

**ETHICS WORKSHOP**  
**Political Science 212B**

**Fridays, 11:00 -1:50 pm**  
**Spring Term 2019**  
**SSPA 5250**

**Professor Kristen Monroe**  
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This course is designed as a research seminar on ethics for students from a wide variety of disciplines, from Social Science and Humanities to Social Ecology and Biological Science and Computer Science. Students are invited to join the Workshop if they have an interest in ethics that they wish to pursue using scientific tools and scientific analysis, broadly conceptualized.

Modeled after the Workshops in the Economics Department at the U of Chicago, students are asked to work on a piece of independent research and share their work in progress with fellow students throughout the term, presenting the final paper at the end of the term. Topics may be qualifying papers, dissertations, conference papers, or works with a faculty member. Part of the goal is to learn how to give and accept criticism and to learn how to write a professional paper. The format is a mix of discussion and presentation of original research.

*From 11-12:30pm we will discuss individual student projects; from 12:30 -1:50pm we will hear presentations of work, by students, UCI faculty or visitors. All Center faculty members will be invited to attend all sessions and should feel free to invite students as well. When funds permit, we invite outside speakers.*

The seminar itself is divided into informal talks presenting findings from research in progress and joint discussion of shared projects. All of the talks will feature works in progress, to show students how research is done and modified and to help jumpstart the students in their own projects. We hope students will take this opportunity to present their work in progress – on qualifying papers, senior honors' theses, or dissertations – in a friendly and nurturing environment, with some Center faculty members attending and offering comments. Presenters who want to provide copies of their work a week in advance are free to do so via EEE but it is not necessary. Students who wish to attend the seminar but who do not have topics in progress are encouraged to consult with a Center faculty member, or the Center Director who is the course instructor, to find a joint paper topic. Students must submit some kind of original research paper to get credit for the course. Paper topics need to be approved in advance by the course instructor or by a Center faculty who serves as mentor in lieu of the course instructor. All papers must be submitted by the end of the term. Students may attend the class for no credit, if they wish, in which case they are encouraged, but not required, to present a piece of original work. Any student who wishes an incomplete may request one; according to university rules, all work must be completed within one year of the end of the quarter at which point a grade of incomplete must be changed to a letter grade or it becomes an F.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** The distribution of grades is approximate but will be based – roughly -- on the following assignments: Class discussion of other written work and presentations (20%) and 20+ page final paper (80%).

**Papers.** Final papers should be typed, 12 point, double-spaced. Please consult a standard text (e.g., *The Chicago Style Manual* or *Eats, Shoots and Leaves*) and conform to their guidelines in terms of style. If you can prepare your paper in advance, we can email them to other class members so they can read them and provide more thorough comments after your 30-40-minute presentation.

**OFFICE HOURS:** I hold regular office hours every day after class in Social Science Plaza A #4103. Students for whom these times are not convenient should feel free to make an alternate appointment by contacting me at 824-6092 or by leaving a message with my secretary, Justine Sarashid at 824-6336 or jesarash@uci.edu. Messages also may be left in my mailbox on the third floor of Social Science Plaza A. Please do not rely on text messages as a means of communication.

### **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: SPRING 2019**

**This schedule reflects the planning as of April 1, 2019 and will be modified as the term progresses.**

**Week 1- April 5, 2019**

**11:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Overview discussion of class.**

**12:30 pm - 1:50 pm.**

**Kristen Renwick Monroe, Department of Political Science, UCI**

**Title: “When Conscience Calls: Moral Courage in a Time of Confusion and Despair”**

**Abstract:** What is moral courage, and why is it important? This paper explores moral courage in difficult political times through interviews with over 50 individuals who have demonstrated moral courage. It offers a conceptual definition of moral courage and identifies several critical factors driving moral courage.

Located at the intersection of political and moral psychology, the paper asks: Why should we care about moral courage? Difficult times are not rare in political life. Wars, genocide, totalitarian abuse, and political cruelty, all these force us to ask: What does a sensitive, humane person do when the world around them goes slightly mad? How do we explain why certain individuals find the moral courage to speak out, when so many retreat into the islands of their own world, or become cynical and bitter? What kind of person resists falling into the refuge of clan or tribe? Who refuses to succumb to anger, to fear of people who don't look like us, of people who do not worship as we do? Who stands up to hate, in others and in ourselves? Who finds the strength to fight back against dogma, including our own? Who finds the restraint and sensitivity to listen, to find common ground, to avoid the cheap retort or annoyance and hostility? And what is the link between moral courage at the political and at the personal level, when death, illness or failure causes our private worlds to collapse?

