

MSP1105 – Social Ethics (seminar)
Academic year of 2026/'27, autumn semester
Topics and Requirements

Topics:

The aim of the course is to make the students familiar with the basic concepts and tendencies of ethics, as systematically as historically. The course provides support to students in developing their argumentation and reasoning skills in relation to moral philosophy and the philosophical foundations of ethics.

Key topics:

Who is a person, what makes personality? • What are the basic concepts of morality, moral values and virtues? • The main differences between various social norm systems. • The typology of ethical systems and modes of ethical reasoning. • The main nodes in the history of ethics in European thought. • Practical issues of morality; the moral aspects of borderline situations (euthanasia, abortion, deviance). • The ethical dimensions of social work

Participation in the workshops:

Participation in the workshops is compulsory. The maximum number of absences per semester is three times the number of contact hours per week in full-time courses. If this is exceeded, the semester cannot be assessed (TVSz 8.§ 1.)

Requirement: Writing an essay at the end of the semester. The essay must meet the basic requirements of a scholarly work (independent collection of material, research, appropriate reference apparatus, citation of the literature used). Length: minimum eight pages, excluding title page, table of contents, bibliography, images used.

Recommended literature:

1. Arno Arzenbacher (2001): Keresztény társadalometika. Szent István Társulat, Budapest. ISBN 963-361-247-1
2. A szociális munka etikai kódexe 2016. In: Esély 2016/3 www.esely.org/kiadvanyok/2016_3/2016-3_5-1_Etikai_Kodex_ele.pdf
3. Bányai Emőke (2012): A szociális esetek jogi és etikai dilemmái. E-olvasókönyv. ELTE Társadalomtudományi Kar. Budapest. https://www.tatk.elte.hu/dstore/document/1535/Banyai_Szocialis_esetek_jogi_es_etikai.pdf

4. Hársing László (2001): Irányzatok az etika történetében. Nemzeti Tankönyvkiadó, Budapest. ISBN 963-19-1995-1
5. Isim Ulman, Yesil (2016): Social Ethics.
https://www.academia.edu/12170228/Social_Ethics
6. MacIntyre, Alasdair (1998): A Short History of Ethics. A History of Moral Philosophy from the Homeric Age to the Twentieth Century. Second ed. Routledge, London. ISBN 0-203-13112-6
7. Parrott, Lester (2010): Values and Ethics in Social Work Practice, Second ed. Learning Matters, Exeter. ISBN 978 1 84445 370 2
8. Sárkány Péter (2014): A szociális munka mint alkalmazott etika. In: Sárkány Péter (2014, szerk.) A filozófia, mint praxis. L'Harmattan Kiadó, Sapientia Szerzetesi Hittudományi Főiskola, Budapest. 7–18.

Nyíregyháza, 29 August 2026

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