COURSE DETAIL

ETHICS OF CONTEMPORARY WAR
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Leiden University College
Program(s) Leiden University College
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science Philosophy
UCEAP Course Number 152
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title ETHICS OF CONTEMPORARY WAR
UCEAP Transcript Title ETHICS CONTEMP WAR
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description
This course explores the moral and ethical issues raised by contemporary warfare. In the first part of the course, students are introduced to the dominant Western frameworks for moral reasoning about the use of force in world politics: pacifism, realism, and the just war tradition. The course explores the historical and religious roots of these traditions, and the major streams of thinking within them. In the second and third parts of the course, the focus is on the just war tradition, applying its concepts and principles to a range of important issues in contemporary warfare that present challenges to the just war tradition as it is conventionally formulated. These include jus ad bellum questions about non-state actors and anticipatory war; jus in bello questions about targeted killing and supreme emergencies; and jus post bellum questions about post-conflict responsibilities. These issues are explored through case studies drawn from recent conflicts, especially the US-led War on Terror. Students are encouraged to think about whether the traditions of ethical reasoning about war inherited from earlier generations remain adequate to guide our judgment of contemporary warfare, or whether they need to be revised. Prerequisites for this course are an introduction to peace and conflict studies and an intermediate-level course in a relevant field.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number

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ETHICS OF CONTEMPORARY WAR

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
LUC The Hague- Level 3

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
World Politics

Course Last Reviewed

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