

Professional Ethics

Certificate Program

Certificate in Professional Ethics is available to students in any academic program. It is designed for a broad range of professions, including business, engineering, politics, law, medicine, nursing, social work, counseling, and teaching. Topics covered include ethical theory, professional codes of conduct, moral reflection, and ethical argumentation and debate. The emphasis and ultimate goal of the program is the development of a deeper understanding of oneself as a responsible professional.

Requirements: To attain the certificate, students will need to complete four courses (12 credits), with:

- at least one course from Category A,
- at least two courses from Category B,
- and a fourth course from any category (including Category C)

Courses within Category A involve profession-specific coursework and provide students the opportunity to consider applied ethical issues in the fields of business, medicine, engineering, and environmental policy. The courses within this category introduce students to a variety of concrete problems and case studies, ranging from euthanasia, physician-assisted suicide, and organ transplantation (for those pursuing medical degrees) to corporate social responsibility, environmental sustainability, and the ethical permissibility of whistleblowing (for those pursuing degrees in business, engineering, or environmental policy), to name just a few.

Such issues, however, gesture at deeper and more profound questions, and the courses in Category B provide students with the opportunity to consider these more abstract problems, answers to which are necessary for any informed and rigorous approach to applied ethics. What, for instance, are the ethical merits or demerits of capitalism? Which of the main normative ethical theories should one utilize when approaching applied issues? What is the nature of happiness and the good life? The courses in Category B offer students the opportunity to reach informed and reasoned convictions about such questions.

Finally, the courses in Category C permit students the flexibility to pursue topics unique to their chosen career path or field of interest. Students are not required to choose from Category C to attain the certificate; they may choose from among Categories A and B to satisfy this fourth-course requirement.

Learning Outcomes: By completing a professional ethics certificate, students will be able to

- enhance their careers by attaining a greater knowledge of ethics,
- develop an ability to recognize and address ethical questions,
- learn to make ethical decisions on the basis of sound reasoning and informed thinking, and
- become familiar with various ethical case studies as it pertains to the professions.

Students must attain at least a B in all courses and can pursue these courses in any order.

Code	Title	Credits
Category A (choose one course):		3
PHILOS 208	Biomedical Ethics	
PHILOS 220	Environmental Ethics	
PHILOS 227	Business Ethics	
Category B (choose two courses):		6
PHILOS 101	Introduction to Philosophy	
PHILOS 102	Contemporary Ethical Issues	
PHILOS 103	Logic and Reasoning	
PHILOS 112	Scientific Reasoning, Risk, and Probability	
PHILOS 113	AI, Algorithms, and Truth	
PHILOS 208	Biomedical Ethics	
PHILOS 212	Philosophy, Religion, and Science	
PHILOS 216	Introduction to Asian Philosophy	
PHILOS 220	Environmental Ethics	
PHILOS 227	Business Ethics	
PHILOS 301	Ethical Theory	
PHILOS 324	Contemporary Philosophy	
PHILOS 326	Philosophy, Politics and Law	

PHILOS 351	Happiness and the Good Life	
Category C (choose one course): ¹		3
BUS ADM 201	Principles of Sustainability in Business	
BUS ADM 202	Introduction to Business	
EDUC 417	Philosophy of Athletics and Coaching	
ENV SCI 303	Environmental Sustainability	
ENV SCI 425	Global Climate Change	
EPP 379	Natural Resources Policy, Law, and Administration	
FNS 225	Introduction to First Nations Studies	
FNS 392	First Nations Justice and Tribal Governments	
HIMT 340	Ethical issues, Security Management and Compliance	
HISTORY 326	Global Environmental History	
HUM BIOL 405	Biotechnology and Ethics	
HUM STUD 213	Ethnic Diversity in America Past and Present	
MIL SCI 201	Basic Leadership and Management I	
PSYCH 380	Conservation Psychology	
PUB ADM 315	Public and Non-Profit Management	
SOC WORK 305	The Social Work Profession	
SPANISH 357	Cultura Latina	
Total Credits		12

¹ Students may instead opt to choose a course not already used from Category A or B to satisfy the overall 12 credit requirement.