

Rochester INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Minor Program proposal form

College of Liberal Arts

**Department of Philosophy**

**Name of Minor:** Ethics

**Brief description of the minor to be used in university publications**

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| The ethics minor provides students with the ability to recognize ethical issues and to think critically about them to resolve them, both generally and within their chosen discipline. They will also learn how ethical problems can result from complex social structures and how changing structural features may avoid ethical problems. Three courses in philosophy are required plus two electives from the approved list, at least one of which must be outside philosophy. |

**1.0 Minor Program Approvals**

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|  | Approval request date: | Approval granted date: |
| Academic Unit Curriculum Committee | November 19, 2015 | November 23, 2015 |
| College Curriculum Committee | 11/23/2015 | 12/9/2015 |
| Inter-College Curriculum Committee |  | April 13, 2016 |

**2.0 Rationale:**

A minor at RIT is a related set of academic courses consisting of no fewer than 15 semester credit hours leading to a formal designation on a student's baccalaureate transcript

How is this set of academic courses related?

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| These courses examine ethical theories and make use of those theories in examining particular ethical problems as they arise in different areas of our lives and professions. |

**3.0 Multidisciplinary involvement:**

If this is a multidisciplinary minor spanning two or more academic units, list the units and their role in offering and managing this minor.

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| Ideally, we want to marry ethical theory and practice within the various disciplines within RIT and to have courses within each major that could count for the ethics minor. That would allow any student at RIT to graduate with an ethics minor and an understanding of how ethical considerations enter into their chosen major.  Currently, there are approved courses in the department of Management in the College of Business, the departments of Sociology, Public Policy and Criminal Justice in the College of Liberal Arts, the department of Information Sciences and Technology and the department of Networking and System Administration in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, the department of Biological Sciences in the College of Science, and the Department of Biomedical Sciences in the College of Health Sciences and Technology.  Faculty for many of the courses so far approved have attended a year-long seminar in the Ethics Across the Curriculum Program to learn how to integrate ethics into the course in question. This has been a collaborative process with someone who specializes in ethics working with the various faculty to determine how best to integrate ethics into their curricula.  The Department of Philosophy will administer this minor. New courses will be added through consultation between the departments concerned pursuant to institute policy. |

**4.0 Students ineligible to pursue this minor:**

The purpose of the minor is both to broaden a student's college education and deepen it in an area outside the student’s major program. A minor may be related to and complement a student’s major, or it may be in a completely different academic/professional area. It is the responsibility of the academic unit proposing a minor and the unit’s curriculum committee to indicate any home programs for which the minor is not a broadening experience.

Please list below any home programs whose students will not be allowed to pursue this minor, provide the reasoning, and indicate if this exclusion has been discussed with the affected programs:

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| A student majoring in philosophy will not be permitted a minor in ethics. |

**5.0 Minor Program Structure, Sequence and Course Offering Schedule:**

Describe the structure of the proposed minor and list all courses, their anticipated offering schedule, and any prerequisites.

* All minors must contain at least fifteen semester credit hours;
* Minors may be discipline-based or interdisciplinary;
* In most cases, minors shall consist of a minimum of two upper division courses (300 or above) to provide reasonable breadth and depth within the minor;
* As per New York State requirements, courses within the minor must be offered with sufficient frequency to allow students to complete the minor within the same time frame allowed for the completion of the baccalaureate degree;
* Provide a program mask showing how students will complete the minor.

Narrative of Minor Program Structure:

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| The minor consists of five courses. PHIL-202 and PHIL-415 are required, but need not be taken before other courses in the minor. Students must choose from among the remaining optional courses, but at least one and preferably two are to be from a department other than philosophy and, where possible, in the student’s major. The optional courses in philosophy are scheduled to be taught biennially, are sometimes taught annually, and frequently enough in any event to allow students a variety of options for their required third course in philosophy. PHIL-202 is offered every fall and PHIL-415 every spring and, when demand requires, other terms as well.  **NOTE:** *Students must have an average of at least 2.0 for the five courses.* |

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| Course Number & Title | SCH | Required | Optional | Fall | Spring | Annual/Biennial | Prerequisites |
| PHIL-202  Foundations of Moral Philosophy | 3 | x |  | x |  | Annual | None |
| PHIL-415  Ethical Theory | 3 | x |  |  | x | Annual | A course in philosophy or permission of instructor |
| SOCI-225  Social Inequality | 3 |  | x |  | x | Annual | None |
| CRIM-299 Crime, Justice, & Ethics | 3 |  | x |  | x | Annual starting 2016 | None |
| BIOL-255 Genetics and Society | 3 |  | x |  | x | Annual | BIOL-101 or BIOL-121 or their equivalent |
| MEDS-360 Placebo, Suggestion, Research and Health | 3 |  | x |  | x |  | (BIOL-101 & BIOL-102) or  (BIOL-121 & BIOL-122) or  (MEDG-101 & MEDG-103 & MEDG-102 & MEDG -104) or equivalent course(s) |
| MGMT-340 Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility | 3 |  | x | x | x | Annual | Restricted to undergraduate students with at least 2nd year standing |
| PUBL 201 – Ethics, Values, and Public Policy | 3 |  | x | x |  | Annual | None |
| ISTE-110  Ethics in Computing | 3 |  | x | x | x | Annual | Student must have an SAT Verbal Score greater than or equal to 560 or an ACT English Score of 23 or more or a Writing Placement Exam score of 2 or higher |
| NSSA 221 -System Administration I | 3 |  | x | x | x | Annual | (NSSA 220 or CSCI-141) and (NSSA-102 or CSEC-101) and NSSA-241 or equivalent courses |
| PHIL-304  Philosophy of Law | 3 |  | x |  | x | Biennial |  |
| PHIL-305  Philosophy of Peace | 3 |  | x |  | x | Biennial |  |
| PHIL-306  Professional Ethics | 3 |  | x |  | x | Biennial |  |
| PHIL-308  Environmental Philosophy | 3 |  | x | x |  | Biennial |  |
| PHIL-309  Feminist Theory | 3 |  | x | x |  | Biennial |  |
| PHIL-403  Social and Political Philosophy | 3 |  | x | x |  | Biennial | One previous philosophy course |

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| Total credit hours: | 15 |