



Ethics Initiative at Western Ethics Elevated

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Prior to August 2016: Ethics Courses at Western

1. Phil 101 Introduction to Philosophy

GE course offered every semester with multiple sections;
'...expose students to questions of ... moral and political philosophy, and ethics.'

2. Phil 335 Ethics

Builds on Phil 101, offered once a year in Fall;
'An examination of influential moral philosophers ... applications of ethical theories to current global issues.'

3. ENVS 410 Environmental Ethics

For ENVS majors, offered every Fall & Spring;
'...evolution of environmental moral philosophy. Students confront ethical concerns ... and apply these to their work in the environmental field.'

4. ROE 490 Recreation Philosophy & Ethics

Senior seminar for ROE students, offered every Spring
'...to prepare ROE majors for ethical challenges...of the 21st century.'



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Prior to August 2016

School of Business Ethics courses:

1. BUAD 300 Business Ethics

Course required for most businesses emphases, multiple sections every Spring
'A study of how ethics apply to business organizations today...'

2. ACC 498 Accounting Ethics

Required Accounting capstone course, offered every Spring semester
'Investigates and explores the ethical responsibilities faced by professional accountants in all fields...'

3. Most Accounting, Business and Economics courses deal with ethics as part of the respective courses/fields.

Process

- Spring 2016 - Western joins the Southern Colorado Higher Learning Consortium;
President asks School of Business to appoint first Ethics Champion at Western.
- Aug. 2016 - Orientation session on UCCS campus
- Oct. 2016 - Ethics on School's faculty meeting agenda:
 - Every faculty member reviews own courses and strengthens ethics part of course;
 - Proposal for an interdisciplinary ethics course offered through the Honors program;
 - Proposal for an interdisciplinary Freshmen course offered as a Headwaters course (HWTR 100)



Process cont.

- Nov.2016
 - Western students vote to have ethics course HNRS 397 'Giving Voice to Values' offered as of Fall 2017 by Dr. Vieregge
 - Business School frees 1.0 FTE for this
- Nov.2016
 - Three teams from Western compete in the ethics case competition at UCCS; Western has three faculty members in attendance
- Dec. 2016
 - First Year Experience council votes to accept ethics course, HWTR 100 'Ethics pitfalls of academic life' for incoming freshmen starting Spring 2017 by Dr. Vieregge



Process cont.

- Feb.2017
 - UCCS & Western's School of Business organize Ethics Workshop at Western together with the Center for Teaching Excellent (CTE).
Over 60 participants from across campus .
- May 2017
 - School of Business faculty members will present results form a small pilot study at the 'Ethics in Teaching' conference at Ft. Lewis College entitled: *'Impact of ethics-case-competition participation on ethics perspective'*



Headwaters 100 Course

- Since 2012, every Freshmen coming into Western takes this one-semester one-credit course in addition to regular course load;
- Wide range of courses offered by faculty from across campus with underpinning theme of ‘Headwaters’- ‘being at beginning of something’;
- Students sign up for courses of interest and not based on area of study;
- Program part of First Year Experience with oversight by First Year Seminar Council.



Headwaters 100 Course

- First Year Seminar Council approved one section of a course: 'Ethics pitfalls of academic life';
- First time offered in Fall 2017;
- Based in School of Business and facilitated by Business faculty member; but
- Designed as a campus-inclusive course;
- Fall 2017 enrollment expected to be n=20.



Ethics pitfalls of academic life

- Course brings together all campus offices which impact a students' campus life. Staff presentations by:
 - **Academic Resource Center**
 - Sources available to students and correct use
 - **Career Center**
 - Ethical limits in writing a resume
 - **Office of the Registrar**
 - Academic honesty & academic probation process
 - **Savage Library & Writing Center**
 - Quoting, referencing & pitfalls of plagiarism
 - **Student LEAD Office**
 - Service projects
 - **Student Services**
 - Disciplinary pitfalls, the process and help available.



Honors 397 Course

- As part of DFEI, the School of Business allows 1.0 FTE for a new ethics course as proposed by Dr.V;
- Faculty supports for this to be interdisciplinary;
- As a start, this is proposed as a course in Western's Honors program:
 - Honors classes tend to be smaller
 - Students from all academic disciplines
 - Students are open to experiment with new content/delivery
- In a Nov. 2016 vote, the Honors students accepted the course proposal and to have the course start in Fall 2017.



Giving Voice to Values (GVV)

- 15-week, 3-credit course;
- Three distinct parts to course:
 - **1st Part:**
 - Introduction to Ethics
 - Introduction to '*Giving Voice to Values*' (GVV) and seven pillars of GVV based on Mary C. Gentile's work;
 - **2nd Part:**
 - Ethics dilemma case presentations by faculty from across campus:
 - Article, video etc. made available prior to class
 - Faculty presentation
 - Class discussion & debate
 - **3rd Part:**
 - Student organized campus-wide Ethics Forum
 - Keynote speaker
 - Panel discussions, etc.
- E



Giving Voice to Values

- Participating faculty members in Fall 2017 from:
 - Accounting Mrs. Kelly Sudderth, CPA
 - Art Dr. Jeff Taylor
 - Behavioral & Social Science Dr. Scott Cohn (Psychology)
 - Communications Arts & Film Jack Lacido, MFA, (Film)
 - Economics Dr. Sally Hays
 - Education Dr. Ian
 - Energy Management Dr. Jessica Richards
 - Environment & Sustainability Dr. John Hausdoerfer
 - Exercise & Sport Science Dr. Lance Dalleck
 - Natural Science/Pre-Med Dr. Kevin Alexander
 - Philosophy Dr. Anthony Miccoli
 - Recreation & outdoor Education Dr. Brooke Moran
 - School of Business Dr. Michaela Driver
- Idea found wide-spread support among faculty members.



Thank you very Much!
Happy to answer any questions!



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