Suggested Guidelines for E-Course Development

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UGSC Goals: Collaborate professionally and ethically, identify and discuss ethical issues.

ABET Goals (2018): [Students should demonstrate] an understanding of professional, ethical, legal, security and social issues and responsibilities.

Student Learning Objectives:

Main Goal: Student should demonstrate an understanding of professional and ethical responsibility and relevant ethical and social issues in their field, and demonstrate a proficiency in discussing these topics.

This includes the following elements:

- 1. Ethical awareness : The ability to perceive ethical issues embedded in complex, concrete situations
- 2. Ethical evaluation and discussion: The ability to assess an action, situation, product or process in terms of different ethical approaches or frameworks, and communicate their thought process and reasoning to others.
- 3. Ethical integration: The ability to integrate ethical consideration into an activity so that these play an essential, constitutive role in the product.¹

E-Course Criteria (Courses including an ethics module should outline how they will meet these criteria in syllabus)

Focus on learning objectives will vary by course level. For instance, 100 level courses will likely focus more on learning objectives 1 and 2, while 300-level course will focus more on 3.

- Students must learn about relevant ethical topics integral to course learning outcomes and tools/strategies for addressing ethical issues, such as ethics codes, guidelines and relevant laws, ethical theories and frameworks.
- Courses must include interactive, discussion-based activities that require students to use tools to assess an ethical case study/issue, and communicate their thought process and reasoning to others.
- Courses much include an activity (paper, final project, presentation) that asks them to integrate ethical considerations so that these play an essential constitutive role in the final product.

Undergraduate Course Requirements: 4 courses/12 credit hours

- 12 credit hours in major courses (Ethics course or course that includes an ethics module that meets ecourse requirements (ITP, and technical courses/capstone course).
- 12 credit hours in non-major courses (Ethics course or course that includes an ethics module meets ecourse requirements).

Possible accompanying activities/resources for E-course development:

- Faculty training/mentoring in ethics education (with pilot group to start).
- Repository of research, knowledge and innovation (exists in Ethics Education Library)
- Development of ethics integration modules that faculty can use and adapt for e-courses.
- Outside ethics activities (lectures, workshops, etc.) co-organized by departments/Ethics Center.

¹ Learning Criteria adapted from Cruz, J.A., and W.J. Frey. 2003. An effective strategy for integrating ethics across the curriculum in engineering: an ABET 2000 challenge. Science and Engineering Ethics 9: 543–568.