ETHICS REQUIREMENT

Ethics courses provide opportunities for students to engage in activities that encourage them to problem-see and problem-solve with an ethical lens; they expose students to discipline-specific (or general theoretical) ways to use ethical frameworks for ethical decision-making.

Students must earn 3 credits of Ethics coursework.

NOTE: An Ethics designation may only transfer into WCU if the course from a student’s prior institution has been submitted to and approved by the Ethics Committee of the Curriculum and Academic Policies Council (CAPC). To receive credit for this type of course, students must submit a Course Substitution Request to the Office of the Special Assistant for Academic Policy.

An Ethics course may simultaneously fulfill another degree requirement or distributive requirement in the General Education curriculum.

Course List

BIO

BIO 440. Human Genetics. 3 Credits.
A detailed survey of the principles of human heredity. Examines the impact of genetics on current issues in human medicine, pharmacology, evolution, and sociology, and evaluates ethical issues surrounding these topics.
Pre / Co requisites: BIO 440 requires a prerequisite of BIO 230.
Typically offered in Spring.

CRJ

CRJ 461. Notable Criminal Cases. 3 Credits.
Selected factual accounts of criminality and criminal behavior over the past 75 years are analyzed. Selection is based on notoriety and continued dispute. The course is designed, through reading and class analysis, to illuminate a wide spectrum of criminal conduct and the related investigative, legal, ethical, and judicial response.
Pre / Co requisites: CRJ 461 requires a prerequisite of a grade of C or higher in CRJ 110.
Consent: Permission of the Department required to add.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Winter.

CRJ 472. Justice Studies. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to address the successes, weaknesses and failures of our current system of justice by examining and analyzing sometimes controversial issues through critical inquiry and legal and social science investigation. The course will include in-depth discussions and analyses of often complex ethical issues that affect the investigation, prosecution, adjudication, and defense of criminal conduct.
Pre / Co requisites: CRJ 472 requires a prerequisite of a grade of C or higher in CRJ 110.
Consent: Permission of the Department required to add.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

CSC

CSC 301. Computer Security & Ethics. 3 Credits.
An introduction to Computer Security and the ethical underpinnings of security. The basic objectives of creating a secure system, attack methods and defenses are discussed.
Pre / Co requisites: CSC 301 requires prerequisites of three CSC, CST, or CSW courses.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

EDA

EDA 363. Assessment for Students with Disabilities II. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills needed to link assessment with instructional planning for PK-12 students with special needs. The course will emphasize the following: diagnostic and eligibility criteria for the categories of disability that are covered under IDEA, the development of a Section 504 Service Agreement, and the development of legal special education documents (i.e., Re-Evaluation Report, Individual Education Program [IEP], and NOREP).
Pre / Co requisites: EDA 363 requires prerequisites of EDA 103, EDA 203, EDA 362, and Teacher Candidacy.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

ERM

ERM 353. Ethical and Effective Assessment for Learning: Early Grades. 3 Credits.
This course will focus on exploring ethical issues related to educational and psychological assessment. The goal of the course is to encourage students to critically evaluate ethical issues in educational and psychological testing to make informed and ethical choices with regards to assessment development, administration, results, and interpretation. This course is designed to provide students the knowledge and skills to use multiple developmentally appropriate assessments (authentic, screening, diagnostic, formative, and summative) to guide instruction related to standards, to monitor results of interventions and their implications for instruction for all students, and to report assessment results.
Pre / Co requisites: ERM 353 requires a prerequisite of EGP 220.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

ERM 354. Ethical and Effective Assessment for Learning: Middle Grades. 3 Credits.
This course will focus on exploring ethical issues related to educational and psychological assessment. The goal of the course is to encourage students to critically evaluate ethical issues in educational and psychological testing to make informed and ethical choices with regards to assessment development, administration, results, and interpretation. This course is designed to provide students the knowledge and skills to use multiple developmentally appropriate assessments (authentic, screening, diagnostic, formative, and summative) to guide instruction related to standards, to monitor results of interventions and their implications for instruction for all students, and to report assessment results.
Pre / Co requisites: ERM 354 requires a corequisite of EDR 318 or MGP 335 or MAT 352 or SCE 330 and prerequisites of MGP 220, Teacher Candidacy, and field clearances.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