Our empirical analysis suggests (1) that courage is not the absence of fear. Courage is taking action even when we are afraid. It involves digging deep into ourselves and finding the strength to do the hard things even when we are uncertain, scared, anxious, tired, when we feel unequal to the task but we do it anyway. (2) Traditional conceptualizations of moral courage need revising. Moral courage need not involve moral reasoning. Nor do our findings support a consequentialist approach. Instead, an Aristotelian analysis – finding examples of moral courage and then asking what these examples have in common – suggests moral courage derives from our sense of who we are. A story of moral courage thus is ultimately a story about ourselves, about identity, values, and agency, about our capacity to feel we can make a difference. (3) Moral courage becomes a habit. Just one seemingly inconsequential act of moral courage can increase the sense of what a single individual can accomplish. People often develop moral muscle in small, seemingly inconsequential ways.

**Week 2 - April 12, 2019**

**Time of talk is: 12:00 pm**

**Samantha Vortherms and Gordon G. Liu. UCI Department of Political Science and China Center for Health Economic Research, National School of Development, Peking University (respectively).**

**Title: "Becoming Local: Demand for local citizenship in China's *hukou* system."**

**Abstract:** Urbanization in China is not only an economic process of development, but also a formal process of transferring individuals from rural to urban status in the household registration system, or *hukou*. Individuals integrating into the urban system must give up their rural or non-local status, like changing citizenship, which also means giving up the rights endowed in their previous status, such as welfare in place of origin and land-use rights while gaining urban-based rights. Once migrants and rural populations transfer their status, they become urban citizens, with legitimate claims on local government resources including welfare and local voting rights. What makes individuals in China willing to formally and permanently urbanize? This research evaluates the determinants of demand for local-urban status by competing hypotheses of naturalization. I examine the impact of both the value of local-urban status in encouraging urbanization and the value of the status individuals must give up in order to obtain it. Employing contingent valuation survey techniques, this study evaluates the level of demand for local-urban citizenship. Data are from an original randomly sampled survey in Changsha, an inland provincial capital, and Beijing. We find significant variation in demand based on destination location, sending region traits, existing access to rights, and family composition. These results suggest that physical migration in China continues to face limitations by the *hukou* system; internationally-recognized determinants of citizenship acquisition have some lessons for internal migration in China; and urban integration of migrants should be understood in context of both individual experiences and family contexts.

**Week - April 19, 2019**

**Paula Garb. Tobis Fellow, UCI. Senior Fellow, Center for Peacemaking Practice, George Mason University.**

**Title: "Ethics of Family Research: A Journey to Kozlov during the Russian Civil War, 1917-1922."**

**Abstract:** In the Russian Empire of the 19th and early 20th centuries, anti-Jewish violence (pogroms) resulted in the murder of half a million Jews, and the destruction of property and homes of many times more. Until WWI, pogroms were relatively mild and spontaneous. During WWI and the Russian Civil War (1914-1922), pogroms were systematic and officially sanctioned. Researchers regard these as early examples of officially sponsored racial warfare; and as precursors to full-scale genocide and the Holocaust (Dekel-Chen, *et al*, 2010). My father, Samuel Garb, was 9 years old in August 1919 when anti-Communist Don Cossacks rampaged through his Jewish community in the small town of Kozlov, Russia. While hiding in an underground shed with his brother (11) and sister (5), my father heard Cossack soldiers torture and rape his eighteen-year-old sister while forcing his parents to watch before brutally killing the 3 adult Garbs. After burying their family, the 3 traumatized children began a 2-year odyssey to New York City where their grandparents, aunts and uncles lived. My mother warned me never to discuss those events with my father. Ironically, this silence had the greatest impact on my life's work as a peace practitioner and scholar. After two decades studying war and peace in other conflict zones, my current research focuses on my family's personal war zone in civil war Russia. My 20-year-old granddaughter and I will travel in late March to Kozlov, now Michurinsk. My presentation will reflect on our discoveries (1) visiting the scene of the pogrom, (2) praying at the empty site of the Jewish cemetery, (3) listening to local Jews and non-Jews about this history and related issues today, and (4) seeing a play in the ornate 19<sup>th</sup> century theater where my father fell in love with the magical world of make belief.

