

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, TIRUCHIRAPPALLI**

**COURSE PLAN**

COURSE OUTLINE			
<b>Course Title</b>	<b>PROFESSIONAL ETHICS</b>		
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>CLIR 13</b>	<b>No. of Credits</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Department</b>	<b>HSS</b>	<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Dr. Vinod Balakrishnan</b>
<b>Pre-requisites Course Code</b>	<b>Nil</b>		
<b>Course coordinator</b>	<b>Dr. Vinod Balakrishnan</b>		
<b>Course Teacher E-mail</b>	<b>vinod@nitt.edu</b>	<b>Telephone No.</b>	<b>0431-2503694</b>
<b>Course Type</b>	<b>Core course</b>		
COURSE OVERVIEW			
The course introduces Professional Ethics as necessary for Engineers who must develop Professionalism.			
COURSE OBJECTIVE			
<p>The course aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Familiarize students with the field of Professional Ethics.</li> <li>2. Enable an understanding of Human Values.</li> <li>3. Provide a Case Study-based approach to negotiating Moral Dilemmas.</li> <li>4. Conscientize the student about the Engineer's Rights and Responsibilities.</li> <li>5. Cultivate professional leadership.</li> </ol>			

COURSE OUTCOMES (CO)			
After the completion of the course:			Aligned Programme Outcomes (PO)
1. The student is convinced of the need to cultivate Professionalism.			
2. Students hone their skill for decision-making.			
3. The students realize the importance of Codes of Ethics in organizations and how to align with their letter and spirit.			
4. The student develops a methodology to approach Moral Dilemmas.			
5. The student sees Moral Philosophy as an inter-disciplinary field.			
COURSE TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES			
S.No.	Week	Topic	Mode of Delivery
1.	Week 1	Introduction to Professional Ethics: Etymology and Philosophy.	Lecture
2.	Week 2	<i>All My Sons</i> – Values: Integrity, Caring, Empathy, Character, Spirituality – Paul Goodman: “Can Technology be Humane?”	Lecture and practice session
3.	Week 3	Types of Inquiry – Moral Dilemmas – The Ford Pinto case	Lecture and Practice
4.	<b>Week 4</b>	<b>First Assessment – Creative and Critical approach to Moral Dilemma.</b>	<b>Class Test</b>
5.	Week 5	Codes of Ethics – Aligning General Engineering Code with Subject-specific Code	Practice: Exercise in Class- Individual and Group
6.	Week 6	The <i>Challenger</i> Case Study.	Lecture and Practice session : Exercise in Case Study analysis.
7.	Week 7	Kohlberg’s Theory- Gilligan’s Theory – Theories about Right Action.	Lecture and Problem Solving in Class.

8.	<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Second Assessment – Mid-Semester</b>	<b>Written Test – General Schedule</b>
9.	Week 9	Paul Goodman – revision- Victor Pischke vs Wehner von Braun -	Lecture and Discussion on Moral issues. Group Activity (Presentation optional)
10.	Week 10	Safety – Risk – Engineer's Rights and Responsibilities.	Lecture and Discussion
11.	Week 11	<i>Chernobyl</i> – Case Study	Lecture and Discussion. Group Activity (Presentation Optional)
12.	Week 12	Whistleblowing- Global Issues- MNCs- Environment-Computers- Weapons- Moral Leadership  Assigning topics for Student Presentation: Approval of topics identified by students.	Discussion –  Formal Presentation : PPT along with submission in Hard Format.
13.	<b>Week 13</b>	<b>Third Assessment: Evaluation by Teacher in the Class.</b>	<b>Group Presentation followed by Viva Voce.</b>
14.	<b>Week 14</b>	<b>End Semester Examination</b>	<b>Comprehensive Examination</b>

S.No.	Mode of Assessment	Week/Date	Duration	Percentage of Weightage
1	Written Test	4	60 minutes	20 Marks
2	Written Exam	8	60 minutes	20 marks
3	Team Task	13 -14	20 minutes per group (maximum 8 members per group)	10 marks
4	End Semester Examination	14	3 hours	40 marks

5.	Assignment: Case Study presentation	Before 3 <sup>rd</sup> Assessment	Flexible	10 marks
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**ESSENTIAL READINGS : Textbooks, reference books Website addresses, Journals, etc**

Authentic class room materials from the various sources such as web, blogs, podcasts, Films,

Reference Book

1. V. Jeyakumar: "Professional Ethics and Human Values." :Lakshmi Publications. 2007.
2. Vilas Bagad & Iresh Dhotre: "Professional Ethics": Technical Publications. 2004.

**COURSE EXIT SURVEY**

Descriptive feedback will be collected by the Faculty a week before the Mid-semester and a week before the end semester examination. 15% attendance is relaxed on medical ground. Below 60% attendance students will be prevented from taking semester examination.

**COURSE POLICY**

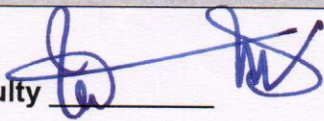
75% attendance is required to write the semester exam. Attendance during Assessment days is compulsory.

**ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION**

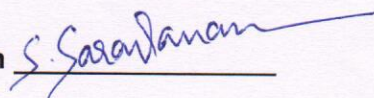
Faculty is available for discussion after class hours at the department on the second floor of Lyceum. Room No:304. Faculty can also be contacted over email: [vinod@nitt.edu](mailto:vinod@nitt.edu)

**FOR SENATE'S CONSIDERATION**


Course Faculty



CC-Chairperson



HOD



Date:

