

BETHUNE COLLEGE  
ETHICS & VALUE EDUCATION  
SYLLABUS  
30 hours certificate course

**Module I: Scope and Definition**

- (a) Ethics and Moral Values: Origin & changing definitions
- (b) Scope of Ethics and Moral Values
- (c) Presupposition of Ethics

**Module II: Evolution of Ethical and moral values in different epochs**

- a) Journey from Vedic Corpus to Sufi Philosophy: An overview
- b) From Antiquity to Renaissance thoughts with special reference to Virtue Ethics of Aristotle, Plato, Stoic philosophers: An overview.

**Module III : Values and Ethics in Western and Indian thought: Modern and Postmodern**

- (i) Modern Western thoughts of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century (with special emphasis on Euthanasia and Suicide) : Utilitarian view, Kantian approach, views of Hume, Peter Singer, Albert Camus (specially their views on Euthanasia and Suicide), Moral and Political Philosophy of Thomas Hobbes, Ethics of Hegel and Marx,, Freudian Ethics, Ethics of Responsibility of Max Weber
- (ii) Modern Indian approach to Values and Ethics in the 19th and 20th century:  
Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar, Rabindranath Tagore, Swami Vivekananda, Sister Nivedita, Mahatma Gandhi, Rishi Aurobindo, B.R. Ambedkar, M.N. Roy, Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule, Fatima Shiekh, Pandita Ramabai, Begum Sakhawat Rokeya, Satyendra Nath Bose, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray, Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose
- (iii) Postmodern standpoint (Western and Indian) :Jacques Derrida and Ethics, Michel Foucault on Madness, Power and Ethics, Philosophical legacy of Edward Said and Ranajit Guha, Homi K. Bhaba's idea of Ethics and Moral

**Module IV : Feminist Philosophical Perspective and Need for Gender Equity:**

- (a) Sex-differences, Patriarchy and Androcentrism or Phallocentrism
- (b) Distinction between Liberal and Radical Feminism : Utilitarian approach, view of Peter Singer
- (c) Ethics of Care : views of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Simone de Beauvoir, Carol Gilligan, Gayatri Chakraborty Spivak
- (d) Postmodernism and Feminism
- (e) Atrocities against women
- (f) Sexual harassment of women in workplace and other public places
- (g) Domestic violence against women
- (h) Violation of the rights of women

**Module V : Ethics, Moral Values and Culture**

- (a) Values and Ethics represented in Children's literature: Fairy Tales etc.
- (b) Importance of values and ethics in myth, fables and folk lore
- (c) Emphasis on values and ethics in 19<sup>th</sup> century English / Bengali Literature (novels, short stories, plays)
- (d) Popular Culture of 19th century Bengal: 'shong', pantomime, 'kobiigaan', 'yatra', 'Kal', 'patachitra' etc.
- (e) Literature, Morality and recent trends.
- (f) Virtual life vs. reality and virtual culture

## **Module VI: Human Rights**

- (a) UN Declaration of Human Rights : The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), 1948
- (b) Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
- (c) Atrocities against children and child labour
- (d) Human Rights in the present scenario
  - (i) Refugee Problems
  - (ii) Discrimination on the basis of race and caste :Atrocities against Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe
  - (iii) Right to Equality and Dignity of Third Gender
    - (iv) Honour Killing
    - (v) Contribution of Baba Amte
- (e) Representation of human rights in cinema and theatre

## **Module VII : Social Ethics**

- a. Definition
- b. Importance of values and ethics in developing psychological balance for a healthy society:Moral Development from Psychological Perspective: Jean Piaget and Lawrence Kohlberg's theory.
- c. Social Contract, Solidarity, Responsibility, Rights and Duties in the Community
- d. Importance of harmony in the society, filial relationship, adjustment in the domestic sphere
- e. Social Work/Charitable efforts
- f. Ethics and Disaster effort
- g. Concept of Justice and Equality
- h. Right to Health

## **Module VIII: Bioethics**

- (a) What is Bioethics ?
- (b) Environmental Ethics
  - (i) Concepts of Anthropocentrism and non-anthropocentrism
  - (ii) Reverence for life
  - (iii) Ethics of respect for nature
  - (iv) Shallow and Deep Ecology
  - (v) Fight against Pollution and Resource depletion
  - (vi) Contribution of Kota Shivarama Karanth, Bhagat Puran Singh, Tulsi Gowda, Sugatha Kumari, Sumaira Abdulali, Sunderlal Bahuguna (over view)
- (c) Animal welfare and Rights to rescue Animals ; the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act(1960)
- (d) Ethical issues in healthcare, medicine and research

## **Module IX: Ethics and Culture in Practice and Policy**

- a) Right to Privacy
- b) Electronic surveillance and electronic transaction
- c) Different types of exploitations and different security policies
- d) Protection and Self Determinism
- e) Legal and Ethical use of Information Sources
- f) Family and State responses to violence

**Module X: Academic Ethics**

- (a) Vice of Plagiarism, the concept of Fair Use and Fair Dealing in Copyright (The US Copyright Act), Online Plagiarism Checker for teachers and students
- (b) Need for awareness of values and ethics in Scientific Research
- (c) Laboratory Ethics

**Module XI: Awareness of values and ethics in economic progress**

- (a) Examining the relationship between Ethics and Economics
- (b) Ethics of consumerism
  - (i) Ethics of consumer behavior
  - (ii) Ethics of consumer protection
- (c) Ethics of advertising

**Module XII: Therapeutic Measures for control over the mind (Practical aspect)**

- (a) Simple physical exercise
- (b) Meditation – Objectives, types, effect on body, mind and soul
- (c) Yoga – Objectives, Types, Asanas
- ( d) Activities: (i) Sublimation of Desires (ii) Neutralisation of Anger (iii)Eradication of Worries (iv)Benefits of Blessings

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