



How Might We:

**Integrate Ethics into our
modules and programmes
of study**

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Integrating ethics within your modules and programmes of study

This guide considers how ethics (inter-disciplinary, applied, practical, professional and research ethics) might be embedded across the curriculum. It shows how our partnership model works and how we maintain and improve provision year on year in response to changes at Leeds and in the wider professional world.

At the Inter-Disciplinary Ethics Applied (IDEA) Centre we are a team of ethicists who are passionate about working in partnership with teaching teams to integrate inter-disciplinary and applied ethics teaching within programmes of study. We currently work across EPS, LUBS and Dentistry and in some other schools.

Our aim since 2005 has been to equip students with the skills to:

- identify ethical issues and develop their ethical antennae
- critically assess and analyse ethical issues
- consider a range of perspectives, form arguments & discuss alternative views
- clearly justify and communicate their decision/s and
- respond effectively to make a difference

We have been supporting schools to meet the needs and requirements of:

- the Leeds Curriculum (Ethics and Responsibility Thread, and Ethics, Law and Religion Discovery Theme), and more recently, Curriculum Redefined and the Leeds Sustainable Curriculum (LSC)
- their accreditation bodies (for example: AHEP3/4 in Engineering; AACSB in Business and the GDC in Dentistry)

Our work involves working in partnership with host discipline teaching teams (including module leaders, programme leaders and Directors of Student Education) to identify needs and where best to integrate inter-disciplinary applied ethics into modules and weave it through programmes of study to bring ethics to life for students.

In the section below, you will find a list of some of the topics we teach across the curriculum. We also ensure some students ethics work is assessed either as part of an existing assessment (e.g. an ethics statement within a research report) or independently (e.g. written reports, essays, group presentations and videos,

contributions to discussion forums and blogs).

In addition to integrating ethics throughout the curriculum, we also offer opportunities that enable students to study applied ethics in greater depth including:

Discovery modules

- IDEA1000 Professional Ethics: Challenges and Crises
- IDEA1100 Science and Society: An Ethical Perspective
- IDEA2000 Leadership Ethics
- IDEA2001 Love: Ethical, Social and Political Issues

Dedicated Masters programmes

- Online Master in Applied and Professional Ethics
- Online Masters in Biomedical and Healthcare Ethics
- Face to Face Masters in Biomedical and Healthcare Ethics

Research opportunities

- Masters by Research
- PGR studentships (some in collaboration with partner disciplines)

We are looking forward to working with more discipline areas across the University as together we respond to the needs of Curriculum Redefined and the Leeds Sustainable Curriculum and aim to equip our students to be Global Citizens.

Why ethics?

Responding effectively to ethical issues is absolutely essential. This generation of students understands this more than any other as they live through a global pandemic and face the increasing challenges of climate change. High profile topical concerns like big data, automation, artificial intelligence, abortion access and unjust war for example all raise significant ethical questions which need consideration and analysis.

Many students will face ethical issues in the course of their research at university and beyond, including consent and confidentiality, intellectual property, falsification of data, plagiarism and data protection.

Most students will leave University and enter the business and professional world. Our sessions cover a range of issues in professional ethics including professionalism, honesty and integrity, challenging authority, whistleblowing and leadership ethics.

Our highly interactive sessions engage students in discussion and debate, enabling them to critically consider the ethical issues within their discipline and wider society.

How our partnership teaching works

A 5-step flexible process

Step 1: Let's get together

- We would love to find out more about your programme of study and module(s) and enable you to find out more about us: our expertise and our approach.
- We will discuss your programme and consider what ethical issues your students might face in the course of their studies, research and related professional work.

Step 2: Identifying topics and space

- We will work together to agree what to teach and how best to teach and assess it.
- We will think about how best to integrate it within curriculum – so it makes sense to the students within their modules and enables them to make progress towards achieving their learning outcomes in ethics.

