



Ethics in Science and Technology
course syllabus for the academic year 2024/2025

Basic information	<p>Meeting times & place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">In-person, every Friday 10-12, room 206, MCH building. <p>Instructor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Antonio Vassallo, PhDEmail: antonio.vassallo@pw.edu.plOffice hours: Wednesday 10-11:30, room 506, Noakowskiego building.Contact also available via MS Teams (personal chat + course team)
Brief course description	<p>The course will introduce the students to the main philosophical ideas in modern ethics and the most pressing ethical questions concerning scientific and engineering practices. The principal aim of the course is to show that ethics is not just a purely philosophical endeavor, but it also has practical consequences for the professional conduct of scientists and engineers.</p>
Assessment criteria	<p>50% Active attendance 50% Presentation</p>
Course content	<p>The course topics are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What is Ethics?2. Egoism3. Utilitarianism4. Deontological Theories5. Moral Realism6. Moral Dilemmas7. Doing vs. Allowing Harm8. The Repugnant Conclusion9. Why Ethics Matters in Science and Engineering10. Ethical Standards of Professional Conduct11. Case Study: The Baltimore's Affair12. Case Study: Cold Fusion13. Case Study: Eugenics
Tentative source materials and other references (subject to	<ul style="list-style-type: none">John Deigh - An Introduction to Ethics, Cambridge University Press, 2010.David Resnik - The Ethics of Science, Routledge, 2005.Caroline Whitbeck - Ethics in Engineering Practice and Research, Cambridge University Press, 2011.

changes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roman Morawski - Technoscientific Research: Methodological and Ethical Aspects, De Gruyter, 2019.
Teaching and learning methods	During each class, the students will be presented with a number of topics in modern ethics and their applications to concrete case studies taken from science and engineering. They will be asked to engage in group discussions that will deepen their understanding of the issues involved. At the end of the semester, each student will prepare and deliver to the class a short presentation on a topic previously agreed with the instructor.