SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Coimbatore-35.
An Autonomous Institution

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A++' Grade Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

COURSE NAME : 19GET201 PROFESSIONAL ETHICS & HUMAN VALUES

IV YEAR/ VII SEMESTER

UNIT – I ENGINEERING ETHICS

Topic: Vareity of moral issues –Types of Inquiry

Variety of moral issues

Safety and Risk:
Example: Designing a structure that meets safety standards versus one that saves costs but may be less safe.
Moral Issue: Balancing cost and safety to protect human lives.
Environmental Impact:
Example: Developing a project that could harm the environment or choosing a more sustainable approach.
Moral Issue: Weighing the environmental consequences of engineering decisions.
Privacy and Data Security:
Example: Handling user data in a way that respects privacy versus using it for profit.
Moral Issue: Balancing business interests with individuals' rights to privacy.
Equity and Fairness:
Example: Providing access to technology or services in underprivileged communities.
Moral Issue: Ensuring equitable access and avoiding discrimination.

Variety of moral issues

Conflict of Interest:
Example: An engineer working on a project where they have a personal financial interest.
Moral Issue: Maintaining objectivity and avoiding decisions influenced by personal gain.
Professional Integrity:
Example: Reporting accurate results versus manipulating data to meet client expectations.
Moral Issue: Upholding truthfulness and honesty in professional work.
Responsibility to Society:
Example: Working on projects that benefit society versus those that may have harmful social effects.
Moral Issue: Balancing societal benefits with potential harm.

Variety of moral issues

VARIETIES OF MORAL ISSUES

- ***MICRO-ETHICS*** This approach stresses more about some typical and everyday problems which play an important role in the field of engineering and in the profession of an engineer
- ***MACRO-ETHICS*** This approach deals with all the social problems which are unknown and suddenly burst out on a regional or national level.

Types of Inquiry

Types of Inquiry

Normative Inquiry:

Focus: What should be done in a given situation? This type involves assessing actions based on ethical theories like utilitarianism, deontology, or virtue ethics.

Example: Determining the ethical obligations of an engineer to report unsafe practices.

Conceptual Inquiry:

Focus: Clarifying the meaning of concepts such as "safety," "risk," "responsibility," or "sustainability."

Example: Analyzing what it means for a project to be "sustainable" and how this concept applies in different contexts.

Factual or Descriptive Inquiry:

Focus: Gathering facts about a situation to understand the context and implications of moral issues.

Example: Investigating the potential environmental impact of a new construction project.

Applied Inquiry:

Focus: Applying ethical principles to specific cases or real-world scenarios.

Example: Examining case studies of engineering failures to draw lessons on ethical decision-making.

Meta-Ethical Inquiry:

Focus: Investigating the nature of moral judgments and the language used in moral discussions.

Example: Exploring whether moral values are universal or culturally relative.


Thank
you