

Anthropology

Introduction

Welcome to Anthropology and Ethics (ANTHETH). Let me emphasize three aspects to set the expectations right:

First, this is a different kind of course at the MiM. Its content and approach is very specific of IESE, and at the core of what IESE is about: “We develop leaders who strive to have a deep, positive and lasting impact on people, companies and society through professional excellence, integrity and spirit of service”.

Second, this is not an easy course but –hopefully– it will be very rewarding in itself and relevant to your other courses in the MiM and your professional career in the future. During this course you should learn how to think rigorously in respectful dialogue with others about sometimes highly contested issues.

Third, you will have to prepare in advance for class discussions (general and/or in teams) by reading, thinking ahead – and participate meaningfully! I am aware that the texts that I have selected are not always easy to digest. The preparation sheets will be an important guide in that effort. You will also find that the texts are highlighted so that you can focus on the most relevant contents, without getting lost in secondary references or topics. I encourage you to read them complete in order to understand those core ideas.

Objectives

The purpose of this course is to provide each student with the resources, time and stimuli to think rigorously in dialogue with other peers about crucial questions in life, work and personal relationships. Not just for the sake of theoretical enlightenment or to have an interesting exchange of opinions, but to reach relevant conclusions for her professional choices and commitments within life as a whole.

Learning Outcomes

RA12. Equip students with learning skills that enable them to continue studying independently and self-directedly.

RA1. Possess and comprehend knowledge that provides a basis or opportunity to generate original ideas in the development and application of concepts, often within a research context.

RA19. Enable students to apply acquired knowledge and solve problems in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to their area of study.

RA11. Enable students to integrate knowledge and address the complexity of making judgments based on incomplete or limited information, including reflections on social and

ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgments.

RA20. Enable students to communicate their conclusions, along with the knowledge and rationale supporting them, to both specialized and non-specialized audiences clearly and unambiguously.

RA21. Listen, understand, and compare differing viewpoints to develop an objective understanding of a business situation. Communicate in a structured and persuasive manner (Interpersonal communication).

RA13. Work effectively in multicultural teams, assuming project leadership when necessary. Integrate the value of diversity into the team's decision-making and work process (Multicultural teamwork skills).

RA14. Critically evaluate information and the context of a business situation to reach prudent decision-making conclusions (Critical thinking).

RA22. Acquire self-knowledge and self-control necessary to work effectively under pressure in professional environments, understanding others' motivations and the corporate culture (Emotional intelligence).

RA2. Apply well-established ethical criteria in business decision-making, respecting the inherent dignity of each individual and the pursuit of the common good. (Integrity)

RA15. Develop a proactive mindset open to organizational change to design and promote process improvement initiatives and facilitate adaptability to new organizational cultures (Innovative spirit).

RA3. Identify relevant data to diagnose a business problem and generate sensible decision alternatives.

RA23. Develop communication skills in a business context following the classic framework of logos, ethos, and pathos to structure a solid, convincing argument, accompanied by body language and effective storytelling.

Content

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Human beings share their inner experience also through language. Building on that linguistic expression and refining it through logic and observation of reality, philosophy can reach rigorous, universally valid truths or insights.

The human being experiences an almost irrepressible longing for meaning, beyond mere useful knowledge. Almost all human beings go through intimations of plenitude, meaning, beauty and fulfillment. These experiences come full of awe and questions and are worth seeking and deepening.

Instructional Activities

AF1: Training sessions and meetings with the teacher (classes, seminars, lectures, tutorials, company visits, simulations): 15hrs

AF2: Individual student work (personal study, preparation of assignments): 36hrs

AF3: Teamwork (preparation of group assignments and execution of simulations): 8hrs

AF4: Evaluation tests: 1hrs

Evaluation

Your final grade for the course will be based on the following criteria:

- 40% Class participation
- 40% Individual Assignment
- 20% Team Assignment

The IESE Business School's Honor Code and Learning Partnership apply to all activities in this course. For individual assignments, unless explicitly stated, you should not interact with anyone else. For deliverables to be done in teams you should interact only with the members of your team.