

Ethics and the economy

5.00 credits

becge1316

2023

Q1

30.0 h

Teacher(s)	Vanderborght Yannick ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Bruxelles Saint-Louis				
Prerequisites	The prerequisite(s) for this Teaching Unit (Unité d'enseignement – UE) for the programmes/courses that offer this Teaching Unit are specified at the end of this sheet.				
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to : The main aim of the course is to give a general overview of the core problems in contemporary economic ethics (see below for further details). The course will clarify what ethics is and why it is relevant for reflections on economic issues. The main theories in economic ethics will be studied through key authors (such as John Rawls, Robert Nozick, or Peter Singer) and applied to concrete cases of public policies and individual economic behaviour.				
Evaluation methods	The exam is written and consists of one or more questions on the required readings and several questions on the course material itself (authors, theories, historical facts, etc.). For detailed information on exam procedures and sample questions, students will check the exam procedures posted on Moodle.				
Teaching methods	Lecture with Powerpoint presentation. The active participation of students is most welcome. A course syllabus is made available at the start of the second term. While it contains an outline and brief summaries of the topics covered, much of the theoretical discussion and case study examples will not be included. Attendance at course is therefore strongly recommended.				
	Furthermore, students are required to read a book (or several articles) in economic ethics. Each year, a new list of readings is selected by the professor, and is part of the material to be studied for the exam.				
Content	Each section of the course focuses on a detailed presentation some of the main theories in contemporary economic ethics, to be applied to concrete cases. Among the issues that might be tackled in class: - Is it fair to tax the most productive workers in order to transfer money to the least productive? - Have we a moral obligation to give a share of our resources to NGOs in development aid? - Is an unconditional basic income a promising way to reform our welfare state?				
	These questions might be dealt with within a single theory, but will often require a dialogue between various theories.				
	The main sections of the course will be as follows (subject to change):				
	- General introduction - Utilitarianism				
	- Meritocracy				
	- Marxism				
	- Libertarianism				
	- Liberal-egalitarianism				
	- Global justice				
Bibliography	Outre les lectures obligatoires (portefeuille de lectures ou ouvrage), de nombreuses références bibliographiques sont reprises dans le syllabus, pour information seulement.				
Faculty or entity in charge	ESPB				

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)					
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes	
Bachelor in Economics and Management	ECGB1BA	5	BECGE1110 AND BECGE1111	ھ	
Bachelor : Business Engineering	INGB1BA	5	BECGE1110 AND BECGE1111	٩	