

Phil 3310 Professional Ethics

Class Number 3884 Section TR9

T, TH 9:30 – 10:45am Room: TBA

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Professional Ethics is an introduction to contemporary ethical theories and their applications to practical issues. The course aims to provide students with the foundation for understanding and applying ethical standards and analysis in professional careers, including but not limited to Business, Medicine, Engineering, Law, and Mass Media. The course will survey contemporary ethical theories and explore the ethical codes, standards, and practices specific to the student's chosen career.

We will begin with an overview of ethics, including the nature of ethical reasoning and major ethical theories. We will apply this basis to explore some current ethical debates, such as the morality of suicide and euthanasia, capital punishment, legalization of recreational drugs, privacy and confidentiality, whistleblowing, animal rights and social and environmental responsibilities of professionals. The overall goal of the course is to foster awareness of ethical concerns across a wide range of professions; to understand the strengths and weaknesses of various ethical assumptions and arguments; and to reinforce students' personal sense of compassion and fairness in the context of their professional roles.

