

21ST CENTURY ETHICAL PROBLEMS CERTIFICATE

¹ No more than three credits of elective credit may come from a prefix other than PL.

Program Contact: Thornton Lockwood (thornton.lockwood@qu.edu)
203-582-3345

In our global world of diversity, conflicting sources of information, and artificial intelligence, the study of ethics has never been more important. Concepts like integrity and transparency are regularly invoked in the workplace; concepts like justice and solidarity often turn up in political discourse; and concepts like duty and intergenerational obligation are integral to contemporary environmental crises. What do these concepts mean? How do employers, lawyers, media, academics and others use these concepts? And most importantly—how do we understand these concepts correctly and accurately, especially when they are contested in ordinary discourse? This ethics certificate will prepare students to examine ethical concepts and situations and evaluate arguments made about what is right and what is wrong. This certificate gives students a sound understanding of ethical perspectives and the chance to take courses in applied areas.

Students who complete this certificate will understand major contemporary ethical theories (such as utilitarianism, deontology, virtue ethics, and ethics of care) and have experience applying those general theories to at least two different domains of contemporary practice (for instance, bioethics or environmental ethics). Students will develop an appreciation for the complexity of contemporary ethical problems and develop problem-solving skills to navigate such complex problems. Students will also develop a situational awareness of the most important factors that weigh upon ethical problem solving, such as concepts like transparency, authenticity and respect for equality.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Course		3
PL 102	Introduction to Ethics	
Six Credits of Electives ¹		6
HM 404	Legal Aspects of Health Care Delivery	
HSC 315	Bioethical Issues in the 21st Century	
HSC 404	Healthcare Law and Ethics	
ENV 226	Environmental Ethics	
MSS 240	Is AI Taking Over? Disruption, Disinformation, and the Future Of Communication	
PL 222	Bioethics	
PL 226	Environmental Ethics	
PL 233	Business Ethics	
PL 240	Philosophy of Sport	
PL 255	Ethics and Artificial Intelligence	
PL 312	Philosophy of War and Peace	
PL 337	Human Rights: Theory and Practice	
SB 410	Business Ethics	
Total Credits		9