

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## PHIL 318: Professional Ethics

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp, Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

The course explores the special ethical challenges that arise in professional life. The course is organized around issues common to many professions, such as competing rights, informed consent, professional obligation, and confidentiality. The course provides an overview of different normative theories and applies them to areas of concern that frequently arise in professional decision making. Case studies illustrate these issues. This course develops critical thinking and writing competencies. MnTC Goal 9.

### B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 05/30/2007 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Deontological normative ethics
2. Consequentialist normative ethics
3. Core concepts of ethical analysis
4. Essential characteristics of fiduciary relationships
5. Professional versus non-professional work
6. Professional/client conflicts

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Explain differences between deontological and consequentialist normative theories
2. Explain and apply core concepts of ethical analysis
3. Apply normative theories to case studies of professional decision making
4. Identify morally relevant distinctions between major professions
5. Explain how competing normative assumptions generate competing solutions in professional decision making
6. Defend personal decisions in complex professional situations
7. Distinguish factual from evaluative aspects of complex professional situations
8. Use a coherent writing process including invention, organization, drafting, revising, and editing to form an effective written product.
9. Create logical, engaging, effective written products appropriate for specific audiences and purposes.

## **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

### Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

1. Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
2. Understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.
3. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.
4. Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.

### Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

## **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

## **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted