

Ethics Minor

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About

Here at Villanova University, we believe that at the heart of every human endeavor we find assumptions about what it means to live well as human beings in the world and in relationships with others—human, non-human, and divine. The aim of the Ethics Program is to provide students with opportunities to explore these assumptions, to understand their origins in our great intellectual traditions, and to engage them critically using methods and resources both theological and philosophical.

Villanova University prides itself on presenting an educational alternative built around a clear ethical core, in particular, the moral teachings of the Catholic intellectual tradition. The ethics minor allows students to pursue the study of ethics explicitly and in depth as part of their undergraduate education. The minor contributes directly to the mission of the university. A focus on a particular set of questions/issues within ethics not only benefits students' intellectual and moral development and contributes to the public perception of the university but also has tangible benefits for students as they apply for graduate studies, fellowships, and job on completion of their studies.

Program: [Ethics](#)

Type: Minor

MINOR: Ethics (18 credits)

Program Notes

- Courses that fulfill minor requirements may be used to fulfill other requirements (i.e., primary major, core curriculum, minors, concentrations, or free electives).
- Students choose a focus of study and pursue courses listed below, in consultation with their Ethics faculty advisor. To view examples of potential ethics minor areas of focus, [click here](#). **By no means should a student feel they are required to adhere to one of these examples; they should work with their Ethics faculty advisor on designing their course of study.**
- Each semester the upper-level courses that will count toward the minor will be marked in the Master Schedule, in the Attributes section with “Fulfills ethics minor requirement.” These will also be listed on the Ethics Program website. It is important for students to be sure they take the upper level courses that are affiliated with their focus of study.
- The ETH 30xx courses will be planned five semesters in advance so that students will know what will be offered in future semesters, for planning purposes. This information will be available on the Ethics Program website.
- Students are able to do service work in lieu of one of their elective courses in all focus areas. The service must be related to their focus of study, amount to at least 60 hours of service, and not be credit-bearing or paid work. Students will register for ETH 4975 Ethics Independent Study (3 cr) and must complete their service and associated assignments in that same semester. Students must get approval of their service site from the Associate Director of the Ethics Program.

Course	Title	Credits
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Upper-Level Ethics Elective	3
	Philosophical Ethics Course	3
	Theological Ethics Course	3
	Two Electives in the Student’s Chosen Focus	6

Category Descriptions

Upper-Level Ethics Elective

Credits: 3

One Ethics course of 3000 level or higher. Ideally this course should advance the aims of the student’s chosen focus.

Philosophical Ethics Course

Credits: 3

A student will take one course in philosophical ethics, offered by ETH, HON, HUM, PHI or PJ, related to the chosen focus,

Theological Ethics Course

Credits: 3

A student will take one course in theological ethics, offered by ETH, HON, HUM, PJ or THL, related to the chosen focus

Two Electives in the Student's Chosen Focus

Credits: 6

Students must take two electives that may or may not be ethics courses, but which are relevant to the chosen theme/focus.

While there are many possible combinations of courses on particular themes than we can identify here, what follows are possible courses of study. The goal for the ethics advisor and the student is to identify a set of courses that have coherence in light of the focus of study.

To view examples of prospective areas of focus, [click here](#). **By no means should a student feel they are required to adhere to one of these examples; they should work with their Ethics faculty advisor on designing their course of study.**