

Module: Ethics 271

Module name:	Ethics 271
Code:	ETH271
NQF level:	6
Type:	Core – Bachelor of Information Technology
Contact Time:	16 hours
Structured time:	4 hours
Self-directed time:	20 hours
Notional hours:	40 hours
Credits:	4
Prerequisites:	

Purpose

This module focuses on developing an understanding of the inherent complexities underlying ethics as it applies to the information technology industry. Students will be expected to understand, interpret, and apply established ethical concepts to real world situations.

Outcomes

Upon successful completion this module, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the main areas of ethics as it applies to the IT industry including key terms, concepts, and facts.
- Evaluate, select and apply ethical principles and best practices in investigation or application processes within the context of ethically sensitive topics such as privacy, crime, free speech, software development, and intellectual property.
- Identify, analyse and solve problems related to complex ethical quandaries in unfamiliar contexts.
- Demonstrate an understanding of different forms of knowledge, schools of thought and forms of explanation within the field of ethics as well as techniques and awareness of knowledge production processes.
- Demonstrate the ability to make decisions and act appropriately regarding ethical issues in both familiar and new contexts, demonstrating an understanding of the multifaceted nature of ethics.

Assessment

- Continuous evaluation of theoretical work through a written assignment and a summative test.
- Final summative assessment is done a formal examination.

Teaching and Learning

Learning materials

Prescribed Book

Ethics in IT - IT without frontiers.

Additional Material

Northcutt, S., Madden, C., Welt, C. (2004). IT Ethics Handbook. Syngress. [ISBN: 9780080478821-003]

McClendon, JW. (2012). Ethics. Baylor University Press. [ISBN: 9781602586574] Learning activities

The teaching and learning activities consist of several pedagogical methodologies to stimulate self-reflection and critical thinking. A dialogue-oriented, applicative approach combined with exercises and formal lectures on theoretical concepts will aid in achieving the above-mentioned outcomes. Students will also be researching further concepts and implications of ethics through a compulsory assignment.

Notional learning hours

Activity	Units	Contact Time	Structured Time	Self-Directed Time
Lecture		14.0		6.0
Formative feedback		2.0		
Project				
Assignment	1			3.0
Test	1		2.0	5.0
Exam	1		2.0	6.0
		16.0	4.0	20.0

Syllabus

- Academic writing – understanding academic convention
- Criteria for selecting a credible source.
- Academic integrity
- Using your research material – referencing, citing, paraphrasing, quoting, summarising
- Using the correct writing style – tone, grammar, vocabulary
- Organise your text coherently following international standards.
- Finalising your writing – proofreading, editing, writing your abstract.
- Applying academic writing principles in writing essays, theses, reports and proposals.