ERM 355. Ethical and Effective Assessment for Learning 7-12. 3 Credits.
This course will focus on exploring ethical issues related to educational and psychological assessment. The goal of the course is to encourage students to critically evaluate ethical issues in educational and psychological testing to make informed and ethical choices with regards to assessment development, administration, results, and interpretation. This course is designed to provide students the knowledge and skills to use multiple developmentally appropriate assessments (authentic, screening, diagnostic, formative, and summative) to guide instruction related to standards, to monitor results of interventions and their implications for instruction for all students, and to report assessment results.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

ESP

ESP 317. Utopia and Apocalypse in the Americas. 3 Credits.
What will the future hold in store for humanity: utopia or apocalypse? Toward what type of future society should we aim in the present? This course is taught from multiple perspectives and will foster thoughtful reflection on what it means to belong to a community as expressed in cultural texts and media from the Spanish-speaking Americas, including travel narratives to unknown lands, utopian treatises, science-fiction and fantasy stories, and real-world attempts to construct utopian societies. No knowledge of Spanish is required.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.
HEA

HEA 210. Introduction to Allied Health. 3 Credits.
Study of Allied Health and the role Allied Health professionals play in the health care system.
This course is open to non-Respiratory Care majors.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

HEA 300. Profession/Ethics & Health Professions. 3 Credits.
This course examines ethical issues relevant to the professional roles of health professionals.
Students will examine ethical principles and apply a model of ethical decision making to case
studies. Other areas addressed include professional codes of ethics, ethical concerns in health
behavior change, health communications, and health education research.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

HIS

HIS 413. Nuclear War: The History of Fighting, Filming, Surviving, or Preventing One. 3 Credits.
This course examines the ethical implications of nuclear weapons; the history of the scientific,
technological, social, political, and military circumstances surrounding their invention;
the consequences of their use by the United States against Japan; and the ongoing ways in which
their presence shapes film and literature, religion, politics, foreign affairs, ethics, and scientific
research. It places particular emphasis on the United States’ decision and ability to create and
use the bomb, and subsequent efforts to make sense of the unfathomable power of these
weapons through film, music, television, moral philosophy, and religion. The course examines
how scientists, artists, and lay persons envision nuclear power as both the ultimate source of
liberation and of doom, and the ethical implications of atomic diplomacy.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

INM

INM 443. Building Your Career in Music. 3 Credits.
Culmination capstone course for the music performance degrees (vocal, instrumental, jazz,
keyboard, and organ). Students will review, assess, and apply integrated concepts taught
during the degree and gather these materials into their WCU eportfolio. This course focuses
on preparing students for employment and graduate study through performance and
communication. Topics include speaking fluency during lectures and recitals, constructive
feedback for pedagogy, entrepreneurship, marketing, developing a professional resume and
cover letter, and includes alumni and guest lectures. Assessment is achieved through reflection
papers, in-class discussion, assignments, and a capstone project. The capstone project
proposes the achievement of the program and student learning outcomes. In addition, it
requires students to reflect on the integration of the General Education Program with the
music performance degree. The capstone project focuses on career development of a student’s
specific career interests. In addition, students submit program notes of final recital material
during in-class lectures for discussion, reflection, self-evaluation, and re-evaluation.
Typically offered in Fall.

MDC

MDC 420. Mass Media & Social Protest. 3 Credits.
This course will address multi-disciplinary theory and research that has contributed to
our understanding of both the antecedents and consequences of mediated messages as
they affect processes related to social protest. This will include analyzing the ethical codes
guiding journalists covering protest groups as well as the ethics guiding protesters and their
actions. Readings will draw from mass communication, political science, sociology and other
disciplines to examine questions about the role of communication media in the dynamics of
social protest considering both traditional and new/emerging media.
Pre / Co requisites: MDC 420 requires prerequisites of MDC 250 and MDC 251.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Spring.

MGT

MGT 313. Business and Society. 3 Credits.
An analysis of the social, political, legal, environmental, and ethical problems faced by
business firms.
Pre / Co requisites: MGT 313 requires prerequisites of MGT 200 (majors only) and a minimum
2.50 cumulative GPA.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

