

EESC3000: Values, Ethics and Professionalism in the Sciences
Online Course

Academic Term: Fall 2018

Credit Hours: 4

Course Delivery: This course is delivered online via the Blackboard learning management system. To access your course, login using your MyNEU credentials.

Instructor Information: David Merry (d.merry@northeastern.edu)

Office Hours by Appointment; reach out via email for in-person, phone, or Skype meeting

Course Description:

This course is designed to help students pursuing a STEM education to begin developing a coherent professional identity and a commitment to life-long learning. Students will be asked to examine, articulate, and defend their professional values, and use concurrent reflection exercises to create “maps” and action steps to reach multiple long-term professional goals. Ethical dilemmas in the STEM fields will be examined in depth. Students will learn and utilize theoretical ethical frameworks to discuss a series of case studies, and will then overlay existing ethical codes established by their fields’ governing organizations. Students will create novel case studies based on real-world events, and will finally extrapolate these ethical conversations into the “big ethical and moral issues” facing their fields in the near future (genetic engineering, energy production, etc.) In the latter half of the course, we will focus on the value of life-long learning through reflective practice, mentorship, professional organizations and conferences, and leadership opportunities in the field.

Course Prerequisites: COOP3945 “Co-op Work Experience,” or equivalent work experience

Required Textbooks:

Burnett, W., & Evans, D. J. (2016). *Designing your life: how to build a well-lived, joyful life*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

Students with Disabilities

Students needing disability accommodations should visit the Northeastern University Disability Resource Center (DRC)

Student Privacy (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. For information about these rights, visit the Northeastern University Office of the Registrar

Blackboard and Technical Support

Northeastern students can get technical, computing, and Blackboard support through the Northeastern University Information Technology Services Student Support site

Diversity

Northeastern University is committed to providing equal opportunity to its students and employees, and to eliminating discrimination when it occurs. For more information, including grievance procedures, please visit the Northeastern University Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion

Course Policies

Be sure to review the College of Science Academic Course Policies available at

<http://www.northeastern.edu/cos/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Northeastern-COS-Policies-Template.pdf>.

These policies hold across all courses taught in the College of Science.

Course Objectives:

Students who have completed this course will be able to:

- Develop and articulate a coherent professional philosophy and identity
- Apply theoretical and field-specific ethical models to real-world dilemmas at both the micro and macro scale
- Create an action plan to incorporate reflective practice in their current and future professional lives.
- Gain tools to leverage professional networks, organizations, conferences, and leadership opportunities
- Learn and utilize skills required to find and maintain mentors in the field
- Continually reflect on and align behavior with personal values, beliefs, meaning and purpose
- Demonstrate ethical reasoning in the contexts of theoretical ethical frameworks, their own articulated values

Grading:

Discussion Board	Ongoing	21%
Professional Philosophy Statement Draft #1	9/26	5%
Ethics Case Study	10/10	15%
Professional Philosophy Statement Draft #2	10/24	9%
Informational Interview Assignment	11/14	15%
Final Presentation	11/28	20%
Professional Philosophy Statement Draft #3	12/5	15%

Course Calendar:

Week 1 9/5-9/9	Introduction to the course, outcomes, and expectations <u>Assignments:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No readings this week <u>Discussion Board:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friday, 9/6 by 11:59pm: Respond to Week 1 prompt• Sunday, 9/9 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts
Week 2 9/10-9/16	Professional Identity and Philosophy <u>Assignments:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Readings in Course Material• Workview Statement <u>Discussion Board:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wednesday, 9/12 by 11:59pm: Workview Statement• Friday 9/14 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts• Sunday, 9/16 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your original post
Week 3 9/17-9/23	Personal and Professional Values <u>Assignments:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Readings in Course Material• VIA Character Strengths survey <u>Discussion Board:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wednesday, 9/19 by 11:59pm: Respond to Week 3 prompt re: VIA results• Friday 9/21 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts• Sunday, 9/23 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your original post

<p>Week 4 9/24-9/30</p>	<p>Crafting a Cohesive Professional Philosophy</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material • First Draft of Professional Philosophy statement <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 9/26 by 11:59pm: First Draft of Professional Philosophy statement • Friday 9/28 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts • Sunday, 9/30 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your original post
<p>Week 5 10/1-10/7</p>	<p>Theoretical Ethical Frameworks</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material • Identify the two people with whom you will conduct Informational Interviews <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 10/3 by 11:59pm: Respond to Week 5 prompt • Friday 10/5 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts • Sunday, 10/7 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your original post
<p>Week 6 10/8-10/14</p>	<p>Ethical Case Studies in the Field</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material • Case Study <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 10/10 by 11:59pm: Case Study • Friday 10/12 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' Case Studies • Sunday, 10/14 by 11:59pm: Give feedback about your classmates' analysis of your case
<p>Week 7 10/15-10/21</p>	<p>Future Ethical Dilemmas</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material • Sunday, 10/21 by 11:59pm: Submit the questions you have prepared for your Informational Interview • Identify an ethical issue on the horizon in your field – find at least one article about it <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 10/17 by 11:59pm: Post “future ethical issue” article • Friday 10/19 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts • Sunday, 10/21 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your original post
<p>Week 8 10/22-10/28</p>	<p>Life-Long Learning</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material • Professional Philosophy Draft #2 <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 10/24 by 11:59pm: Professional Philosophy Draft #2 • Friday 10/26 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts • Sunday, 10/28 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your original post

<p>Week 9 10/29-11/4</p>	<p>Professional Engagement</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 10/31 by 11:59pm: Respond to Week 9 prompt • Friday 11/2 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts • Sunday, 11/4 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your original post
<p>Week 10 11/5-11/11</p>	<p>Mentorship</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 11/7 by 11:59pm: Respond to Week 10 prompt • Friday 11/9 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts • Sunday, 11/11 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your original post
<p>Week 11 11/12-11/18</p>	<p>Being a Reflective Professional</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material • Wednesday, 11/14 by 11:59pm Informational Interview Assignment Due <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 11/14 by 11:59pm: Respond to Week 11 prompt • Friday 11/16 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' posts • Sunday, 11/18 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your original post
<p>Week 12 11/19-11/25</p>	<p>Break – take a well-deserved week off to enjoy Thanksgiving! Remember that your Final Presentations are due on the Discussion Board by next Tuesday (11/27 by 11:59pm), so you may want to be working on those during this time. The final draft of your Professional Philosophy is due the following week, on 12/4.</p>
<p>Week 13 11/26-12/2</p>	<p>Final Presentations</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material • Final Presentation <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 11/28 by 11:59pm: Final Presentation • Friday 11/30 by 11:59pm: Respond to two classmates' Final Presentations • Sunday, 12/2 by 11:59pm: Reply to any comments on your Final Presentation
<p>Week 14 12/3-12/9</p>	<p>Conclusion</p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings in Course Material • Wednesday, 12/5 by 11:59pm: Third Draft of your Professional Philosophy Statement <p><u>Discussion Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 12/5 by 11:59pm: Respond to Week 12 prompt • No replies required