

Office of the Registrar  
FORM 40 REV. 3/11

PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
REQUEST FOR ADDITION, EXPIRATION,  
OR REVISION OF AN UNDERGRADUATE COURSE  
(10000-40000 LEVEL)

MSE 48900  
201610

DEPARTMENT School of Materials Engineering EFFECTIVE SESSION Fall 2015

INSTRUCTIONS: Please check the items below which describe the purpose of this request.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. New course with supporting documents	<input type="checkbox"/> 7. Change in course attributes (department head signature only)
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Add existing course offered at another campus	<input type="checkbox"/> 8. Change in instructional hours
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Expiration of a course	<input type="checkbox"/> 9. Change in course description
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Change in course number	<input type="checkbox"/> 10. Change in course requisites
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. Change in course title	<input type="checkbox"/> 11. Change in semesters offered (department head signature only)
<input type="checkbox"/> 6. Change in course credit/type	<input type="checkbox"/> 12. Transfer from one department to another

PROPOSED: Subject Abbreviation MSE Course Number 489 Long Title Ethics in Engineering Practice Short Title Ethics in Engineering Practice

EXISTING: Subject Abbreviation Course Number

TERMS OFFERED: Check All That Apply. Summer  Fall  Spring

CAMPUS(ES) INVOLVED: Calumet  N. Central  Fort Wayne  Tech Statewide  Indianapolis  W. Lafayette

CREDIT TYPE: 1. Fixed Credit Cr. Hrs. 3 2. Variable Credit Range: Minimum Cr. Hrs. (Check One) To  Or  Maximum Cr. Hrs. 3. Equivalent Credit: Yes  No

COURSE ATTRIBUTES: Check All That Apply. 1. Pass/Not Pass Only  8. Registration Approval Type Department  Instructor  2. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Only  7. Variable Title  3. Repeatable  8. Honors  4. Credit by Examination  9. Full Time Privilege  5. Fees  Coop  Lab  Rate Request  10. Off Campus Experience  Include comment to explain fee

Schedule Type	Minutes Per Mfg	Meetings Per Week	Weeks Offered	% of Credit Allocated
Lecture	50	3	15	100
Recitation				
Presentation				
Laboratory				
Lab Prep				
Studio				
Distance				
Clinic				
Experiential				
Research				
Ind. Study				
Pract/Observ				

COURSE DESCRIPTION (INCLUDE REQUISITES/RESTRICTIONS):  
Restrictions: Junior or senior standing in the College of Engineering  
Description: Presentation and discussion of common ethical theories, including ethical egoism, legal positivism, utilitarianism, duties and rights, virtue ethics. Application of these theories to the practice of engineering, including professionalism, codes of ethics, trust and loyalty, confidentiality, whistle blowing, respect for legitimate authority, risk and reliability, research fraud. Examples of application of ethical theory and case studies drawn from across the engineering profession and include discussion of the interrelated technical and ethical issues.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:  
The students should be able to (1) identify and discuss common ethical theories; (2) describe how these theories apply these theories to the practice of engineering; (3) analyze case studies of failures of engineering products and organizations.

Calumet Department Head Date Calumet School Dean Date  
Fort Wayne Department Head Date Fort Wayne School Dean Date  
Indianapolis Department Head Date Indianapolis School Dean Date  
North Central Faculty Senate Chair Date Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Date  
West Lafayette Department Head Date West Lafayette College/School Dean Date West Lafayette Registrar Date

RECEIVED  
APR 17 2015  
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Sign 4/30/15

**TO:** The Faculty of the College of Engineering  
**FROM:** School of Materials Engineering  
**RE:** New Undergraduate Course, MSE 48900 *Ethics in Engineering Practice*

The faculty of the School of Materials Engineering have approved the following new course. This action is now submitted to the Engineering Faculty with a recommendation for approval.

**MSE 489 Ethics in Engineering Practice**  
Sem. 1, 2, Lecture 3, Cr.3.  
Restrictions: Junior or senior standing in the College of Engineering

**Description:** Presentation and discussion of common ethical theories, including ethical egoism, legal positivism, utilitarianism, duties and rights, virtue ethics. Application of these theories to the practice of engineering, including professionalism, codes of ethics, trust and loyalty, confidentiality, whistleblowing, respect for legitimate authority, risk and reliability, research fraud. Examples of application of ethical theory and case studies drawn from across the engineering profession and include discussion of the interrelated technical and ethical issues.

**Reason:** The practice of engineering allows us many opportunities to aid our society and the individuals in it. However, it also presents many situations in which an engineer can do harm through incompetence, malice, or inaction. There have been many well-documented engineering failures, including the losses of the *Challenger* and the *Columbia*, the Kansas City Hyatt Regency skywalk collapse, and the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill, as well as several high-profile cases of academic and scientific dishonesty in research. In each case, an individual or a group was faced with ethical dilemmas in the performance of their jobs. Engineers and managers made poor choices that had substantial impact on many people and have been the subject of significant public scrutiny. The purpose of this course is to provide a venue where students can learn and discuss the application of ethics in their work and research environments.

This course was developed with support from the College of Engineering *Engineer of 2020* program and has been offered 3 times (Spring 2010, Spring 2012, Fall 2013) with an enrollment of 15-20 students each time.



Prof. David F. Bahr, Head  
School of Materials Engineering

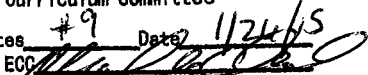
Approved for the faculty of the Schools  
of Engineering by the Engineering  
Curriculum Committee

ECC Minutes  
Chairman ECC

#9

Date

11/24/15



**MSE 497 Ethics in Engineering Practice**  
Spring 2012

**Instructors:** Dr. Matthew J. M. Krane      ARMS 2231    [krane@ecn.purdue.edu](mailto:krane@ecn.purdue.edu)

**Required Textbooks:**

*Ethics: Discovering Right and Wrong* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.), Louis P. Pojman and James Fieser, Wadsworth Publishing, 2008, ISBN-13: 978-0495502357.