NSG

NSG 332. Ethics and Health Policy in Nursing. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to explore the role of ethics in healthcare and public policy. Common
ethical problems are discussed and strategies for resolution of ethical dilemmas are applied.
This course will address such topics as end-of-life care, living wills and advanced directives,
social networking and media in Nursing, research with vulnerable populations and genomics.
Focus is placed on values clarification, ethical theory, ethical decision making models, and
professional ethical standards. Emphasis is on ethical obligations of professional nurses in their
roles as citizens, members of a profession, providers of care, and facilitators of public health
policy.
Pre / Co requisites: NSG 332 requires a prerequisite of admission to the RN-to-BSN program.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.
NSG 407. Concepts in Critical Care Nursing. 3 Credits.
The purpose of this course is to provide students an opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills in the area of acute critical care nursing. Students will acquire knowledge pertaining to the pharmacological management, advanced cardiac, and respiratory concepts in the critically ill adult. Students will examine ethical principles and concepts that affect clinical practice in the acute critical care setting. Students will explore the role of the critical care nurse, and clinical observation experiences are provided in various acute critical care settings. This course has limited course enrollment and unit assignments will be based on clinical site availability.
Pre / Co requisites: NSG 407 requires prerequisites of NSG 311, NSL 311, NSG 312, and NSL 312 (grade of C or higher required); and corequisites of NSG 411 and NSL 411.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall and Winter.

PHI

PHI 180. Introduction to Ethics. 3 Credits.
Introduction to major theories and contemporary work in moral philosophy. Offers tools for ethical decision making in our daily lives with emphasis on the influence of culture, power, privilege.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

PLN

PLN 301. Planning History, Theory, and Ethics. 3 Credits.
Planning theory is crucial to understanding how planners make decisions. Making ethical decisions is a critical component in the everyday life of an urban planner. This course takes an in-depth look at various planning theories including comprehensive, incremental, mixed scanning, advocacy, equity, and radical approaches to planning while adhering to the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) code of ethics and conduct. Students examine the history and evolution of planning: planning within a democracy; how planning influences society; new directions within the field, including sustainability; and finally the relationship between planning theory, practice, and ethical decision making. As a result, it will enable students to critically understand the purpose and contribution of planning within society as well as the role of the planner, including the issues of planning ethics, professional standards and conduct, and principles of the AICP Code of Ethics.
Typically offered in Spring.

PSC

PSC 101. Politics of Diversity in the U.S.. 3 Credits.
This course examines American government by analyzing how historically underrepresented and marginalized groups have been represented by the American political system and its institutions. It analyzes how different theoretical approaches such as pluralism, elitism, socialism, and liberalism define concepts such as equality and liberty and how social movements have contributed to social change. By focusing on elements of political culture and social experiences of underrepresented groups, it also considers how historical and cultural contexts have shaped the differential experiences of individuals and how race, class, gender, and sexual orientation influence an individual's role in the political system. Lectures and discussions are embedded in a political science ethics framework. Questions about ethical leadership, the "character" of elected officials, and the "morality" of political decision making and resulting public policies will be examined by using ethical dilemmas and case studies.
Gen Ed Attribute: Behavioral and Social Science Distributive, Diversity Requirement, Ethics Requirement.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

PSY

PSY 476. Cognitive Laboratory. 3 Credits.
An experiential-learning course in which students learn first-hand how cognitive psychologists measure human thought processes such as perception, attention, language, memory, decision-making, and problem-solving.
Pre / Co requisites: PSY 476 requires prerequisites of PSY 245 and PSY 246, and a corequisite of PSY 475.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Spring.

SWO

SWO 320. Generalist Social Work Practice I. 3 Credits.
Students apply their knowledge of the strengths and ecological perspectives to the processes of engagement, assessment, planning, implementation, evaluation, and termination for social work practice with individuals and families. Social Work majors only.
Pre / Co requisites: SWO 320 requires a corequisite or prerequisite of SWO 220 with a minimum of C or better.
Gen Ed Attribute: Ethics Requirement.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

WOS

WOS 260. Globalization and the Ethics of Sustainability. 3 Credits.
This course examines forces of globalization and environmental and ethical issues. The process of globalization (trade, communication technology, migration) has contributed to widening inequality within and among countries. Multinational corporations employ vulnerable people (especially women of color) for cheap labor, exploit local resources, and contribute to environmental degradation. Since the planet has its limitations, attending to the conservation of natural (and limited) resources, climate change, sustainable agriculture and forestry practices, and just fair-trade practices are at the heart of environmental and ethical issues and sustainability efforts. In this course, students will explore the social and environmental justice issues related to consumption of resources central to environmental ethics and sustainability. Students will also examine their ecological/carbon footprint and ways to reduce it through changes in the consumption of energy, resources, food, and water.
Gen Ed Attribute: Diversity Requirement, Ethics Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall.