

ETH501Sem

Intermediate Ethics and Governance

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A photograph of a canal scene in St. Petersburg, Russia. In the foreground, a white and blue boat with a wooden deck and lifebuoys is moving through dark, choppy water. The name "ИЖОРА" is visible on the side of the boat. The canal is lined with multi-story buildings with European architectural styles. Several other boats are moored along the banks. The sky is overcast.

St. Petersburg





What is ethics?

- Which of the following answers are (in)correct?
 1. Ethics studies morality.
 2. Moral laws are legal laws.
 3. Ethics is concerned with morally right or wrong judgments and actions, i.e., with moral correctness.
 4. Moral correctness is defined by various societies.
 5. If everyone else does it, it must be okay.
 6. Ethics is concerned with moral values, i.e., what is morally good or bad.

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7. Moral values (e.g. justice, love, compassion, etc.) are defined by various societies.
 8. The end (purpose) justifies the means (method).
 9. Ethics is about moral character.
 10. Moral character is inborn.
 11. Ethics is about guilt and shame, and other moral feelings.
 12. In a moral dilemma, we are required to fulfil two moral principles. But when we fulfil one, we cannot fulfil the other.

What is ethics?

- Which of the following answers are correct?
 1. Ethics studies morality.
 2. Moral laws are legal laws. **X**
 3. Ethics is concerned with morally right or wrong judgments and actions, i.e., with moral correctness.
 4. Moral correctness is defined by various societies. **? X**
 5. If everyone else does it, it must be okay. **X**
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 7. Moral values are defined by various societies. **? X**
 8. The end justifies the means. **X**
 9. Ethics is about moral character.
 10. Moral character is inborn. **X**
 11. Ethics is about guilt and shame, and other moral feelings.
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- Password:
 - ethics

Ethics vs. morality

- ‘**Ethics**’ has various meanings:
 - An organization or professional code of conduct (in particular, principles/rules; mission, and values are sometimes implicit)
 - A branch of philosophy studying (sometimes questioning is involved) moral actions, moral principles, moral reasoning, moral sentiments, moral character, moral virtues, and so on.
- ‘**Morality**’ has various meanings:
 - An adopted and developed system of moral norms and values in a particular society
 - A universal (rational, human) system of moral norms and values – global, not merely for a particular society□

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)

- Code of Ethics
 - Hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public in the performance of their duties;
 - Properly credit the contributions of others, accept and offer honest and constructive criticism of technical work; and acknowledge and correct errors;
 - ...
 - See:
<https://www.aiaa.org/CodeOfEthics/>
- Compare:
 - What would be the code of ethics for business professionals?

Principles/
rules

What are the
values behind
these
principles/rules?

Sales & Marketing Institute Philippines—Code of Ethics

1. Maintain honesty and integrity in all relationships with customers, prospective customers and colleagues and continually work to earn their trust and respect.
 - Honesty, integrity, trustworthiness, respect
2. Accurately represent my products or services to the best of my ability in a manner that places my customer or prospective customer in a position that benefits both.
 - Truthfulness, beneficence

...

Notes

- A moral system is not identical with a legal system.
 - E.g. moral system (unlike Legal system) – concerned with duties in friendship and romantic love
- What is morally correct might not be the same as whatever a society accepts.
 - E.g. in the past, slavery was accepted in many societies. It does not follow that it is okay.

Action and person

- Moral/immoral action
 - Note: ‘immoral’ ≠ ‘amoral’ (‘amoral’ = neither moral or immoral)
 - Examples: **making and fulfilling a promise,**
telling a truth,
telling a lie,
slanderizing, calumniate (make false and damaging or defamatory statements about someone)
self-sacrifice,
torturing a person,
blackmail,
not respecting other’s privacy, etc.
 - Fulfilling/violating certain moral requirements ('ought') and achieving certain moral values
- The moral dimension of a person
 - Agent (of an action or decision)
 - Virtuous character

Moral judgments

- Examples:
 - ‘The fireman is brave.’
 - Cf. ‘The fireman is 6 feet tall.’
 - ‘That minister corrupts.’
 - Cf. ‘That minister is 65 years old.’
 - ‘He is immoral.’
 - ‘She is wrong because she does not take care of her body.’
 - ‘The company fulfils their social responsibility and contributes to the protection of the environment. This is admirable.’

Note: Moral judgments differ from factual judgments.

Moral principles

- Guiding our behaviour
- Moral standards
- Examples:
 - ‘Treat people as an end.’
 - ‘Do no harm.’
 - ‘One should **treat** others as one would **like** others to treat oneself.’ (**Golden rule – positive**)
 - ‘One should not treat others as one would not like others to treat oneself.’ (**Golden rule – negative**)

Can you tell the difference between moral principles and moral judgments?

