

# **EDU4166 Ethics, Advanced**

## **Course Syllabus**

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Ethics, Advanced is an advanced course. Students taking this course must have taken EDU2166 Ethics II.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will focus on many of the central questions related to human behavior. We will examine a person's decision-making process and review the cognitive bias of "herding" and "self-herding" to determine their impacts on our daily decisions. This course will delve into the topic of unethical behavior and help you understand how it affects people, why it is so prevalent in our societies, and what, if anything, that can be done to bring these behaviors to an end.

You will expand your understanding of the ethical issues that guide the interactions between people, and the various perspectives we use to face our problems. You will begin to better distinguish the lines between what is legal versus what is ethical.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

This course will provide a foundation for understanding ethics and how common issues related to ethics occur in the workplace and in other areas of life. Understanding how to identify patterns of unethical behavior in institutions and organizations will be addressed. By the end of this course, all students should:

- Become adept at recognizing the difference between legal and ethical behavior
- Develop conceptual tools that will enable them to make ethical decisions in the workplace or other areas of life
- Comprehend ethical rules and principles that will enable us to make a clearer distinction between moral and immoral behavior
- Understand the range of ethical methods and value systems that can be applied to various problems so that you can react in an appropriate manner
- Develop a clearer picture of the various philosophical perspectives on the origin of ethics
- Discover the concept of moral relativism and apply this lens to various personal and cultural problems
- Develop a better understanding of both the current state of research on ethical principles and your own views on them

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is mandatory for all students. Excellent attendance is imperative for mastery and application of the information dispensed. Whether you are sitting at a desk in a classroom or attending via Skype, your attendance is vital to your success. Late arrivals are distracting and disrespectful. Please refrain from being tardy.

Grades will be affected by absences and tardiness. Participation in class is a prerequisite. You learn from lectures, discussions and presentations.

## **CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

Students are expected to treat all persons with respect. We should all conduct ourselves in a courteous and responsible manner. Be considerate, you can disagree, don't insult.

Please set all your electronic devices to silent during class so as not to be a disturbance to others in the class.

## **TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE**

We maintain an open-door policy for our students. We are absolutely willing to discuss any matter that may arise during the course. If you have any questions, problems, or need help with the course material, we urge you to reach out as soon as the issue arises. If you want to contest a grade, you must do so within 48 hours and put it in writing. Please ask your student advocate for help. If you do not have a student advocate send an email to: [tutordept@usilacs.org](mailto:tutordept@usilacs.org).

## **NON-DISCRIMINATORY STATEMENT**

All students regardless of age, race, gender, religion, physical disability, class, etc., shall have equal opportunity without harassment in this course. Any problems with or questions about harassment can be discussed confidentially via email at: [hr@usilacs.org](mailto:hr@usilacs.org).

## **DRESS CODE**

For students enrolled who are attending in a classroom or via Skype, please be sure you are dressed modestly and respectfully. Please refer to [www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/business%20casual](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/business%20casual). NO short shorts or skirts. Avoid low-cut tops. We want to present ourselves in a dignified manner at all times.

## **NETIQUETTE**

- Always read through all the comments of the class before responding. This will avoid duplicating comments or questions asked.
- Avoid language that could be offensive. All profanity is strictly prohibited. Remember that using all caps when replying online signifies shouting. This would be rude and combative.
- Be sensitive to the fact that there will be fellow students from all parts of the world with many differing backgrounds and languages. Remember that slang and idioms will most likely be misconceived and/or misinterpreted. These should be avoided.
- Respect others views or opinions.
- Be thoughtful of the privacy of others. Ask permission before sharing email addresses or other personal information.
- Do not forward inappropriate material such as: virus warnings, chain letters, jokes, etc. The sharing of pornographic material is strictly prohibited.
- Use good spelling and grammar. Avoid using texting shortcuts.

- Strive to compose your comments in a positive, supportive and constructive manner at all times.

Any of these offenses will be dealt with by the school disciplinary committee.

## **ADA ACCOMMODATIONS**

All reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities. Any student attending USILACS who needs an accommodation due to a chronic challenge (i.e. blindness, deaf or hard of hearing, mobility issues, psychological, or learning disability), register with:

USILACS Registrar's Office  
1221 Brickell Ave.  
Miami, FL 33131  
1-305-330-2202  
[registrarsoffice@usilacs.org](mailto:registrarsoffice@usilacs.org)

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY/CHEATING**

We encourage collaborating with others, either in person or online, to study and learn. When you complete your assignments or your exams, however, the wording has to be your own.

