

## HSS102: Value Education and Ethics (VEE)

**Programme:** B.Tech.  
**Course :** VEE

**Year :** I Year  
**Credits :** 3

**Semester :** Even  
**Hours :** 40

### Course Context and Overview (100 words):

It provides a framework of ethical conduct for an engineer in terms of both external standards of behaviour and practices and also internal set of principles required to achieve success as a professional.

**Prerequisites Courses:** N/A

### Course outcomes (COs):

<b>On completion of this course, the students will have the ability to:</b>
<b>CO1</b> Understanding various theoretical positions on ethical principles and their applications.
<b>CO2</b> Comprehending the role of representation in the perception and construction of the self (cultural identity) and its repercussions.
<b>CO3</b> Recognizing various facets of happiness and their role in overall wellbeing.
<b>CO4</b> Appreciating the key elements of a strong professional work ethic for excellence in an engineer's career and its importance in an international work environment.
<b>CO5</b> Understanding ethics and ethical theories in the broad framework of Professional ethics and analysing case-studies based on them.

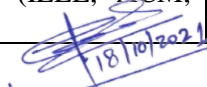
### Course Topics:

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Lecture Hours</b>
<b>UNIT I Ethics in Theory and Practice</b>	
Ethics in Theory and Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why a course on Human Values and Ethics</li> <li>• Secular outlook on Human Values</li> <li>• Good and Evil (Discussion on Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra's <i>Aks</i>)</li> <li>• Hedonism and Ethical Hedonism</li> <li>• Utilitarianism and Deontological Ethics [Kant and Bhagavad Gita]</li> <li>• Ted Talk by Devdutt Patnaik on 'Not Quite Avatar' to understand Eastern and Western way of looking at Good and Evil</li> </ul>	<b>10</b>
<b>UNIT II Ethics of Identity</b>	
Ethics of Identity (Self and Representation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religious divide; Casteism; Racism; Gender and Patriarchy</li> <li>• Cosmopolitanism: thinking beyond stereotypes and prejudices through empathetic understanding</li> <li>• Ted Talk by Thandie Newton on 'Embracing Otherness, Embracing Myself'</li> </ul>	<b>5</b>



<b>UNIT III Happiness</b>	
<p>c. Happiness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Authentic Happiness and Wellbeing: Martin Seligman</li> <li>● Tal Ben Shahar's SPIRE Model</li> <li>● Matthew Ricard on Mind Training</li> <li>● GNH: a model of measuring Wellbeing</li> <li>● Ted Talk by Martin Seligman on 'PERMA and Signature Strengths'</li> <li>● Ted Talk by Matthew Ricard on 'The Habits of Happiness'</li> </ul>	<b>5</b>
<b>UNIT IV Work Ethic and Excellence</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Need for Work Ethic &amp; workplace ethics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Personal work ethic for better performance</li> <li>● Workplace standards of ethical practices</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Thriving in an uncertain and volatile environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Volatility-Uncertainty-Complexity-Ambiguity</li> <li>● Unfamiliarity, inadequacy, unfairness, adversity</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Enhancement of personal attributes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Intelligence/Emotional/Social/Physical/Spiritual Quotients</li> <li>● Others' opinion of our personal attributes</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Teamwork: orientation and emphasis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Team dynamics – 80% of success depends on team</li> <li>● Building trust in teams</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Ted Talks, video clips</li> </ol>	<b>10</b>
<b>UNIT V Ethics and Professionalism</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Virtue Ethics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Definition</li> <li>● Cardinal virtues</li> <li>● Self-regarding and Altruistic Virtues</li> <li>● Moral Syllogism and its examples in daily life</li> <li>● Ted Talk (Kailash Satyarthi, Peter Singer)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Rights and Duty Ethics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nature of Moral Ought</li> <li>● Narrow and Broad Moral Universe</li> <li>● Moral Rights and Duties</li> <li>● Utilitarianism</li> <li>● Casuistry (Narmada River Dam and WIPP)</li> <li>● Perfect and Imperfect Obligations</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Vice, Sin, Crime and Punishment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Definitions and Descriptions with examples</li> <li>● Theories of Punishment</li> <li>● Circle of Crime, Punishment, and Forgiveness</li> <li>● Ted talk (Kiran Bedi, Anand Giridhradas)</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Professionalism and Codes of Ethics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nature and Attributes of a Profession</li> <li>● What is a code of Ethics</li> <li>● Professional Societies (Business and Social Contract model)</li> <li>● Codes of Ethics of Professional Societies (IEEE, ACM, ASME)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<b>10</b>



  
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Case Studies – Bhopal Gas Tragedy (1984), Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) System (1970s)</li> </ul> <p>5. Rights and Responsibilities of Engineers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Rights Vs Responsibilities of Engineers</li> <li>● Confidentiality and Propriety Information</li> <li>● Environmental Ethics</li> <li>● Computer Ethics</li> <li>● Whistle-Blowing (Need and advantages and disadvantages)</li> <li>● Ways to avoid Whistleblowing</li> <li>● Corporate Codes of Ethics</li> <li>● Case Study- Intel Pentium Chip Case (1994)</li> </ul>	
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**References:**

1. Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy. <plato.stanford.edu>
2. Appiah, Anthony, *Ethics of Identity*, New York: Princeton University Press. 2007.
3. Seligman, Martin, *Authentic Happiness*, London: Nicholas Brealey Publishing. 2011.
4. Fleddermann, Charles B, *Engineering Ethics*, New Delhi: Pearson Education. 2004.
5. Mackenzie, John S, *Manual of Ethics*, London: University Tutorial Press Ltd. 1964.

**Evaluation Methods:**

Item	Weightage (%)
Quiz/Attendance	20
Midterm	30
Final Examination	50

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