Moral values or virtues

- Examples

Care/caring	sincerity
responsibility	fairness
freedom	courage
cooperation	compassion
trust	honesty
filial piety	kindness
integrity	fulfilment in life

- See more: www.virtuesforlife.com/virtues-list/

Values:

Veidokai (mutual respect)

Vakarokoroko (deference)

- speaking softly, keeping a distance from those one venerates
- feeling deeply for others

Yalomalua (humility)

Veiqaravi (service)

Dauloloma (compassion)

Dauyalovinaka (having a good heart)

Veivosoti (forgiving)

...



Moral character

- Attitudes
 - Being respectful, sincere, faithful, and so on
- Dispositions (inclinations, tendencies, spirit)
- Sentiments (feelings)
 - feelings of approval (esteem, praise) and disapproval (blame), etc.
- Practical wisdom (sound practical understanding and judgments)

Essential elements of ethics

- Morally right/wrong
- Morally good/bad
- Moral principles, rules, standards
- Moral values (ends) and virtues/vices
- Moral feelings (of esteem [respect, admiration] guilt, shame, etc.)
- Moral situations (dilemmas included)
- Moral thinking (concepts, principles, judgments and decision-making)

A photograph showing the aftermath of a major earthquake. In the center, several rescue workers wearing bright orange uniforms and white hard hats stand amidst the sprawling debris field. One worker on the far left holds a long wooden beam. Behind them, a multi-story blue building stands partially collapsed, its structure tilted and broken. The background features a steep, rocky hillside with sparse vegetation under a clear sky.

Sichuan
(Wenchuan)
earthquake
2008

5.12 CHINA

The Boy Who Lived

12th of May in WenChuan:- the worst-hit area in China, the soldiers and rescue teams discovered something inside the ruins...

LOOK! SOMEONE IS THERE!!



It was a woman.
A DEAD woman.



A dead mother protecting her baby.
She was cold and stiff, kneeling,
hands on the ground.



She looked like
a divine worshiper
of the ancient age...

The baby was
totally unharmed,
sleeping in
heavenly peace.

Inside the baby's blanket,
we found a mobile-phone
with a message on the screen.



My dear and sweet child,
if you can survive,
always remeber that...

I love you...



The baby lost his mother...



...but he will live
his whole life
knowing that
he possesses
the GREATEST LOVE
in the whole world!



**THE REAL
BABY**

Japan tsunami 2011



- ‘Last night when I was walking home (since all traffic had stopped), I saw an old lady at a bakery shop. It was totally past their closing time, but she was giving out free bread. Even at times like this, people were trying to find what they can do and it made my heart warm.’
- ‘In the supermarket, where items of all the shelves fell, people were picking up things so neatly together, and then quietly stand in line to buy food. Instead of creating panic and buying as much as needed, they bought as little as they needed. I was proud to be a Japanese.’

One of the richest men in the world

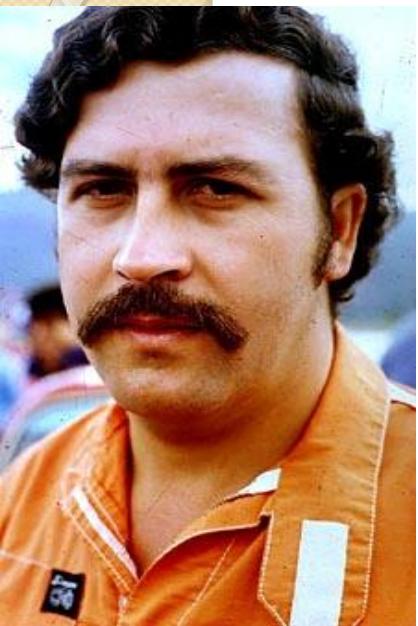
Warren Buffett. USA. Investor, business magnate, philanthropist, 87 years old



Estimated Net Worth: US\$ 84.7 Billion (2019)

- He's lived in the same house since 1956.
- Often he takes a bus to work.
- In 2011, Warren Buffet declared he would be giving away 85% of his wealth away to the Gates Foundation, a charity founded by Bill Gates.
- His view of success (life and value):
 - “Measure your success by how many of the people that you want to have loved you actually do love you ... the trouble with love is that you can't buy it.”

