HSHS3003 PROFESSIONAL ETHICS (3-0-0)

Course Objectives :

This course aims to develop students' understanding of ethical principles, moral reasoning, and professional responsibilities. It introduces ethical theories, value systems, and the role of ethics in engineering and global contexts. The course prepares students to identify, analyze, and resolve ethical dilemmas in professional and societal scenarios with integrity.

MODULE-I (6 Hours)

Introduction to Ethics:
Basic terms- Moral, Ethics, Ethical dilemma, Emotional intelligence
Moral development theories of Kohlberg and Piaget
View on ethics by Aristotle
Governing factors of an individual's value system
Personal and professional ethics

MODULE-II (6 Hours)

Profession and Professionalism:
Clarification of the concepts: Profession, Professional, Professionalism, Professional accountability, Professional risks, Profession and Craftsmanship, Conflict of interest, Distinguishing features of a professional, Role and responsibilities of professionals, Professionals' duties towards the organization and vice-a-versa, Ethical Theories: Various ethical theories and their application- Consequentialism, Deontology, Virtue theory, Rights Theory, Casuist theory
Ethical terms: Moral absolutism, Moral Relativism, Moral Pluralism etc.; Resolving Ethical Dilemma

MODULE-III (6 Hours)

Ethics in Engineering:
Purpose and concept of Engineering Ethics
Engineering as social experimentation
Types of inquiry
Issues in engineering ethics
Engineers' Responsibility and Safety:
Safety, Risk, Understanding the risk, Over estimating the risk, Risk-benefit analysis
Causes of an accident and identification of the preventive measures to be taken
Case Studies

MODULE-IV (6 Hours)

Global Ethical Issues:
Different ethical issues in business, environment, IT, Bioethics, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Research, Media, CSR etc.
Ethical Codes:
Meaning and the significance of ethical codes
The limitations of ethical codes.

Course Outcome

CO1: Define key ethical terms
CO2: Identify factors influencing value systems
CO3: Describe professional concepts
CO4: Explain the purpose of engineering ethics

BOOKS FOR REFERENCE:

1. R. Subramanian, "Professional Ethics", Oxford University Press
2. Mike W. Martin and Roland Schinzinger, "Ethics in Engineering", Tata McGraw Hill
3. Charles E Harris, Michael S Pritchard and Michael J Rabins, "Engineering Ethics - Concepts and Cases", Thompson Learning
4. Daniel Albuquerque, "Business Ethics", Oxford University Press
5. Edmund G. Seebauer and Robert L. Barry, "Fundamentals of Ethics", Oxford University Press