

Administrative Information

Surveying Ethics Distance Course

New Mexico State University, Department of Engineering Technology
and Surveying Engineering

Surveying Ethics: The course will introduce students and practitioners to ethics theory, general concepts and principles pertaining to surveying ethics, and handling ethical situations in practice.

Course General Information:

Survey Ethics Internet version	\$179
Survey Ethics videotape/DVD version	\$259

Course is self-paced with homework problems and a final exam. Students normally complete the course in 2 – 3 months.

Faculty:

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Enrollment:

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Goals: The goals of the course are to:

1. Introduce practitioners to ethical theory;
2. Give practitioners tools for evaluation of a situation for ethical problem resolution;
3. Provide practitioners with resources for surveying ethics material;
4. Review professional ethical codes, their use, and limitations;
5. Orient practitioners to surveying ethics for professional practice; and
6. Give practitioners practice in ethical analysis and how to deal with problems involving ethical considerations.

Grading Policy:

Practical Exercises (Homework)	60%
Examination	40%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

Minimum Points	Letter Grade	Maximum Points
90	A	100
80	B	89.9
70	C	79.9
60	D	69.9
0	E	59.9

Time Allowed: The course is normally completed within three months of registration. There is no set time limit for completing the course

Homework/Practical Exercises: Several fact scenarios have been prepared and codified in memos or letters that are similar in appearance and content to memos a practitioner may receive in professional practice. You are to respond in writing (e.g. letter to the client, fax to a supervisor, memo to an associate, e-mail to another practitioner, etc.) according to the fact patterns presented. In many cases you will want additional information. Just like practice, you will not have all the information you may want or feel you need. Nevertheless, you must respond. The response should be in a manner consistent with an surveyor performing professional services as suggested by the memo. Your responses will be graded on clarity, completeness, and adherence to commonly accepted surveying ethics. As an aside, there is no single ideal, correct answer. There are numerous wrong responses.

All homework must be sent by e-mail (it may be an attachment) or by fax. Responses will be graded on identification of ethical issues and acceptable resolution of ethical issues. The harm you do to business prospects for your firm and your employment will be taken into account. For example, one solution may be to quit. Except in rare situations, this solution is drastic, unimaginative and not the best solution. Your grade would be lowered accordingly. Unless specified, all responses must be in writing in a form that is reasonable and typical for surveying practice (see example). As a consequence, memoranda, letters, faxes, or other reasonable forms of business correspondence will be expected as part of the exercise solution. Where a telephone conversation would be reasonable and typical, a follow-up memorandum will be required. Scores will be reduced for using the improper form, style, spelling, and grammar. You will find answering the questions easier if you read the web pages and references cited at the beginning of this syllabus.

Exams: A one hour, multiple-choice final exam will given by fax.

