

Professional Ethics for Childcare Workers 幼教人員專業倫理

Instructor: Yeh, Yu-ching (phone # 2201)

2 Credits/ 2 hours per week for Undergraduate Year Four students

Course Description

Examination of the concepts of morality, obligation, human rights and the good life. The study of professional ethics for childcare workers is the study of how to assist young children learn well and how to treat them properly. As Socrates observed, this is “no small matter”, but ultimately the most important subject with which we can concern ourselves. For most people, ethical commitments and moral character give professional worker’s life meaning and form the most significant portion of one’s identity. This course is designed so that each student will have the opportunity to think deeply and systematically about the primary components of being a good childcare worker and begin a lifelong process of reflection and self-scrutiny regarding his or her own career.

Course Objectives

1. Developing and refining a set of practical cognitive tools, including the abilities to clarify important terms, draw important distinctions, think critically and consistently about moral issues, engage in productive dialogue with others and especially those with whom we disagree, and reframe and creatively solve ethical problems.
2. Identifying and distinguishing important ethical concepts, principles, and theories in childcare services.
3. Applying these concepts, principles, and theories both to controversial moral and social issues in nursery schools and to everyday ethical decision-making.
4. Engaging in substantive personal reflection about the relationship between moral obligations and values and assisting young children with a good life.

Additionally, students will be both prepared and motivated to engage in serious philosophical reflection beyond the subjects and themes of this course, including further coursework in professional ethics and philosophy.