



AEC 3322 – MORAL LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURAL & LIFE SCIENCES SPRING SEMESTER, 2019

Course Instructor:

Dr. Matthew Sowcik

Tel. [352.273.2654](tel:352.273.2654) | Email. sowcik@ufl.edu | Office. 117 Bryant Hall

Office Hours: Since this is an online course – please make an appointment (Meeting face-to-face and over online conference tools)

Course TAs:

Nick Martinez– ncmartinez14@ufl.edu

Course Time:

Online – Modules will open weekly

Course Description:

" Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." - Aristotle

The quote above signifies that as leaders, we are faced with opportunities. These opportunities force us to weigh ethical standards of practice with our own moral foundations in an effort to practice authenticity and move our organizations forward. This can be extremely difficult, as the challenges that we face are muddled with political, cultural, and social variables. However our education and the capacities and skills that develop through it provide us with a compass when used effectively. This course aims to make sense of that compass and apply it to the situations we face on a daily basis in an applied way. The most important capacities and skills that students will develop in this class are primarily internal ones (i.e., perception, insight into causes of problems among individuals within group contexts, self-awareness of moral foundations, ethical contextual analysis and understanding, and an understanding of dynamics necessary for long-term solutions to ethically challenging problems). Given their participation in this course, students should have a greater understanding for the intersection between morality and ethics, moral imagination, and applied organizational ethics. This course will have application for contexts within the fields of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and beyond.

Course Objectives:

Given participation in this course, the student will have the opportunity to engage in the mastery of the following competencies and capacities for application within agricultural, natural resource, and related contexts:

- Describe the intersection between morality and ethics
- Explain applications of ethical theories
- Synthesize course material in developing an ethical philosophy statement
- Identify ways to integrate ethical leadership in personal and professional contexts

Course Textbooks Required:

McManus, Robert M., Stanley J. Ward, and Alexandra K. Perry, eds. *Ethical Leadership: A Primer*. Edward Elgar Publishing, 2018.

Each module will have additional reading/viewing materials that will add breadth and depth to the ethical theory covered during the module.

E-Learning:

Since this is an online course, the entire course (instruction, readings and work) will be listed on E-Learning Canvas (<http://elearning.ufl.edu>). If you have difficulty accessing the site contact the Help Desk at 352-392-HELP (4357) or helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Course Expectations:

First and foremost, this class should be fun and enjoyable! The class was designed in a way that is intentional about providing you the optimal educational experience. Please know that you can reach out to me at any point with questions and concerns and I will get back to you within 48 hours.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

As part of this course and a citizen of the UF Community, you will be requested to complete a course evaluation at the end of the semester. This is such an important part of the process and will certainly aid in the development of this course.

Expectations for Writing:

In all courses in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication's Communication and Leadership Development (CLD) specialization, the following **writing standards** are expected to be followed, unless otherwise specified for a particular writing assignment. Not following these writing standards will result in substantially lower grades on writing assignments.

- Proper grammar and punctuation are mandatory.
- Proper sentence structure is required. This means...
 - Not using “tweet-talk” in your assignments.
 - Making sure that your sentences have a subject, verb, and (when needed) an object.
 - Not having sentence fragments.
 - And anything else that would pertain to “proper sentence structure.”
- Good thoughts/content throughout the writing assignment.
- For assignments that require citations, use American Psychological Association style. Proper APA citation and reference document is expected.
- For assignments that are more reporter-style articles (news stories, news releases, public relations writing), you are expected to follow Associated Press Style, as discussed in AEC 4031.

Academic Honesty:

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/SCCR/honorcodes/honorcode.php>.

Software Use:

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Campus Helping Resources:

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/*
 - Counseling Services
 - Groups and Workshops
 - Outreach and Consultation
 - Self-Help Library
 - Training Programs
 - Community Provider Database
- *Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/*

Services for Students with Disabilities:

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations

within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Students should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

Other Issues:

Please see the University of Florida Student Guide (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide>) for specific questions concerning your college experience.

