

MGT-495

Introduction to ethics & critical thinking

Palazzo Guido

Cursus	Sem.	Type
Managmt, dur et tech	MA1	Obl.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	3
Withdrawal	Unauthorized
Session	Winter
Semester	Fall
Exam	During the semester
Workload	90h
Weeks	14
Hours	2 weekly
Courses	1.71 weekly
Number of positions	40

It is not allowed to withdraw from this subject after the registration deadline.

Remark

Cours donné sur campus UNIL

Summary

In a society that is changing at high speed, the solutions that we have learned and the challenges we face, do no longer fit together. The ecological crisis and digitalization are profoundly challenging our way of life. In times of great change and disorientation, ethics moves center stage.

Content**Block 1 -## 22.9. 14-17h**

The great transformation â## Understanding the multiple crises of our age

Block 2 -## 24.9. 9-12h

The concept of the planetary boundaries

Block 3 -## 29.9. 14-17h

Managing the grand transition: The new responsibilities of business in society

Block 4 - 1.10. 9-12h

Ethical decision making â## an introduction to moral philosophy

Block 5 -## 6.10. 14-17h

Unethical decision making in organizations â## analyzing corporate scandals from Volkswagen to France Telecom

Block 6 -## 8.10. 9-12h

The concept of ethical blindness â## why good people make unethical decisions

Block 7 -## 13.10. 14-17h

The ethical challenges of new information technologies
Fake news, bubbles and critical thinking

Block 8 - 15.10. 9-12h

Group presentations of moonshot ideas
Wrap up

Keywords

business ethics
sustainability
grand transition
ecological crisis

Learning Prerequisites

Required courses

none

Recommended courses

none

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Analyze the various driving forces of the current societal crisis
- Analyze ethical risks within companies
- Manage a tool box for managing these ethical risks.
- Develop innovative and disruptive sustainability projects

Transversal skills

- Give feedback (critique) in an appropriate fashion.
- Take account of the social and human dimensions of the engineering profession.
- Make an oral presentation.

Teaching methods

Lecture, group discussion, groupwork

Assessment methods

Your grade is based on one individual assignment and two group assignment.

Assignment 1 (group): You will analyze one of the nine planetary boundaries in a group. (30% of the overall grade)

Assignment 2 (individual): You will analyze the driving forces of one of the recent corporate scandals. (40% of the overall grade)

Assignment 3 (group): You will develop a moonshot idea for a sustainability project and analyze all dimensions of your idea (technological, economic, cultural, political) (30% of the overall grade)

Resources

Bibliography

Delivered during the course

Moodle Link

- <https://moodle.epfl.ch/course/view.php?id=16650>