

RTU Course "Ethics"

23101 null

General data

Code	HFL432
Course title	Ethics
Course status in the programme	Compulsory/Courses of Limited Choice
Responsible instructor	Gunārs Ozolzīle
Academic staff	Guna Matule Silvija Rēvele
Volume of the course: parts and credits points	1 part, 2.0 Credit Points, 3.0 ECTS credits
Language of instruction	LV, EN
Annotation	Introduction to the problems of contemporary ethics and their connection to the ways and forms of historically determined consciousness of morale. Among them: ethics of utilitarianism and hedonism, Machiavellianism (classical and contemporary), positive and evolutionary ethics, Marxist ethics, psychoanalysis, analytical psychology and ethics. The connection of these and other historical directions of ethical consciousness and today's topical and debatable topics of science and ethics, technique and ethics, ecology and ethics, ethical problems of modern medicine, social inequality and ethics, etc. are analysed.
Goals and objectives of the course in terms of competences and skills	The aim of the study course is to give an idea of the priorities of modern ethical consciousness and their connection (heredity) with the value orientations in human history. Tasks: - to teach to critically evaluate social and ethical stereotypes in society and to acquire skills to overcome them; - prepare students for ethically sound decision-making in the morally ambiguous situations of modern social relations; - to develop skills to distinguish scientific and technical progress from the risks of moral degradation of society, which often accompany it.
Structure and tasks of independent studies	Tasks: - systematic and theoretical acquisition of the literature; - to independently choose and formulate a topical socio-ethical research topic (within the common theme proposed by the lecturer), to gather sufficient information, facts and database for its development; - to choose a method corresponding to the set goal and to process the collected material, finding out the tendencies of changes in the studied phenomenon and making reasoned forecasts; - to develop recommendations for the prevention or reduction of negations discovered in the research; -to summarize, design and timely submit the results of the research for evaluation.
Recommended literature	Obligātā/Obligatory: Lasmane S. 20. gadsimta ētikas pavērsieni. -Rīga.: Zvaigzne ABC, 2004 Rietumeiropas morāles filozofija. Antoloģija. Sastādījis S. Lasmane.-R.: LU Akadēmiskais apgāds, 2000 Rubenis A. Ētika XX gadsimtā. Praktiskā ētika. -R.: Zvaigzne ABC, 1996 Papildu/Additional: Epikūrs. Vēstules. Atziņas. Fragmenti. -R.: Liepnieks un Rītups, 2007 Hipokrātiskie raksti. -R.: Liepnieks un Rītups, 2003 Sartre Ž. P. Domas un atklāsmes.-R.: Zvaigzne ABC, 2007 Tagadnes izaicinājums. Tekstus sakopojis I. Suvajevs.-R.: Intelekts, 1996 Jürgen Habermas. Moralbewusstsein und kommunikatives Handeln.- Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp Verlag, 1999 Jürgen Habermas. Die Zukunft der menschlichen Natur.-Frankfurt am Main, 2001
Course prerequisites	Basics of ethics.

Course contents

Content	Full- and part-time intramural studies		Part time extramural studies	
	Contact Hours	Indep. work	Contact Hours	Indep. work
Contemporary ethical problems and their connection with the ways and forms of historically defined consciousness of morals.	2	4	1	4
Hedonism and utilitarianism ethics.	2	4	1	4
Machiavellianism (classical and contemporary).	2	4	1	4
Positivist ethics (Darwinism, Marxism etc.).	2	4	1	4
Psychoanalysis, analytical psychology and ethics.	2	4	1	6
Humanitarian oriented (naive) optimism and contemporary ethical judgments.	2	4	1	4
Modern science and ethics.	3	4	1	6
Modern technology and ethics.	3	4	2	6
Ecology and ethics.	4	4	2	6

Modern medicine and ethics.	2	2	1	6
Social problems (unfairness, freedom) and ethics.	6	2	2	6
The final test.	2	8	2	8
Total:	32	48	16	64

Learning outcomes and assessment

Learning outcomes	Assessment methods
Not only knows the forms of value consciousness from theory and history, but also knows how to apply this knowledge, while inspecting and analysing contemporary moral problems.	Development of a theme for the independent work.
Is able to independently select and analyse data, facts and documents for the practical work.	Active and successful participation in the seminar programme. Preparation of presentations of the research results.
Is able to critically analyse the frequently superficial or subjectively exaggerated opinions about ethical themes in contemporary media.	Successful participation in seminar discussions.
Is able to precisely formulate and classify ethical themes and problems.	Test.
Is able to theoretically and adequately argue while defending your own ethical position. Is able to control and manage your own emotions in discussions with differently thinking opponents.	Marks in the seminar discussions and the presentation of one's independent work.

Evaluation criteria of study results

Criterion	%
Development of the chosen topic for independent work	10
Active and successful participation in the seminar program. Preparation of presentation of research results	10
Successful participation in seminar discussions	25
Test	30
Success in the seminar discussions and defence of one's independent work	25
Total:	100

Study subject structure

Part	CP	Hours per Week			Tests		
		Lectures	Practical	Lab.	Test	Exam	Work
1.	2.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	*		