Additional Readings: Dekel-Chen, Guant, Meir, Bartal (eds). *Anti-Jewish Violence: Rethinking the Pogrom in East European History* (Indiana University Press: 2010).

**Week 4 - April 26, 2019**

**Matthew Beckman. Department of Political Science, UCI.**

**Title: "Executive Time."**

**Abstract:** The American president's time is among his scarcest resources, which is why "scheduling" gets vetted carefully, allocated systematically, and implemented fastidiously. Countless anecdotes notwithstanding, systematic evidence and analysis about president's workways remain thin. Here we offer a first look inside modern presidents' work patterns using comprehensive, inter-personally comparable data on presidents' public and private activities during a representative sample of days from 1961-2008, Kennedy through Bush 43. Results not only illuminate the extraordinary workload recent presidents have endured but further reveal that presidents' work habits – in terms of their duration and composition – depend more on each individual president than the office or context. We thus discover the president-presidency distinction is blurriest in the place it matters most: behind-the-scenes, inside the Oval Office. Beyond discussion of the substantive findings, we focus on ethical issues involved in archival work.

**Week 5 - May 3, 2019**

**Time of talk is 11:00 am**

**Erin Lockwood, Department of Political Science. UCI.**

**Title: "The International Political Economy of Global Inequality."**

**Abstract:** While national inequality has made headlines in recent years, income is far more unequally distributed globally than it is within any state. It is striking that global inequality has garnered so little attention in International Political Economy (IPE), given the field's longstanding interest in the distribution of resources and the structure of the global economy. This paper argues that IPE should regard the unequal global distribution of wealth and income as a central research concern and outlines a research agenda for doing so. Drawing on recent work by economists, it argues that global inequality is distinctively political in cause and consequence and sufficiently different from both global poverty and national inequality to constitute a unique object of inquiry. IPE has the theoretical and conceptual tools to study global inequality, but doing so will require bridging divisions between those who consider distributional consequences, though primarily in a national perspective, and those concerned with global hierarchies, but with less regard to national agency and economic policymaking. The effort is worth it, however, given the rich substantive agenda that foregrounding global inequality opens up on a series of topics that have not all (to date) been recognized as the core of the field.

**Week 6 - May 10, 2019**

**Mary McThomas. Department of Political Science, UCI.**

**Title: "The Elusive Subject: Surveillance, Sovereignty and the Unauthorized Resident."**

**Abstract:** Unauthorized migrants pose a unique challenge to state sovereignty. While often talked about in terms of democratic legitimacy, individuals not authorized by – but living within - the nation-state appear to undermine state surveillance strategies. This, in turn, leads to anxiety on the part of the public as to which state subjects can be identified and properly categorized and who remains in the shadowy realms of the unknown. Even those supportive of immigrant rights and a path to citizenship often talk about the need for unauthorized residents to "come out of the shadows" in order to be seen, counted, and properly categorized by the watchful eye of the state. Surveillance along and across nation-state borders assess the eligibility and

desirability of potential migrants and identify and prevent entry to those that are not. Hence, border surveillance is both a form of state police power and a process of inclusion/exclusion through categorization. In addition, expansive internal surveillance has led some scholars to conclude that the border – and the corresponding police power and process of evaluation - are everywhere. However, this manifestation of state sovereignty seems only to bear on those seen by the state. Individuals that live within the nation without nation-state authorization have seemingly evaded state surveillance. For that reason, is it possible that those individuals serve as an emancipatory model of living free from the shaping powers of the state? Or does the avoidance of state recognition and the resulting lack of state protections and entitlements undermine any benefit of avoiding state surveillance? Building on post-colonial theories, surveillance studies and theories of performing citizenship, I explore issues of recognition and legitimation within modern surveillance states. I analyze how the resulting creation of categories can serve as a form of control or be used as a form of resistance. Finally, I discuss the threat and promise of being seen within the larger framework of state power, surveillance, and the myth of national identity.

