Ethics: What is the Big Deal?

Police and Public Safety Institute

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number:</th>
<th>GEN1001</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-Requisites:</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
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<td>Pre-Requisites:</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicable Program(s):</td>
<td>Multiple Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAL:</td>
<td>Multiple Levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared by:</td>
<td>barklej, Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approved by:</td>
<td>Cindy Harrison, Acting Chair, PPSI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval Date:</td>
<td>Tuesday, July 30, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approved for Academic Year:</td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Normative Hours:</td>
<td>42.00</td>
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Course Description

In today's society there is increasingly more attention focused on questions of right or wrong, good or evil. Ethical issues relating to a wide variety of concerns are examined. Students clarify their own moral values and explore how these values impact the course of their lives. Students practise using tools and decision-making models to deal with personal and professional dilemmas.

General Education Theme Area(s)

This is a General Education course that supports learning in the following theme area(s): Personal Understanding

Relationship to Essential Employability Skills

This course contributes to your program by helping you achieve the following Essential Employability Skills:

- **EES 1**: Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience. (A)
- **EES 2**: Respond to written, spoken or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication. (A)
- **EES 5**: Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems. (T, A)
- **EES 8**: Show respect for diverse opinions, values, belief systems and contributions of others. (T, A)
- **EES 11**: Take responsibility for one's own actions, decisions and consequences. (T, A)
Course Learning Requirements/Embedded Knowledge and Skills

When you have earned credit for this course, you will have demonstrated the ability to:

1.) Define and use classical and contemporary ethical theories
   - Identify the major approaches to understanding and defining ethics in the literature
   - Recognize the importance of appreciating how what is ethical is largely socially constructed throughout time and space
   - Explore ethical challenges within various social contexts

2.) Assess the value of concepts like rationalizations, self-deception, and individual vs. cultural values in your personal and professional lives
   - Practice critical thinking
   - Explore the concept of an ethical dilemma

3.) Analyze and evaluate contemporary literature which proposes why it is important to be ethical and to reflect on our humanity in unsettled times
   - Review ethical themes such as service/duty, professionalism, confidentiality, personal behaviour (public and private), and justice/fairness
   - Explore the value and usefulness of a professional code of ethics

Evaluation/Earning Credit

The following list provides evidence of this course's learning achievements and the outcomes they validate:

Journal/Reflective Assignment(s) (55%)

Validates Outcomes: CLR 1, EES 1, EES 5, EES 8, EES 11

Research Assignment(s) (30%)

Validates Outcomes: CLR 3, EES 1

Participation (5%)

Validates Outcomes: CLR 1, EES 2, EES 5

Quiz(zes)/Test(s) (10%)

Validates Outcomes: CLR 2, EES 1, EES 2
Students are expected to meet evaluation and completion deadlines as stated in course outline and course section information documents. In circumstances where evaluation and/or completion deadlines are missed or student performance has been affected by a temporary or permanent disability (including mental health), interim or retroactive accommodations may be considered. In such instances, please consult your course faculty member. For other situations where deferral of evaluations may be warranted, please refer to college policy AA21.

Learning Resources

No Required text needed for course

Referenced texts available through AC Library


Articles and web-based readings will also be used in class and through Blackboard.

Learning Activities

- Examining existing personal ethical standards
- Evaluating ethical standards of others
- Assessing personal ethical decisions
- Evaluating various systems of ethics
- Assessing an ethical dilemma using a system of ethics
- Applying an ethical decision-making model to a personal ethical dilemma
- Critically analyzing a professional code of ethics

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

Students who wish to apply for prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) need to demonstrate competency at a post-secondary level in all of the course learning requirements outlined above. Evidence of learning achievement for PLAR candidates includes:

- Other: Students who wish to apply for prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) need to demonstrate competency at a post-secondary level in all of the course learning requirements outlined above.
Please refer to the Course Section Information (CSI) / weekly schedule for specific course-related information as provided by your professor.

STUDENT SUCCESS SPECIALIST
The Faculty Student Success Specialist is Karen Gendron in room P112. Karen may also be reached at telephone extension 7558 or by e-mail at gendrok@algonquincollege.com

ALGONQUIN COLLEGE - CODE OF CONDUCT
All members of the Algonquin Community will undertake to:

1. Conduct themselves in a manner which respects and promotes the dignity of others, and interact with others in the community in a spirit of cooperation, goodwill and mutual respect.

