

Moral Leadership in Agriculture & Life Sciences

AEC 3322, Secs ALAC, 5REC, UFO1

Spring 2025 3 credit hours

Instructor

Dr. Laura Greenhaw

Assistant Professor, Agricultural Leadership

Email: laura.greenhaw@ufl.edu

Office location: 219 Rolfs Hall

Office hours: Tuesday, 2:00 – 4:00pm OR via zoom <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/97224371857>

Teaching Assistant

Ms. Taylor McKinney

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Office hours: by appointment

Class Times & Location

This class is facilitated asynchronously, through Canvas. Modules will open weekly, and learning activities can be completed at the learner's own pace each week. Once a module becomes available, the content will remain available for the rest of the semester.

Learners are encouraged to attend a 50-minute, synchronous discussion once a week on Wednesday.

Attendance is optional, but strongly encouraged:

Wednesday | Period 5 (11:45 am – 12:35 pm)

Meeting URL: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/96934587283>

Meeting ID: 969 3458 7283

Passcode: 3322

If you have difficulty accessing or navigating the Canvas site contact the Help Desk at 352-392-HELP (4357) or helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Course Description

This course explores ethical philosophies and the intersection of leadership and ethics. Learners will be encouraged to consider the implications of ethics on leadership, particularly in the context of agriculture and natural resources.

Course Objectives

Learners will be able to:

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

Requirements

Textbook:

There are no required textbooks for this course. Each module will have required reading/viewing materials that will add breadth and depth to the lesson.

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

Technology:

To succeed in this course, you must have access to the following technology:

- Desktop Computer or Laptop
 - Audio Capabilities
 - Webcam and Microphone for synchronous sessions
- Microsoft Word - [Microsoft 365 basics video training](#)
- Adobe Reader - [Acrobat tutorials](#)
- Zoom - [Zoom Privacy Policy](#)
- Internet Connection with access to Canvas
 - Canvas is the course management system at the University of Florida in which students will find course content, links to video lectures, assignments, quizzes, discussions, and grades. The use of this system will vary by instructor, but the following videos describe the most common tools in Canvas. The [full student guide](#) is provided if you have additional questions.
 - View [Canvas Privacy Policy](#)
- **Web Browser - Chrome** is the preferred browser for Canvas. If you do not have Chrome, you can [download it](#).
- University of Florida Email
 - Students are expected to check their my.ufl emails daily. View the [Student Computing Requirements](#) page for information on technology requirements and expectations.

Prerequisite Knowledge:

Learners may benefit from some basic knowledge of leadership theories and current agriculture and natural resources issues, but no previous knowledge is required.

Minimum Technical Skills:

Minimum technical skills required:

- Proficiency in utilizing Canvas and navigating the internet effectively.
- Competence in using email for communication purposes, including sending and receiving messages and managing attachments.
- Familiarity with commonly used word processing applications (such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs), including the ability to create, edit, and format documents.

- Basic computer skills, including understanding fundamental operations like file management, using menus and toolbars, and navigating between different applications.
- Ability to perform online research using a variety of search engines and library databases.

Instructor Response & Feedback

The instructor and TA(s) are committed to responding to your Canvas messages **within 24 hours** when feasible during the work week, Monday through Friday, *except holidays*. Please be aware that messages sent after 4:30pm or on the weekend will be responded to the following workday. Dr. Greenhaw also holds office hours each week in person and via Zoom, as noted in the Contact section above. Our goal is that major assignments will be graded, with *meaningful feedback* provided, **within one week of their submission**.

Assignments

Assignment Points & Explanation:

Assignment Summary

Assignment Title	Points Available	Points Earned
Learning self-assessments (2* 25pts)	50 (25/ea)	
Checks for understanding (variable pts)	150 (variable pts ea)	
Ethical leader analysis paper draft & peer review	25	
Ethical leader analysis paper	100	
Exams (2 * 100 pts ea)	200 (100/ea)	
Total	525	

Assignment Descriptions

ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE ONLINE BY 11:59PM unless noted otherwise.

Learning Self-Assessments (2 * 25 pts each, 50 points total)

Students learn in a variety of ways, but most educators agree that reflection is crucial to our ability to transfer learning. Students will complete two (2) self-assessments during the semester in which they will respond to specific prompts from the instructor. Students are expected to reference content from the learning modules to explain how they are understanding and applying the learning.

Checks for Understanding (CFUs) (variable pts each, 150 points total)

In each module, students will complete a check for understanding designed to help them evaluate their comprehension of the content. Checks for understanding may be a series of questions in the form of a quiz related to the videos and readings, or they may be small group discussion and annotation of an assigned reading. Checks are worth variable amounts of points from 10-20. If the Check for Understanding is a quiz, students will be allowed to take the quiz twice, in order to address questions they may have missed during the initial attempt.