*Nicomachean Ethics*, Aristotle, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, Hackett Publishing Co., 1999, ISBN-13: 978-0872204645

(There will be many other readings provided from a variety of sources.)

**Syllabus:**

The practice of engineering allows us many opportunities to aid our society and the individuals in it. However, it also presents many situations in which an engineer can do harm through incompetence, malice, or inaction. There have been many well-documented engineering failures, including the losses of the *Challenger* and the *Columbia*, the Kansas City Hyatt Regency skywalk collapse, and the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill, as well as several high-profile cases of academic and scientific dishonesty in research. In each case, an individual or a group was faced with ethical dilemmas in the performance of their jobs. Engineers and managers made poor choices that had substantial impact on many people and have been the subject of significant public scrutiny. The purpose of this course is to provide a venue where students can learn and discuss the application of ethics in their work and research environments.

The course includes:

- Presentation and discussion of common ethical theories;
- Application of these theories to the practice of engineering;
- Presentation/discussion of case studies of failures of engineering products and organizations.

Examples of application of ethical theory and case studies are drawn from across the engineering profession and include discussion of the interrelated technical and ethical issues.

<b>Evaluation:</b> 25%	final exam (comprehensive)
25%	midterm exam
45%	writing assignments
5%	journal from reading assignments

**Reading journal:**

The reading in this class should be done *before* the class period in which it will be discussed. Completion of the reading will allow the students to better understand the lecture, to participate in discussions, and to ask pertinent questions. To aid in reading comprehension, the students are *required* to keep a journal of the reading assignments. In this journal, a summary of each assignment will be made which will not be graded for style, but for coverage. The purpose is to encourage careful reading and aid in committing the major ideas to memory. Students will be responsible for the material in the readings, although not all of it will be covered in the lecture.

MSE 497 Ethics in Engineering Practice  
Spring 2012

Mtg	Date	Topics	Reading Assignments
1	L1 Jan 9	Class Intro	
	L2 Jan 11	General Case Studies	
	L3 Jan 13	What Elements Should Ethical Theory Consider?	Pojman, Ch. 1
	Jan 16	MLK Day	
2	L4 Jan 18	writing workshop	Pojman: Appendix
	L5 Jan 20	Ethical Relativism/Ethical Egoism	Rachels; Pojman: Ch. 2
3	L6 Jan 23	Ethical Relativism/Ethical Egoism	Pojman: pp. 81-95
	L7 Jan 25	Min conception of ethics/Natural Law	Pojman: Ch. 3
	L8 Jan 27	Natural Law	
4	L9 Jan 30	Utilitarianism	Pojman: Ch7
	L10 Feb 1	Utilitarianism/Duty based ethics	Pojman: Ch8
	L11 Feb 3	Duty based ethics	
5	L12 Feb 6	Natural/human rights	Pojman
	L13 Feb 8	Natural/human rights	
	L14 Feb 10	Virtue based ethics	Pojman Ch 9.; Aristotle, <i>Nic. Ethics I</i>
6	L15 Feb 13	Virtue based ethics	Aristotle, <i>Nic. Ethics II, III (1-5)</i>
	L16 Feb 15	Virtue based ethics	Aristotle, <i>Nic. Ethics III (6-12), IV</i>
	L17 Feb 17	Virtue based ethics	Aristotle, <i>Nic. Ethics V</i>
7	L18 Feb 20	Virtue based ethics	Aristotle, <i>Nic. Ethics VI</i>
	L19 Feb 22	Virtue based ethics	Aristotle, <i>Nic. Ethics VII</i>
	L20 Feb 24	Virtue based ethics	Aristotle, <i>Nic. Ethics VIII, IX</i>
8	L21 Feb 27	Virtue based ethics	Aristotle, <i>Nic. Ethics X</i>
	L22 Feb 29	Professionalism	Davis (1997); Harris (2008)
	L23 Mar 2	Professional virtues	
9	L24 Mar 5	Professional Codes of Ethics	NSPE Code of Ethics
	L25 Mar 7	Midterm Exam (covers lectures 1-21)	
	L26 Mar 9	Case study: KC Hyatt	
10	3/14-16	Spring Break	
11	L27 Mar 19	Product liability – interaction with legal profession: guest speaker Michael Lotus (civil litigator)	
	L28 Mar 21	Case Study: CitiCorp Building	
	L29 Mar 23	Risk and Reliability	Harris Ch 7; Martin Schinzinger Ch 4
12	L30 Mar 26	Risk and Reliability- technical examples	
	L31 Mar 28	Trust and loyalty-responsibility to employers	Martin Schinzinger Ch 5
	Mar 30	Trust and loyalty-Whistleblowing	
13	L32 Apr 2	The role of organizational culture	Pinkus, Ch. 1-3
	L33 Apr 4	The role of organizational culture	
	L34 Apr 6	Conflict of Interest	
14	L35 Apr 9	Case Study: Challenger Launch decision	Pinkus, Appendix
	L36 Apr 11	Case Study: UA Flight 232, CC Flight 3407	
	L37 Apr 13	Milgram experiments (focus on exp. results)	Milgram (1963)
15	L38 Apr 16	Milgram experiments (focus on exp. results)	Milgram (1963)
	L39 Apr 18	Milgram experiments (focus on exp. design)	McArthur (2009), Milgram (1974)
	L40 Apr 20	Research fraud	
16	L41 Apr 23	Research fraud	
	L42 Apr 25		
	L43 Apr 27	Class wrap up	