece. (Following the midterm break guidelines for the paper will be distributed.(40%)

Grading Scale that Translate into Letters

A (93-100)
A- (90-92)
B+ (87-89)
B (83-86)
B- (80-82)
C+ (77-79)
C (73-76)
C- (70-72)
D (60-70)
F (below 60)

Attendance Policy –

Class attendance is highly recommended.More than 3 unexcused absences will negatively impact your grade. When you register for this class, you make a commitment to put forth your best effort; attending class is a significant step towards achieving that goal.

Reading the textbook is not an adequate substitute for attending class. The textbook is meant to supplement what happens in class, not replace it. Additionally, lectures will often include material either not covered in the textbook or covered from a different perspective than the material in the textbook. If you try to learn the material on your own, you will waste a lot of time and miss out on the opportunity to ask questions as the material is discussed. Absences will be understood but repeated absences will be noted and will negatively affect your grade.

Of course, you may need to miss a class a couple of times during the semester, but it is to your benefit to keep the number of absences as low as possible. If unavoidable circumstances necessitate an extended absence, please plan with me as soon as possible, preferably in advance.

Required Information from the A&S curriculum committees

Fall 2018

Title IX Statement

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX coordinator, Anna R. Kratky (DuBourg Hall, room 36; akratky@slu.edu; 314-977-3886) and share the basic fact of your experience with her. The Title IX coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

**If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the University Counseling Center at 314-977-TALK. To view SLU's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web address:
<http://www.slu.edu/general-counsel-home/office-of-institutional-equity-and-diversity/sexual-misconduct-policy> and www.slu.edu/here4you.**

Student Success Center Statement

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. The Student Success Center, a one-stop shop, which assists students with academic and career related services, is in the Busch Student Center (Suite, 331) and the School of Nursing (Suite, 114). Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.

University-level support (e.g., tutoring services, university writing services, disability services, academic coaching, career services, and/or facets of curriculum planning) by visiting the Student Success Center or by going to www.slu.edu/success.

Disability Services Academic Accommodations Statement

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Please contact Disability Services, located within the Student Success Center, at Disability_services@slu.edu or 314.977.3484 to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all

inquiries. Once approved, information about academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services and viewed within Banner via the instructor's course roster.

Statement on Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level **Academic Integrity Policy** was adopted in Spring 2015, and can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at:

http://www.slu.edu/Documents/provost/academic_affairs/University-wide%20Academic%20Integrity%20Policy%20FINAL%20%206-26-15.pdf

Additionally, each SLU College, School, and Center has adopted its own academic integrity policies, available on their respective websites. All SLU students are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions, and appeals. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program, or the Dean/Director of the College, School or Center in which your program is housed.

The University is a community of learning; whose effectiveness requires an environment of mutual trust and integrity. Academic integrity is violated by any dishonesty such as soliciting, receiving, or providing any unauthorized assistance in the completion of work submitted toward academic credit. While not all forms of academic dishonesty can be listed here, examples include copying from another student, copying from a book or class notes during a closed book exam, submitting materials authored by or revised by another person as the student's own work, copying a passage or text directly from a published source without appropriately citing or recognizing that source, taking a test or doing an assignment or other academic work for another student, securing or supplying in advance a copy of an examination without the knowledge or consent of the instructor, sharing or receiving the questions from an online quiz with another student, taking an online quiz with the help of another student, and colluding with another student or students to engage in academic dishonesty.

All clear violations of academic integrity will be met with appropriate sanctions. In this course, academic dishonesty on an assignment will result in an automatic grade of 0 for that assignment and a report of academic dishonesty sent to the Academic Honesty Committee of the College of Arts and Sciences. In the case of Class B

violations, the academic Honesty Committee may impose a larger sanction including, but not limited to, assigning a failing grade in the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, and/or dismissal from the University.

Students should refer to the SLU website for more information about Class A and B violations and the procedures following a report of academic dishonesty: <http://www.slu.edu/college-of-arts-and-sciences-home/undergraduate-education/academic-honesty>.

[University Writing Services](#)

I encourage you to take advantage of the University Writing Services; getting feedback benefits all writers. Trained writing consultants can help with any writing, multimedia project, or oral presentation. During one-on-one consultations, you can work on everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. These services do fill up, so please make an appointment. Also, bring your assignment description, and a few goals, to the consultation. For more information, or to make an appointment, visit www.slu.edu/writingservices.xml or call 977-3484.

[Cell Phones](#)

Please turn off cell phones before class. There is no cell phone use or text messaging allowed during class. Also, no use of a PDA, Blackberry, Bluetooth, iPod, iPhone/iTouch, or any 3G or 4G network devices. Not appropriate for class. Laptops use of laptop computers for any purpose other than note taking is not allowed.

[Weather Policy](#)

In cases of extreme weather, call 314.977.SNOW (314.977.7669) for more information.

[Class Evaluation Participation](#)

Toward the end of the semester you will be encouraged to evaluate the class on-line or in the classroom. Please do so! It is an important element of the classroom experience.

Instructor's note: I reserve the right to modify the syllabus and provide you with notice. All of these items and other concerns are subject to the discretion of the institutor. My sincere hope is that class will be an enjoyable learning experience for all.

August ,21 2018