**Week 7 - May 17, 2019**

**Ben Hoyt and Nathan Chan. Department of Political Science, UCI.**

**Title: “The Changing Landscape: The Role of Civic Education on Political Efficacy among Underrepresented Minorities at the University of California.”**

**Abstract:** This paper examines the role introductory political science courses can play in assisting college students to become engaged citizens. While Centellas and Rosenblatt (2018) focus on the political efficacy gap between white and black students, universities are increasingly serving diverse populations. Our study analyzes the results of a panel survey of around 1,000 students enrolled in introductory political science courses at a University of California campus, whose student body is comprised of groups that American higher education is increasingly serving. We examine the political efficacy shifts among Latinx and Asian-American college students, in addition to whites and blacks. Our findings add needed nuance to how civic education molds students into politically aware members of society in learning environments now characterized by the inclusion of underrepresented minorities.

**Week 8 - May 24, 2019**

**Begin final presentation of student papers, presented in class. 20-30 minute presentations each.**

**12:30 pm. Discussion of how to do interviews and how to analyze them. Joint with the Comparative Politics and International Relations groups.**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Angeliki Kanavou and Chloe Lampros-Monroe. Tobis Fellows UCI**

**Title: “Negative Mood Regulation during an Economic Crisis: Mothers and Children in Greece after the 2008 economic downturn.”**

**Abstract:** Numerous studies have documented the inverse relationship between economic status and mental health problems in children and adolescents. In fact, socio-economically disadvantaged children are two to three times more likely to manifest mental health challenges than are children in more advantaged groups. Since the onset of the Greek economic crisis in 2008, the mental health indicators have pointed to significant decline in mental health. People have increasingly felt loss of control over their lives and an inability to provide for their families. Less is known about how different generations within a family cope with stress. Similarly, only a limited number of studies

investigating individual difference characteristics exist. One construct that explores these differences is the scale negative mood regulation expectancies (NMRE). NMRE expresses cross-situational beliefs regarding one's ability to influence either by reducing or stopping altogether an unpleasant feeling. The current study surveyed NMREs of children (10-17) and their mothers during the recent economic crisis in Greece. The study hypothesized that (1) NMREs correlated negatively with depression, anxiety and daily hassles. (2) Children with high NMRE scores exhibited low levels of hassles. (3) The children maintained high scores even when their parents level of hassles and depression remained high. (4) NMRE buffered the effect that the mothers' NMRE had on their own children's symptoms. Early findings point to the relevance of the NMRE construct to treat children and their mothers during crises. The study helps identify the direction of NMRE between mothers and children, assess possible buffering effects in each group, and helps treat individuals from each group affected by economic crises.

**1:30 pm**

**Frank L Meyskens Jr, M.D., F.A.C.P, Distinguished Professor of Medicine, UCI.**

**Title: "The Ethics and Morality of Palliative and End of Life Care: The Patient and Family."**

**Abstract:** As our population ages and modern preventive and therapeutic approaches allow life to be sustained beyond comfortable endpoints numerous ethical and moral issues appear, ranging from "do not resuscitate" (DNR) orders to active euthanasia decisions. In parallel practical decisions such as what care is most appropriate emerge: hospital, palliative, hospice. This complex array of issues presents challenging choices for the patient, family members and care givers -including existential considerations, which will also be briefly reviewed. A unique interactive approach utilizing poetry (both that of Dr Meyskens and those of other poets) to understand the dynamic of EOL care will be presented and the potential of poetry as an existential de-stressor discussed. Interactive participation of audience members will be encouraged.

**Week 9 - Wednesday, May 29, 2019 –**

**Ethics Center Awards Banquet.** Social and Behavioral Gateway Building 1517

6:30 pm - Reception

7:00 pm - dinner.

Ethics workshop students and Tobis Fellows will present short overviews of their work. No class Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**2019 Silverman Award Winner Talk by Etel Solingen, Tierney Chair, UCI, Department of Political Science**

**Title: "International Conflict and Cooperation: An Evolving Research Agenda".**

**Presentation of Tobis Medals to Richard Ceballos, Sophal Ear, and Loretta Lynch.**

**Week 10 - June 7, 2019.**

**Final student papers presented in class. 20-30 minute presentations each.**