Ethical Leader Analysis paper (25 pts draft/peer review, 100 pts final draft; 125 points total)
 As a class, we will identify a list of current complex ethical issues in agricultural, natural resources, or food systems. Students will identify a leader and discuss with/interview them regarding one of the ethical issues and their perception of leaders' ethical responsibilities regarding the issue. Students will submit a draft of their leader analysis for peer review. Once peer reviews are completed, students will revise and submit a final draft of their leader analysis. 100 points are allocated to the leader analysis, 25 points are allocated to the peer review.

Exams (2 * 100 pts each, 200 points total)

Two exams will allow students to demonstrate mastery of content.

Course Grading:

Please note final course grades are based on **points** not **percentages**.

Grading Scale

A: 488 - 525 pts	B+: 451 - 471 pts	C+: 399 - 419 pts	D+: 346 - 366 pts	
A-: 471 - 497 pts	B: 435 - 450 pts	C: 383 - 398 pts	D: 330 - 345 pts	E: 314 and Below
	B-: 420 - 434 pts	C-: 367 - 382 pts	D-: 315 - 329 pts	

Further information about UF grading policies can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Academic Integrity

UF's Academic Honesty Statement:

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 dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean or Student Honor Court. **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: [UF Student Code of Conduct Webpage](#).

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism includes taking **verbatim phrases of just a few words** without permission or full attribution. It includes **quoting too much** from your sources, thereby substituting their expression for your own, or quoting too much from one source, effectively taking more than

a *fair use* of their work. **Over quoting (direct quotes)** comprising more than 10% of any assignment will be considered plagiarism. Plagiarism includes **unique expression**, which can be a phrase of a few words or a simple moniker. Our writing is mostly *our own expression*. When writing for science and business, we base our work on **facts** obtained from a variety of **credible sources**. We give credit where it is due. We **cite our sources** so others can access the information we present. When appropriate, we very carefully, ethically, and lawfully use others' expression of that information. We obtain permission to use our sources' expression or give full credit for a *limited, fair use*, including direct quotes.

Attendance Policies

Course content and learning activities will be delivered asynchronously. Prompt participation in and completion of assignments and learning activities 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 or issues that arise.

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>.

Institutional Policies

Recording Statement

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or guest lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. [UF IN-CLASS RECORDING](#)

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. [UF ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY](#)

Course Evaluations

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. 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/>

Student Services

Health & Wellness

- U Matter, We Care
 - If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center
 - Visit the [Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
 - 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.
- Student Health Care Center
 - Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the [Student Health Care Center website](#).
- University Police Department
 - Visit [UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- GatorWell Health Promotion Services
 - For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.

Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support
 - Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
- [Career Connections Center](#)
 - Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

- [Library Support](#)
 - Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- [Teaching Center](#)
 - Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
- [Writing Studio](#)
 - 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- Student Complaints On-Campus
 - Visit the [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage](#) for more information.
- On-Line Students Complaints
 - View the [Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

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 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, [UF Disability Resource Center](#).

[Canvas Accessibility Standards](#)

[Zoom Accessibility Information](#)

Course Schedule*:

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

Wk	Date	Topic	Assignments
1	Jan 13 - 17	Setting the stage: 1. Course introduction & expectations 2. Defining concepts	Learning self-assessment 1 CFU – Perusall reading & annotation
2	Jan 20 - 24	WHO am I, WHAT do I stand for, and WHY does that matter?	Ethical Leader Analysis Topic Suggestions Due CFU – Perusall reading & annotation
3	Jan 27 - 31	1. Situating ethics in the context of leadership 2. Approaches to Studying Ethics	CFU – Quiz 1 CFU – Quiz 2
4	Feb 03 – 07	Deontology: Kantianism	Ethical issue selection & leader ID CFU – Quiz
5	Feb 10 - 14	Consequentialism: Utilitarianism, Hedonism, Ethical Egoism	Ethical leader analysis interview questions due CFU – Perusall reading & annotation
6	Feb 17 - 21	Virtue Ethics	CFU – Quiz
7	Feb 24 - 28	Universal Ethics Cultural Relativism	CFU – Perusall reading & annotation
8	Mar 03 – 07	Mid-Term Exam due 03/07	
9	Mar 10 - 14	Social Contract Theory Justice as Fairness	Ethical leader analysis draft due for peer review CFU – Perusall reading & annotation
	Mar 17 - 21	SPRING BREAK	
10	Mar 24 - 28	The Common Good Divine Command Theory	Ethical leader analysis peer review due CFU – Quiz
11	Mar 31 – Apr 04	Applying Ethics: Community, Common Ground, Ethical Decision making	CFU – Perusall reading & annotation
12	Apr 07 - 11	Applying Ethics: Morality and Values in an Organizational Setting	Ethical leader analysis final draft due CFU – Perusall reading & annotation
13	Apr 14 - 18	Applying Ethics: Solving Ethical Problems/Dilemmas	Learning self-assessment 2 CFU – Quiz
14	Apr 21 - 23	Final Exam	

*** There will be NO checks for understanding during the weeks when the mid-term and final exams are scheduled or during spring break.**