Interdisciplinary Minor in Ethics

The minor in ethics allows undergraduate students in any field to pursue a concentration of studies in ethics from multiple perspectives: theoretical and practical, philosophical and empirical/interdisciplinary. The goal is to encourage analytical reflection on the principles and situations of ethical action, social, interpersonal, or individual, in historical and contemporary contexts.

Courses eligible for this minor are taught by all Philosophy Department faculty and by faculty in disciplines whose subject matter helps us to understand the psychological motivations and social consequences of ethical action.

**Required Courses**
- PHIL 101 Introduction to Philosophy
- PHIL 205 Contemporary Moral Problems
  - or PHIL 206 Contemporary Moral Issues: Experiential
- PHIL 305 Ethics

**One Philosophy elective course**
- PHIL 271 Bioethics: Dilemmas
- PHIL 304 Science and Engineering Ethics
- PHIL 330 Topics in Ethics
- PHIL 315 Selected Topics in Philosophy (ethics content)
- PHIL 317 War and Morality
- PHIL 334 Political and Social Philosophy
- PHIL 356 Comparative Philosophy
- PHIL 399 Directed Study

**One course from the following interdisciplinary list:**
- BETH 315 International Bioethics: Policy and Practice
- RLGN 325 Justice, Religion, and Society
- RLGN 330 Classical Jewish Religious Thought
- RLGN 350 Jewish Ethics
- COGS 272 Morality and Mind
- COGS 305 Departmental Seminar: Moral Boundaries and Limits of Science
- COGS 365 Advanced Topics in Cognitive Neuroscience
- SOCI 349 Social Inequality

“Studying ethics gives students the tools necessary to face the big problems of today, not as a scientist or doctor or lawyer, but simply as a human trying to do the right thing.” Ben Brown, president of GELS

"If you want to be an intelligent and informed human being, who understands how human history was shaped by this evolving and intangible force, it’s important to study ethics. If you desire to understand yourself, and the meaning of life, it is critical." Fynn McPherson, senior

"It is important to study ethics to develop the critical thinking skills necessary for a life examined and to prepare to serve the common good, regardless of one’s profession." Caroline Bass, sophomore