# NOVA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

## MODULE SYLLABUS

9501 - Business Ethics, 0.5 ECTS T2 202324

This template can only be used for modules. For course units, use the appropriate template.

### DATES, SCHEDULE AND FORMAT

TA - 15 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 3.30 pm) + 16 Jan 24 (10:30 am - 2:00 pm) - Joana Corrêa Monteiro

TB - 18 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 3.30 pm) + 19 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 1:00 pm) - Joana Corrêa Monteiro

TC - 22 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 3.30 pm) + 23 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 1:00 pm) - Joana Corrêa Monteiro

TD - 15 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 3.30 pm) + 16 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 1:00 pm) - Vasco Cardoso

TE - 22 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 3.30 pm) + 23 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 1:00 pm) - Vasco Cardoso

TF - 19 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 3.30 pm) + 22 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 1:00 pm) - Pedro Franco

TG - 23 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 3.30 pm) + 24 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 1:00 pm) - Pedro Franco

TH - 25 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 3.30 pm) + 26 Jan 24 (9:30 am - 1:00 pm) - Pedro Franco

All module sessions are on campus. Room to be announced.

### **MODULE INSTRUCTOR**

Joana Maria Palma Coelho Cordovil Cardoso Corrêa Monteiro Pedro António Monteiro Franco Vasco Maria Palma Coelho Cordovil Cardoso

### SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Joana Corrêa Monteiro: Assistant Professor (Adjunct) of Ethics at Nova School of Business and Economics and at Católica Medical School. Research Associate at ULICES - Centre for English Studies of the University of Lisbon. PhD in Literary Theory (University of Lisbon) with a dissertation on Ethics, Philosophy and Literature. Research interests: Ethics, philosophy, literary studies, health humanities, education. Publishing and teaching on Virtue Ethics, the importance of Literature to Ethics, the relations between Philosophy and Literature, Education and related topics. Currently developing a project in teacher training.

Pedro Franco: Teaching Assistant of Ethics a **t** Nova School of Business and Economics. M.A. (2018) and now Ph.D. candidate at the Program in Literary Theory at the University of Lisbon. Ph.D. Research Fellow at FCT - Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (2019-2023). Publishing and speaking on philosophy, literature, and education. Research interests: virtue ethics and the links between virtue, political theory, philosophy of art and literary theory.

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Vasco Cardoso: Professor of Philosophy at Colégio São João de Brito. Research Associate at I.E.F. at the University of Coimbra. PhD candidate in Philosophy researching the philosophical relevance of the works of G. K. Chesterton. Research Fellow at FCT - Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia. Research interests: Philosophy, Ethics, Literature, the concept of truth, human desire, the desire for truth, education, and related topics.

#### EMAIL

joana.monteiro@novasbe.pt

pedro.franco@novasbe.pt

e-vasco.cardoso@novasbe.pt

#### PREREQUISITE(S) IF APPLICABLE

#### MODULE AIMS

This module aims to be an opportunity for students from the areas of management and economics to think through and discuss ethical questions that arise both on their personal and professional lives, and to critically examine the conceptual frameworks in which these questions are usually conceived.

#### **MODULE DESCRIPTION**

How am I to live? What's the right thing to do? Is there a way out of the ethical dilemmas people face in their professional lives? Is my personal happiness connected with morality? What is a virtue and is it important to my professional life? Through debate, students will confront their own answers to these problems with arguments and ideas from philosophers and other relevant personalities. We will discuss these and other similiar questions related to the origins or moral concepts, the possibility of rational agreement in matters of ethics, the grounds for the moral value of actions and the meaning and impact of concepts such as intention, character, outcome, duty, moral law, etc. We will use stories, films and case-studies as prompts to our discussions. Their purpose is to help develop conceptual and argumentative tools that allow students to address these questions correctly, to understand the different alternative answers, and to master criteria that help them compare and assess those possible answers.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the main debates in contemporary philosophical ethics, their origins and their relevance to business ethics.

2. Critically assess the arguments from contemporary deontological and utilitarian perspectives and their implications for contemporary business ethics

3. Appreciate and examine the contribution virtue ethics has brought to discussions on business and professional ethics

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4. Develop and strenghen critical thinking, explaining, debating, presenting and collaboration skills

#### TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

The module structure includes lectures, individual and group work sessions and case-discussions.

Lectures are intended to help students get familiarised with the philosophical and conceptual framework that will ground all discussions; individual and group work sessions are designed to help students analyse in more depht a particular topic that they choose, individually or in groups, and prepare an output for that analysis (individual essay or group presentation), case discussions will promote debate around real or fictional cases in which particular ethical conflicts arise, in which students will be able to apply principles, ideas and arguments to possible or plausibe scenarios.

#### ASSESSMENT

This is a pass/fail course. In order to pass, students must attend a) all sessions and b) write an individual assingment (details will be given on the last session of the module).

Pre-work - students are advised to watch The Remains of the Day (1993) directed by James Ivory.

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Copies of case studies and articles covered will be made available to the students.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Course Impact Relation

Throughout the teaching period, the course equips students with foundational skills on ethics and morality that will enable them to develop further understanding in future courses and contexts in regard to SDG Agenda.