

EE 495 PROFESSIONALISM, ETHICS AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Spring 2006

3:10 - 4 PM, 321 Roberts Hall

Instructor: Dr. Richard Wolff
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Course goals and approach:

Acquaint and engage students in current issues regarding professionalism, ethics, and engineering practices. Included are specific well-known, historical engineering ethics cases and professional practices of engineering, intellectual property issues, and new developments such as globalization, outsourcing.

Course activities:

- Reading from the text and other documents (as assigned)
- Class discussion based on topics in the book and other topics that may come up
- Short (5-8 minutes presentation on an assigned topic)
- A written final report on a selected topic
- Presentation on the final topic

Class readings are from the textbook and other assigned material
Everybody must participate in the class discussion. A record of class attendance and participation will be kept.

Two topics will be assigned a week ahead for a class presentation by two students.

By the sixth week everybody should discuss with the instructor a topic for a 3 page written report to be turned in the last week of class.

Grading:

class attendance 30%,
class participation 20%
short class presentations 20%,
written assignments 30%

Extra credit for participation in IEEE or other professional organizations. Participation: attend meeting, become a member, enter paper contests, etc.

Text Book:

Mike W. Martin and R. Schinziger: *Ethics in Engineering*, Mc Graw Hill, 4th edition, 2005.

Newspaper and magazine articles

Course schedule

Date	Subject	Reading for class	Class topics for discussion: Questions on pages indicated: page/question
Jan 17	Engineering profession		
Jan 24	Ethics and Professionalism	1-30	p. 27, Q. 2, 3
Jan 31	Codes of Ethics	300-307	NSPE and IEEE codes
Feb 7	Workplace Responsibilities and Rights	146-162	p. 154, Q. 1, 2, p. 162-3, Q. 1, 4, 6
Feb 14	Guest speaker: Sexism in the workplace	163-172	
Feb 21	Whistle Blowing	172-188	p. 171, Q. 1,2, 3. p. 184, Q. 1
Feb 28	Honesty	190-203	p. 195, Q. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. p. 203, Q. 3, 4.
March 7	Guest speaker: Integrity in the Workplace	203-216	
March 14	No class		
March 21	Commitment to Safety	117-143	p. 124, Q. 1, 2. p. 134, Q. 1. p. 142, Q. 1.
March 28	Environmental Ethics	219-239	p. 232, Q. 4, 5, 6. p. 238, Q. 3, 4.
April 4	Global Issues: Multi-national Corporations	242-253	p. 252, Q. 1, 3, 4. p. 254, Q. 10.
April 11	Global Issues: the Internet	254-265	pp. 264-266, Q. 1, 3, 5, 6.
April 18	Globalization	"The World is Flat", Thomas Friedman	
April 25	Presentation of Final Papers		