Course Evaluations:

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Towards the end of the semester, students will receive an e-mail with specific times when they can complete this feedback. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

Grade Breakdown: Please note grades are based on points not percentages. For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

A: 94%	B+: 87%	B-: 80%	C: 73%	D+: 67%	D-: 60%
A-: 90%	B: 83%	C+: 77%	C-: 70%	D: 64%	E: Below 60%

Grade Record:

Assignment	Due Date
Case Studies (13 total)	Throughout the Course
Exam 1	Week of Jan. 28
Exam 2	Week of Feb. 25
Exam 3	Week of March 25
Exam 4	Week of April 22
Ethical Philosophy Statement	April 17th
Introduction Video	Jan. 13th

Assignment Descriptions:

Introduction Video: *(50 Points)*

In the first week of class, please post a video covering the following questions:

- Introduce yourself to the class – Name, year in school, major, etc.
- What does ethical leadership mean to you?
- Why are you taking this course and what do you hope to get out of it?
- If you do meet your expectations of the course (get out of it what you want), how will this impact your leadership?

Case Study Reflections: *15 points each (195 total)*

You will be asked to read over the case study at the end of each chapter. At the end of each module you will be provided with three prompt questions that you will need to reflect on and answer demonstrating your knowledge on that particular module.

More information on the Case Study Reflections including a rubric will be provided during the first week of class.

Ethical Philosophy (Video): 55 Points

This class explores how you will make ethical/moral decisions as a leader. The Ethical Philosophy Video is your time to articulate how you will be making ethical decisions as you move forward in your leadership career.

More information on the Ethical Philosophy Video will be provided the first week of class including a rubric that outlines the expectations of the instructor.

Examinations: All worth 50 points (200 points total)

There are four exams during the semester. Each is designed to measure the mastery of content between the different modules covered from the last exam to the current exam module (non-cumulative). The exams are online and you will have a 48-hour window to take the exam. The days of the exam are covered in the syllabus.

Course Outline:

Week	Topic	Readings: Due	Assignments
1 Jan. 7	Course Introduction	Chapter 1: Introduction And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Introduction Video
2	Kantianism	Chapter 2: Kantianism	Case Study Reflection

Jan. 14		And complete all other readings and videos in this module	
3 Jan. 21	Utilitarianism	Chapter 3: Utilitarianism And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Case Study Reflection
4 Jan. 28	Virtue Ethics	Chapter 4: Virtue Ethics	Case Study Reflection
Exam on First Four Modules You will have a 48 hour period to take the test online starting Jan. 31st (at 8:00am) and going until Feb. 1st (11:59pm)			
5 Feb. 4	Ethical Egoism	Chapter 5: Ethical Egoism And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Case Study Reflection
6 Feb. 11	Universal Ethics	Chapter 6: Universal Ethics And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Case Study Reflection
7 Feb. 18	Cultural Relativism	Chapter 7: Cultural Relativism And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Case Study Reflection
8	Divine Command Theory	Chapter 8: Divine Command Theory	Case Study Reflection

Feb. 25		And complete all other readings and videos in this module	
Exam on Modules 5-8 You will have a 48-hour period to take the test online starting Feb. 28 (at 8:00am) and going until March. 1st (11:59pm)			

SPRING BREAK- Week Off You Deserve IT!

Week	Topic	Readings	Assignments
9 March 11	Social Contract Theory	Chapter 9: Social Contract Theory And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Case Study Reflection
10 March 18	Justice as Fairness	Chapter 10: Justice as Fairness And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Case Study Reflection
11 March 25	The Common Good	Chapter 11: The Common Good And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Case Study Reflection
Exam on Modules 9-11 You will have a 48-hour period to take the test online starting March 28 (at 8:00am) and going until March. 29 (11:59pm)			
12 April 1	Authentic Leadership And Servant Leadership	Chapter 12: Authentic Leadership And Chapter 13: Servant Leadership	Case Study Reflection

		And complete all other readings and videos in this module	
13 April 8	Followership	Chapter 14: Followership And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Case Study Review
14 April 15	Adaptive Leadership	Chapter 16: Adaptive Leadership And complete all other readings and videos in this module	Case Study Review
Ethical Philosophy Video is Due on April 17			
15 April 22	Conclusion	Chapter 17: Conclusion And complete all other readings and videos in this module	
Exam on Modules 12-15			
You will have a 48-hour period to take the test online starting April 24 (at 8:00am) and going until April 25 (11:59pm)			