One of the richest men in the world



Pablo Escobar. Colombia. Drug lord, drug trafficker, narco-terrorist

Net Worth: US\$25 Billion

- During his peak he ran a campaign '**silver or lead**' (accepting money or facing bullets), which killed 100s of police officers, judges, politicians and civilians who could not be bribed during the 80s and 90s.
- He had a vast residence with a racing track, and a zoo with hippopotamuses imported from Africa.
- He was shot dead in Medellin in Colombia in 1993 (24 hours after his 44th birthday).

Questions

- How do values shape our enjoyment of wealth?
- What are the values most important to you, and how do you let your life speak?
 - ‘What ought I to do with my life?’

Governance

- Personal/self-governance
- Political governance
- Corporate governance

Personal/self-governance

- Steering ourselves through life, with the aid of a moral/ethical compass
- Exercising self-discipline and self-restraint in the pursuit of our goals
- Exercising individual judgments and taking responsibility for our decisions and actions

Political governance

- Political vision (aims)
- Political leaders and holders of public office making laws and policies for the benefit of all.
- Political leaders and holders of public office are accountable for how political power and public money are used.

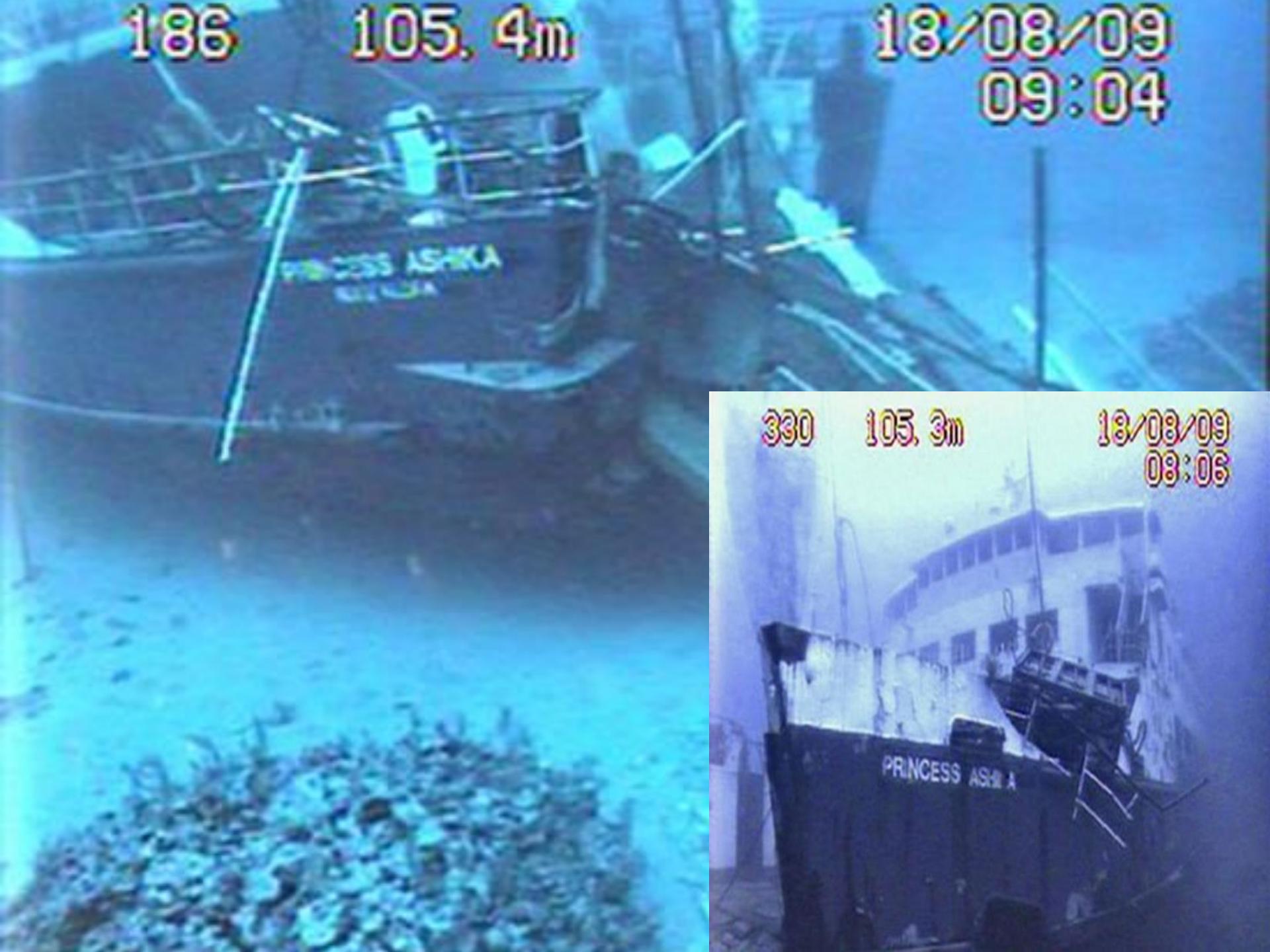
Corporate governance

- “Corporate governance is the **system of rules, practices and processes** by which a company is **directed and controlled**.”
- Corporate governance essentially involves **balancing the interests of a company’s many stakeholders**, such as shareholders, management, customers, suppliers, financiers, government and the community.”
- <http://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/corporategovernance.asp#ixzz4VVeG3g41>