Plagiarism is the theft of someone else's work and ideas. You are permitted to cite or even quote someone else, however, you must properly cite them. There are two accepted ways of doing this. They are known as Modern Language Association (MLA) or American Psychological Association (APA). You can visit [www.citationmachine.net](http://www.citationmachine.net) for help in correctly citing information.

As a school that strives to maintain high moral standards, we strongly caution our students to be ethical and honest. Endeavor to be honest in conducting yourself in regard to any coursework you accomplish or exams you may take. Cheating is a dishonest practice.

## **REFERENCE MATERIALS**

The vast majority of textbooks are outdated by the time they are published. USILACS education programs are not based upon outdated printed textbooks. USILACS programs are based on the most accurate and reliable knowledge available; specifically, up-to-date vetted internet-based information.

For those who would like some reference or Internet search recommendations, we would recommend the following.

- (2017) Ethics, James Fieser, the University of Tennessee at Martin, USA.  
Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy
- (2015) Legal vs. Ethical Liability: A Crisis of Leadership and Culture | Mel Fugate | TEDxSMU. TEDxTalks.
- (2014) Dan Ariely – The Long-lasting Effects of Decisions. Antony's Lab.

- (2014) Ethics-Evolutionary Ethics. Stuart A Burns
- (2014) Ethics: a general introduction. BBC
- (2014) Duty based Ethics: BBC
- (2013) Statement of Values: William Frey, Jose A Cruz-Cruz.: OpenStax CNX.
- (2010) Ethics and Boundary Issues: Case Studies II, Continuing Psychology Education Inc.
- (2003) Introduction to Ethical Studies: Lee Archie, John G. Archie.
- (1999) Law Versus Ethics in Management. Susan M. Anstead.

## **MINIMUM REQUIRED SUPPLIES**

All students will need all of the following:

- Computer with camera, microphone, and speakers.
- Skype installed on the computer with an active Skype account.
- Internet
- Printer
- Notebook paper
- Pens/pencils

If the student does not have a computer or internet, there will be some available for use at the school in the computer lab.

## **GRADING SYSTEM**

There will be three tests throughout the course. Each test will count for 33.3% of the final grade.

Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A+	99	4.0
A	97	3.8
A-	94	3.7
B+	89	3.3
B	85	3.0
B-	81	2.7
C+	77	2.3
C	73	2.0
C-	69	1.7
D	66	1.0
F	59	0.0

All students must earn at least a “D” in order to pass the class.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

*Can religious ethics be consistent with philosophical ethics? Paper-*

This is an opinion paper. Tell what your stand is on the issue and explain why you take that stand. This paper should be at least 1,500 words in length.

### *Professional Paper-*

Write a focused report on an approved topic. Your report should be clear, concise, professional, free of typographical and grammatical errors. You should have at least three scholarly references. This paper should be at least 2,000 words in length.

### *Formal Presentation-*

You will make a 10-minute presentation to the class on the professional issue/topic you wrote about in your professional paper. On the day of your presentation, you must provide each classmate and myself with a topical outline of your presentation and the reference list.

#### Possible topics

ADA	Homeless Persons
American Board of Professional Psychology	Liability Insurance
Child Custody Evaluations	Money and Bartering
Client/Patient Rights	Older Persons
Competency for Execution	Psychology in the Legal System
Confidentiality	Quality Assurance
Duty to Warn	Reporting Abuse/Neglect
End of Life Issues	Sexual Aggression
Forensic Evaluations/Issues	Suicide
Virtue Ethics	

## **WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS**

<b>Week 1</b>	Overview of course and coursework Ethics-What does that mean?
<b>Week 2</b>	Religion and Ethics
<b>Week 3</b>	Moral Philosophy
<b>Week 4</b>	Consequentialism <i>Religious versus philosophical ethics paper due</i>
<b>Week 5</b>	<i>Video review and Exam</i>
<b>Week 6</b>	Law versus Ethics in Management
<b>Week 7</b>	Legal versus Ethical Liability
<b>Week 8</b>	Ethics and Boundary Issues <i>Professional Paper due</i>
<b>Week 9</b>	<i>Video review and Exam</i>
<b>Week 10</b>	Duty-based Ethics
<b>Week 11</b>	Evolutionary Ethics
<b>Week 12</b>	The Long-lasting Effects of Decisions <i>Formal Presentation due</i>
<b>Week 13</b>	<i>Video review and Final exam</i>