

**Course Instructor:**

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**Office Hours:**

Since this is an online course, I will be available virtually for weekly “office hours” on Tuesday afternoons from 2 – 4PM EST. I will also be available by appointment. If you are on campus, you are always welcome to stop by my office any time the door is open.

**Class Meeting Time and Location:**

Online- modules will open weekly on Monday. Work for each module must be completed by Sunday 11:59PM.

**Prerequisites:**

Junior standing or higher

**Catalog Course Description:**

Explores ethical and moral foundations for organizational and personal practice within the context of agriculture, natural resources, and beyond; gain a greater understanding for the intersection between morality and ethics, effective decision-making, and applied organizational ethics.

**Course Expectations:**

The best way to get the most out of class is to show up and engage. This course is designed to be interactive, participatory, fun, and pragmatic. So, the time you invest here should be enjoyable and useful in your future career and interactions with others. It might even help you in other classes as you navigate working with peers!

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 of 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 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.

### **Required Textbooks:**

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.

### **eLearning and Canvas:**

Since this is an online course, the entire course (instruction, readings, and assignments) will be facilitated through 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](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

### **Attendance and Make-Up Work:**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

This course is delivered asynchronously, therefore “attendance” will not be recorded. However, prompt participation in and completion of assignments is expected. Opportunities to make up missed work or submit late work will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please communicate promptly with me about any conflicts.

### **Online Course Evaluation Process:**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### **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 written 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.”
- No use of first person (I, me, my, mine, our) unless denoted within the assignment rubric.
- No use of contractions.
- 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.

If you are afforded the opportunity to resubmit an assignment you may do so only after visiting the UF Writing Studio, located in 2215 Turlington Hall. You must provide documentation of the visit with your resubmitted assignment. Information about the Writing Studio and a link to their online schedule for making an appointment can be found here: <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/for-students/schedule-an-appointment/> “You can make a maximum of one appointment per day, and two per week. Remember to bring a PAPER COPY of your document when you come in for an appointment. If you need to speak to us, our office phone is 352-846-1138.”

### **Academic Honesty:**

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed 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: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>.

### **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](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc)*
  - Counseling Services
  - Groups and Workshops
  - Outreach and Consultation
  - Self-Help Library
  - Training Programs
  - Community Provider Database
- *U Matter We Care, [www.umatter.ufl.edu](http://www.umatter.ufl.edu)*
- *Career Connections Center, First Floor Suite 1300 JWRU, 392-1601, <https://career.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. 001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://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.

**Student Complaints:**

Online Course: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>

**Grades and Grade Points:**

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

**Grade Breakdown:**

Please note grades are based on points not percentages.

Grade Breakdown on Points					
A: 465 - 500 pts	B+: 435 - 449 pts	B-: 400 - 414 pts	C: 365 - 384 pts	D+: 335 - 349 pts	D-: 300 - 314 pts
A-: 450 - 464 pts	B: 415 - 434 pts	C+: 385 - 399 pts	C-: 350 - 364 pts	D: 315 - 334 pts	E: 299 and Below

**Assignment Summary:**

Assignment Title	Date	Points Available	Points Earned
Introduction video	1/10	25	
Small group discussions (3 * 25pts ea)	Various dates	75	
Ethical philosophy draft	3/13	25	
Ethical philosophy peer review	3/27	25	
Ethical philosophy final draft	4/17	50	
Case Study development	Various dates	100	
Theory matrix	4/22	100	
Exams (2 * 50 pts ea)	2/26, 4/29	100	
Total		500	

**Assignment Descriptions:**

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE ONLINE BY 11:59PM**

**Introduction video (25 points)**

Students will introduce themselves to their classmates with a video during the first week of class. The introduction include:

- Your name, major, classification, location.
- What is ethical leadership? Give an example to illustrate.
- What are your goals and expectations for the course? (Specifically, how do you hope to grow and develop? What do you hope to learn? How do you anticipate this class to impact your leadership?)

**Small group discussions** (3 \* 25 points each, 75 points total)

Students will be assigned to small discussion groups for 3 weeks at a time. You will rotate through 3 discussion groups over the course of the semester. I will provide discussion prompts based on the assigned reading, but it is up to the group to engage with each other and contribute to the discussion in a way that fosters community among peers and deepens and broadens our learning about ethics, morals, leadership, and the application thereof.

**Ethical philosophy draft** (25 points)

Students will explore how they will make ethical/moral decisions as a leader. Each will develop an ethical philosophy articulating this. A draft will be submitted for peer review.

**Ethical philosophy peer review** (25 points)

Each student will be assigned a blind review of the ethical philosophy of two of their peers. Students will be given a rubric with which to provide feedback to their peers anonymously.

**Ethical philosophy final draft** (50 points)

Students will use feedback from their peer reviews to edit and refine their ethical philosophy, then submit a final draft.

**Case study development** (100 points)

Students will be assigned a theory and will develop a case study that illustrates that theory (much like those provided in the text). Cases must be contextualized in the agricultural and natural resources industry and must draw from and include factual resources and data.

**Theory matrix** (100 points)

Students will develop a theory matrix over the course of the semester. The matrix will highlight each theory learned in class, along with an example of appropriate application.

**Exams** (2 \* 50 points each, 100 points total)

Two exams will allow students to demonstrate mastery of content. Exams will be administered online and students will have a 48-hour window to complete each exam.

Course Schedule\*:

*\*This is a tentative schedule; changes to topics, assignment due dates, etc. may be made via in-class announcement or email.*

<b>Wk</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
1	Jan 6 - 10	Introduction		Intro video
2	Jan 13 - 17	Kantianism	CH 2: Kantianism	
3	Jan 21 - 24	Utilitariansim	CH 3: Utilitariansim	
4	Jan 27 - 31	Virtue ethics	CH 4: Virtue Ethics	
5	Feb 3 - 7	Ethical Egoism	CH 5: Ethical Egoism	
6	Feb 10 - 14	Universal Ethics	CH 6: Universal Ethics	
7	Feb 17 - 21	Cultural Relativism	CH 7: Cultural Relativism	
8	Feb 24 - 28	Divine Command Theory	CH 8: Divine Command Theory	
EXAM 1, DUE 2/26				
9	Mar 2 - 6	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>		
10	Mar 9 - 13	Social Contract Theory	CH 9: Social Contract Theory	DUE: Ethical Philosophy Draft
11	Mar 16 - 20	Justice as Fairness	CH 10: Justice as Fairness	
12	Mar 23 - 27	The Common Good	CH 11: The Common Good	DUE: Ethical Philosophy Peer Review
13	Mar 30 – Apr 3	Authentic Leadership & Servant Leadership	CH 12: Authentic Leadership & CH 13: Servant Leadership	
14	Apr 6 - 10	Followership	CH 14: Followership	
15	Apr 13 - 17	Adaptive Leadership	CH 16: Adaptive Leadership	DUE: Ethical Philosophy Final Draft
16	Apr 20 - 22	Conclusion/Wrap-up	CH 17: Conclusion	DUE: Theory Matrix
EXAM 2, DUE 4/29				