In this 21st Century of the common era, we have all become increasingly interconnected and interdependent. Daily activities in which we engage affect people living half a world away and will affect generations to come. The traceability of the impacts of our actions or failures to act weighs heavily upon us and contributes to a growing cosmopolitan belief that, in the words of Onora O’Neill, “justice is owed to all, regardless of location or origin, race or gender, class or citizenship.” Just what does justice consist in? What exactly—practically speaking—is owed to all? And how is justice to be brought about?

Development Ethics and Global Ethics (or Ethics of Globalization) are recently emergent fields of inquiry that deal with questions such as these. The expanding literatures in these fields are rich with implications, challenges, and practical advice for policy makers, planners, and international development professionals. The purpose of this seminar is to provide an opportunity to survey some of the most important classic and recent contributions to these literatures and examine at first hand their power to illuminate such issues as the nature of human/social/economic development, poverty and human rights, globalization and local autonomy, anthropogenic climate change and development, immigration policy and treatment of refugees, economic/social/political inequality, and humanitarian intervention and just wars.

Seminar Objectives
Students who complete this seminar satisfactorily will gain substantive knowledge of the issues examined. They will also gain familiarity with different approaches to ethical argumentation and become educated consumers of ethical analyses of contemporary problems in which these approaches are employed. Students completing this course satisfactorily will also meet several broader learning objectives of the Graduate Field of City and Regional Planning and the Planning Accreditation Board. These objectives include acquiring skills in the areas of research, written and oral communication, planning process methods, and leadership, becoming acquainted with the purpose and meaning of planning, and global dimensions of planning, as well as principles of sustainability and environmental quality, and social justice.1

Seminar Organization
We will meet twice a week in true seminar fashion. At each meeting we will review the arguments of the authors of the meeting’s assigned readings, critique these arguments, and apply them to ethical issues that arise in the contexts of international development and globalization. Students will occasionally be asked to consider case studies and argue for or against specific propositions using material from the assigned readings. Students may also be asked to present readings on specific issues.

Prerequisites
This seminar is open to graduate and third- and fourth-year undergraduate students. There are no explicit prerequisites for this seminar, although most students will find having taken a course in ethics helpful. While this is a seminar in applied ethics and will involve secondary literature, we will, for the most part, be reading primary sources. I will distribute notes to guide your reading.

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1 Objective measures indicating degree of attainment of conceptual and practical knowledge in the targeted areas include satisfactory performance on take-home exams, an analytical paper, and discussion of materials in seminar.
Attendance Policy
The seminar meets from 2:55 PM until 4:10 PM twice a week. Attendance is required over the entire one hour and 15-minute meeting time. Seminars only work if there are participants; participants can and should hold each other accountable. More than two unexcused absences will result in a grade reduction. More than four unexcused absences will result in an expulsion from the course.

Seminar Requirements
In addition to attending the seminar regularly, preparing diligently for discussions, and engaging actively in discussions, each student will be required to complete the following assignments:

- a short take-home mid-term examination
- a short take-home final examination
- a 10- to 12-page paper (12- to 15-page paper for graduate students) applying seminar material to a topic of the student’s choice.

Grading
The weight carried by each seminar requirement in the determination of the student’s final grade will be as follows: mid-term exam, 25%; final exam, 25%; topical paper, 25%, and preparation for and participation in the seminar meetings, 25%.

Academic Integrity
Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Cornell University Code of Academic Integrity. (See http://www.cornell.edu/UniversityFaculty/docs/main.html.) Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student’s own work.

Texts
The following texts will be available from Cornell Store (or from online sources otherwise indicated) and will be on reserve at the Fine Arts Library in Rand Hall. (Other assigned readings will be made available through Blackboard.)


**Meetings and Readings**

8/22 Organizational Meeting

8/24 Development, Globalization and the Need for a Cosmopolitan Ethics


8/29 & 8/31 Universalism, Particularism, and Constructivism


9/5 & 9/7 Action, Principles, and the Scope of Ethical Concern


9/12 & 9/14 Obligations and Rights, Justice and Virtue

O’Neill (1996), Chapters 5, 6 & 7, 122-212.

(For alternative perspectives on cosmopolitan ethics see:


9/19 & 9/21 Conditions of International Justice


An International Contractualist Theory of Justice

John Rawls (1999), Parts I-IV, 3-122.


(For an alternative perspective on Contractualism see:


9/26 & 9/28 The Transnational Social Contract and Capabilities across Boundaries

Martha Nussbaum (2006), Chapters 4 & 5, 224-324.


10/3 & 10/5 The Meaning and Evaluation of Development


Des Gasper (2004), Chapters 1-3.

[Class will not meet on October 10th during the fall break.]

10/12 & 10/17 Equity, Security, and Needs

Gasper (2004), Chapters 4-6.

10/19 & 10/24 Ethics of Development


10/26 World Poverty and Human Rights


Miller (2010), Chapters 1 & 2.

10/31 & 11/2  Globalization and Egalitarian Redistribution

Miller (2010), Chapter 3.


Baldwin (2016), all chapters.

(For a technical discussion of the economic feasibility of egalitarian redistribution in a globalized world economy, see

Samuel Bowles, “Egalitarian Redistribution in Globally Integrated Economies,” in Bardhan et al. (2006), 120-147.)

11/7  Development and Climate Change (I)


Miller (2010), Chapter 4.


[The Seminar will not meet on November 9th because of conference attendance by instructor.]

11/14  Development and Climate Change (II)


(Other readings of potential interest on the framing of the sustainable development goals:


11/16 Equality and Inequality: Social and Economic Arguments


Stiglitz (2012), Chapters 1-4.


11/21 Equality and Inequality: Philosophical Arguments.


[The seminar will not meet on 11/23, Thanksgiving Day.]

11/28 Humanitarian Intervention and Just Wars


11/30 Ethics of Immigration and Just Treatment of Refugees


