

CERTIFICATE IN ETHICS AND SOCIETY

The Certificate in Ethics and Society aims to provide students with a broad background in ethics and social philosophy. The objective of the certificate is for students to competently navigate questions of social and ethical values on a wide range of issues. The program is structured to foster a deep understanding of both the theoretical foundations and the practical applications of ethics. By allowing choice from a wide range of courses in ethics, the certificate provides students the opportunity to gain experience making and assessing value judgments on a variety of important social issues or to focus on the particular issues most relevant to their major or their area of interest. The certificate is open to students in any major or minor.

Learning Objectives

Students will:

1. Analyze the sources of agreement and disagreement among the major schools of thought in ethics.
2. Apply ethical frameworks from each of the major schools of thought in ethics to solve ethical problems.
3. Extract, analyze, and reconstruct arguments from major texts in ethics, both historical and contemporary.
4. Evaluate ethical arguments in terms of both soundness and validity.
5. Demonstrate the application of basic ethical concepts and principles to ethical problems.
6. Explain the theoretical rationale behind principles in professional and practical ethics.
7. Assess current challenges to ethics and describe current conflicts within ethics.
8. Demonstrate skills in written and oral presentation, engaging in fruitful oral discussion, debate, and formal presentations that are logically coherent, clearly and concisely stated, and accessible to their peers on topics within ethics.