2. Conduct themselves in an honest and ethical manner, refraining from using their position or power to exploit any other individual, refraining from misrepresenting themselves, their work or qualifications in any manner, and refraining from violence, abuse, harassment and discrimination of any kind.

3. Assist in the maintenance of good order within their environment and refrain from creating a disturbance or a disruption to activities.

The Code of Conduct applies to students and staff of Algonquin College while at all College locations and while

Grade Scheme

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<tr>
<th>Final Grade</th>
<th>Mark Equivalent</th>
<th>Numeric Value</th>
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<th>Mark Equivalent</th>
<th>Numeric Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>85% - 89%</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80% - 84%</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77% - 79%</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73% - 76%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70% - 72%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67% - 69%</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>63% - 66%</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
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<td>1.7</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>0% - 49%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>FSP</td>
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</tr>
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Course Related Information

Department Related Information

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representing or carrying out activities related to the College at any off-campus location.

CONFIDENTIALITY
Students are required to respect the confidentiality of employer, client and/or patient information, interactions, and practices that occur either on Algonquin College premises, or at an affiliated clinical/field/co-op placement site. Concerns regarding clients, patients, and/or employer practices are to be brought to the attention of the program coordinator, or designated field/clinical/co-op placement supervisor so that they may be resolved collaboratively. Such concerns are not to be raised publically either verbally, in writing, or in electronic forums. These matters are to be addressed through established program communication pathways.

College Related Information

Email
Algonquin College provides all full-time students with an e-mail account. This is the address that will be used when the College, your professors, or your fellow students communicate important information about your program or course events. It is your responsibility to ensure that you know how to send and receive e-mail using your Algonquin account and to check it regularly.

Students with Disabilities
If you are a student with a disability, you are strongly encouraged to make an appointment at the Centre for Accessible Learning to identify your needs. Ideally, this should be done within the first month of your program, so that a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) can be provided to your professors. If you are a returning student, please ensure that professors are given a copy of your LOA each semester.

Retroactive Accommodations
Students are expected to meet evaluation and completion deadlines as stated in course outline and course section information documents. In circumstances where evaluation and/or completion deadlines are missed or student performance has been affected by a temporary or permanent disability (including mental health), interim or retroactive accommodations may be considered. In such instances, please consult your course faculty member. For other situations where deferral of evaluations may be warranted, please refer to college policy AA21.

Academic Integrity & Plagiarism
Adherence to acceptable standards of academic honesty is an important aspect of the learning process at Algonquin College. Academic work submitted by a student is evaluated on the assumption that the work presented by the student is his or her own, unless designated otherwise. For further details consult Algonquin College Policies AA18: Academic Dishonesty and Discipline and AA20: Plagiarism

Student Course Feedback
It is Algonquin College’s policy to give students the opportunity to share their course experience by completing a student course feedback survey for each course they take. For further details consult Algonquin College Policy AA25: Student Course Feedback
Use of Mobile Devices in Class

With the proliferation of small, personal mobile devices used for communications and data storage, Algonquin College believes there is a need to address their use during classes and examinations. During classes, the use of such devices is disruptive and disrespectful to others. During examinations, the use of such devices may facilitate cheating. For further details consult Algonquin College Policy AA32: Use of Mobile Devices in Class

Transfer of Credit

It is the student’s responsibility to retain course outlines for possible future use to support applications for transfer of credit to other educational institutions.

Note: It is the student’s responsibility to refer to the Algonquin College Policies website for the most current information at http://www.algonquincollege.com/policies/

Legend

Terms
• ALO: Aboriginal Learning Outcome
• Apprenticeship LO: Apprenticeship Learning Outcome
• CLR: Course Learning Requirement
• DPLO: Degree Program Learning Outcome
• EES: Essential Employability Skill
• EOP: Element of Performance
• GELO: General Education Learning Outcome
• LO: Learning Outcome
• PC: Program Competency
• PLA: Prior Learning Assessment
• PLAR: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition
• VLO: Vocational Learning Outcome

Assessment Levels
• T: Taught
• A: Assessed
• CP: Culminating Performance