

- Chapter I – Fundamental notions

Introduction

Consider this quote:

" In modern global economics, a positive outcome depends on the initiative, competences, and level of professional training. When there is a freedom of actions, it is important to learn how one can use this freedom ethically, correctly and comply with the accepted norms of business relations" (Saat, Bakar, Rafai, Amin, 2012)

- Recent years have witnessed particular awareness of the importance of including professional ethics in university education and training to achieve effective professional development.
- Studying ethics allows students to better understand their rights and obligations toward the higher education community
- Helps future engineers to learn about their duties towards their profession, clients, and the public.
- Prepares them to face ethical issues in their career and how to deal with them

Introduction

"Engineers": Professionals for the Human Good

- The moral and ethical aspect should be part of engineers' education and training to serve society and ensure its prosperity because the results of engineering activity impact the economic, scientific, social, and humanitarian spheres.
- An engineer is obliged to care about the comfort, safety, of the environment
- Nowadays, engineering activity requires solving social problems, such as legal responsibility, intellectual honesty, and professional ethics

1. Ethics الاخلاقيات

- The word "Ethic" comes from the Greek word "ethos" which means" character
- Ethics are a set of rules or principles that define the good and bad or right and wrong
- Ethics is a branch of philosophy that deals with human actions and reasons to take actions
- Ethics is the study of morality and how form perfect character and behavior
- Ethics are usually imposed by community groups, society, professions, religion etc.

2. Morality الفضيلة

- Morality, from Latin moralis meaning "custom" a code or system of moral rules, principles, or values.
- Morals are what you think is good and bad personally. They are not imposed by anyone.
- Both morality and ethics are about making the difference between "good and bad" or "right and wrong."
 Many people think of morality as something that's personal, whereas ethics is the standards of "good and bad" in a community or social setting

3. Rules

- Rules refer to the explicit or principles governing specific activity or sphere:
 - Rules usually come with consequences on those who violate them
 - Rules are crucial to any healthy system
 - Rules help to perform justice

4. Rights and obligations (duties)

- "Rights" and "obligations" are fundamental concepts in ethics, and various other fields, they dictate how individuals, groups interact with each other in a society or community.
- **Rights:** refer to a claim that individuals or groups have and expect others to respect. They define what people are allowed to do and what others can't prevent them from doing

Types of rights

- o Legal Rights: These are rights conferred by the law. For example, the right to vote, the right to free speech, or the right to property.
- o Moral or Human Rights: These are universal rights that are often believed to exist regardless of legal protections, such as the right to life or the right to dignity.
- Social Rights: These are rights that come from social customs or norms.

Features:

- Basic (can't be surrendered),
- o Indivisible (can't be denied in part),
- o Universal (applicable to everyone).

4. Rights and obligations (duties)

• Obligations: refer to duties or responsibilities that an individual or entity has towards others in society. It dictates what individuals or groups must or must not do

Types of obligations

- o Legal Obligations: from the law. For example, the obligation to pay taxes or the duty to not harm others.
- o Moral Obligations: from ethical or moral positions. For instance, the duty to help someone in distress.
- o Contractual Obligations: These emerge from contracts. If someone agrees to provide a service in exchange for payment, they have an obligation to fulfil that service.

Features:

- Mandatory (must be done)
- o Prohibitory (must not be done)
- o Permissive (can be done if chosen)