186

105. 4m

18/08/09
09:04



330 105. 3m

18/08/09
08:06



- In the evening of 5 August 2009, the 37 year old ferry, **MV Princess Ashika** set out to sea from Tongatapu to Ha'apai Islands carrying 96 passengers, 32 crew and 110 tonnes of cargo.
- Water started seeping into the lower decks of the ferry, capsizing the vessel after 10 minutes.
- The ship took 74 lives with it including all the women and children on board.
- Investigations found the ship was “riddled with rust holes and poorly maintained”.

Sentencing of Princess Ashika Owner, Captain and First Mate

- Was 5 years for the company owner, 6 months for the Captain and 18 months for the First Mate a sufficient prison sentence?
 - ‘First Mate’: responsible to the Captain for the safety and security of the ship.
- Was justice served? What are the ethical uses of punishment (in this case, imprisonment)?
- Which of the following reasons sent these people to jail?
 - A deterrent?
 - To keep society safe from criminals?
 - To balance the harm done to the victims?
 - To reform criminals back to good citizens?



Course objectives

To enable you to understand:

- ethical principles and rules – right/wrong
 - e.g. 'Do no harm,' 'Respect others,' etc.
- ethical values – good/bad (virtue/vice)
 - e.g. Compassion, justice, fairness, caring, etc.
- moral autonomy (self-determination)
 - Making moral choices/decisions sensibly and rationally
- basic human rights
 - Life, liberty, equality before the law, a fair trial, owning a property, education, etc.



Course objectives

To draw your attention to:

- Individual responsibility and accountability
- Society's responsibilities to minorities, to other societies and to the natural environment.
- Ethics in the public, private and corporate spheres.
- Ethics in relation to the state (law) and in relation to religious belief and practice.



Course objectives

To enable you to understand:

- some major controversial issues such as abortion, euthanasia, etc.
- in order that you can:
 - realize that there are different perspectives on these issues, and
 - have a stronger view by considering and responding to other perspectives, and thus
 - have more self-awareness and moral autonomy for the decisions that you make.

The course will give you practice in identifying ethical issues in a variety of real-life scenarios

Road marshal warns against drink driving

Maneesha Karan

Fiji Times online, Monday, December 19, 2011

Legalising prostitution

Kirti Patel, Lautoka

Fiji Times online, Thursday, July 23, 2015

The course will give you practice in

- ethical reasoning (in making moral judgments or decisions)
 - Note:
 - What is the right thing to do is not always as obvious as it seems.
 - Some moral principles can be misapplied or inappropriate in specific situations.
- You can have your own reasonable ethical judgments and voice.

Why study ethics?

- To be an ethically good and autonomous person, and to be able to communicate ethically, I need to know what an ethically good and autonomous person is.
- Then I need to distinguish between morally good and morally bad.
- Then I need to understand concepts, theories and arguments in ethics.
- Then I need to study ethics.

Why study ethics?

- Nurtured in ethics, we can make a positive **contribution to society** by being responsible, vocal, and upstanding (honest, respectable) citizens. We build civil society and democracy.
- Especially in a **multicultural society** we need to find agreement on standards of right and wrong.
- Everywhere we need **leaders with integrity**. As FNU graduates, you can be the leaders of the future.

COURSEWORK ASSESSMENTS	TOTAL WEIGHTING (100)	TOTAL MARK
Assignment 1 (Debate)	25	15
Assignment 2 (Mid-Term Test)	17	10
Assignment 3 (Booklet)	33	20
Assignment 4 (Role Play)	17	10
Tutorial Participation	8	5
FINAL EXAM		40

Unit contents

- Introduction
- Ethics and Religion
- Ethical Theories (1)
- Ethical Theories (2)
- Human Rights
- Prejudice, Discrimination and Ethics
- Moral dilemma
- Ethical Controversies on Life and Death
- Environmental Ethics
- Ethics in business & the professions
- Cultural relativism, gender & ethics
- Ethics, Law and Governance
- Revision

Tutorial ETH 501Sem

- Tue. 3:15 pm–5:15 pm (Lecture Theater, Natabua campus)