Step 3: Developing bespoke teaching materials

- We will develop teaching materials that include practical real-life examples and enable students to understand the relevance of ethics in their discipline.
- We will develop sessions that enable students to analyse and reason about the issues and make progress towards resolving them and making good ethical decisions that they can justify.
- We offer face to face and blended learning opportunities, and we can team teach with colleagues in the discipline.
- We will discuss our materials with you ensuring they meet your needs and fit well within your modules.

Step 4: Organising, scheduling and delivering the teaching

- You tell us where you think the ethics teaching sessions fit best within your module and give us some dates and times.
- We will liaise with you to organise for an IDEA lecturer to deliver the teaching planned.

Step 5: Review, develop and improve

- We will continue to meet with you and your teaching team to review, develop, improve (and if relevant, expand) provision.
- We form Ethics Theme Teams made up of host discipline academics (DSE, programme and module leaders) and IDEA academics and administrator to keep track of the ethics theme and ensure it continues to meet your needs.



Examples of topics we teach across the University

Here are some of the concepts and issues we cover across the curriculum at Leeds. The list is far from exhaustive and each new discipline raises new ethical topics for consideration. In teaching each concept/issue we try to find discipline specific/professional examples to ensure it is relevant and to bring it to life for the students.

Professional Responsibilities

- Professionalism and Codes of Conduct
- Professions and Collective Action
- Challenging Authority
- Whistleblowing
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Teamwork, Fairness and Trust
- Introduction to Ethics
- The Public Interest
- Confidentiality
- Honesty and Integrity

Research Ethics

- Consent
- Confidentiality
- Research with Animals

- Research with Biological Samples
- Research with Vulnerable Participants
- Data Ethics
- Academic Integrity
- Intellectual Property, Research Ownership and Publication Bias
- History of Research Ethics
- Scientific Objectivity
- Decolonising Research
- Ethics vs Ethical Approval

Sustainability*

- Climate Change
- Sustainability and Intergenerational Justice
- Waste, Obsolescence and the Circular Economy
- Nuclear Energy
- Sustainable Energy
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Net Zero

* IDEA colleagues work closely with the Leeds Sustainable Curriculum team in the teaching of ethics and sustainability and climate change.





Examples of topics we teach across the University (continued)

Responsible Use of Technology

- Risk
- Anonymity, Privacy and Surveillance
- Artificial Intelligence
- Automated and Autonomous Systems
- Military Engineering
- Open Source Software and Property Rights
- Hacking
- Moral Responsibility
- The Unintended Consequences of Innovation
- Emotional Design
- Responsible Personalisation
- Security and Cryptography
- Design in Medical Technology

Global World

- Ethics and Global Development
- Ethical Issues in Supply Chains and Procurement
- Bribery and Corruption
- Global Justice and Responsibility

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

- Designing Inclusive Products
- Creating an Inclusive Profession
- Feminism and Gender
- Social and Medical Model of Disability
- LGBTQIA+ Rights
- Racial Justice

Other ethical issues

- Duty of Candour to Patients / Clients
- Public/private healthcare / access to resources
- Negligence and malpractice
- Consideration of Stakeholders and Shareholders in Business
- Fair Pricing
- Fair Pay
- Ethics in the Supply Chain
- HR Ethics
- Ethics of Advertising
- Leadership Ethics



IDEA

Who are IDEA and how are we funded?

IDEA is a self-sustaining University centre based within the School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science (PRHS) in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures (AHC). The Centre is made up of eighteen ethicists, each with PhDs in moral/applied philosophy and ethics, many with professional/industry experience too, and three administrators who help to make it all happen.

As well as inter-disciplinary ethics teaching across the University, Discovery modules, Masters programmes and PhD supervision, we engage in research in applied ethics and conduct consultancy and training with professional bodies and businesses. We bring this research, consultancy and training expertise and experience to bear in our teaching.

Our teaching is funded through the FTE split resource allocation model – we simply agree a % with you (each partner) that our teaching represents – and that funds us to develop and deliver your teaching and work in partnership with you.

Please contact our partnerships coordinator Kathryn Blythe (Centre Manager) k.blythe@leeds.ac.uk, to find out more and arrange a meeting.