

## MAJOR PROGRAM ASSESSMENT PLAN

### Multidisciplinary Studies, M.A., M.S.

#### ETHICAL REASONING RUBRIC

##### Definition

**Ethical Reasoning** is reasoning about right and wrong human conduct. It requires students to be able to assess their own ethical values and the social context of problems, recognize ethical issues in a variety of settings, think about how different ethical perspectives might be applied to ethical dilemmas and consider the ramifications of alternative actions. Students' ethical self identity evolves as they practice ethical decision-making skills and learn how to describe and analyze positions on ethical issues.

Criteria	Proficient (4)	Developing (3)	Emerging (2)	Not Evident (1)	Score
<b>Ethical Self-Awareness</b>	Student discusses in detail/analyzes both core beliefs and the origins of the core beliefs and discussion has greater depth and clarity.	Student discusses in detail/analyzes both core beliefs and the origins of the core beliefs.	Student states both core beliefs and the origins of the core beliefs	Student states either their core beliefs or articulates the origins of the core beliefs but not both.	
<b>Understanding Different Ethical Perspectives/Concepts</b>	Student names the theory or theories, can present the gist of said theory or theories, and accurately explains the details of the theory or theories used.	Student can name the major theory or theories she/he uses, can present the gist of said theory or theories, and attempts to explain the details of the theory or theories used, but has some inaccuracies.	Student can name the major theory she/he uses and is only able to present the gist of the named theory.	Student only names the major theory she/he uses.	
<b>Ethical Issue Recognition</b>	Student can recognize ethical issues when presented in a complex, multilayered (gray) context AND can recognize cross-relationships among the issues.	Student can recognize ethical issues when issues are presented in a complex, multilayered (gray) context OR can grasp cross-relationships among the issues.	Student can recognize basic and obvious ethical issues and grasp (incompletely) the complexities or interrelationships among the issues.	Student can recognize basic and obvious ethical issues but fails to grasp complexity or interrelationships.	
<b>Application of Ethical Perspectives/Concepts</b>	Student can independently apply ethical perspectives/concepts to an ethical question, accurately,	Student can independently (to a new example) apply ethical	Student can apply ethical perspectives/concepts to an ethical question,	Student can apply ethical perspectives/concepts	

	and is able to consider full implications of the application.	perspectives/concepts to an ethical question, accurately, but does not consider the specific implications of the application.	independently (to a new example) and the application is inaccurate.	to an ethical question with support (using examples, in a class, in a group, or a fixed-choice setting) but is unable to apply ethical perspectives/concepts independently (to a new example.).	
<b>Evaluation of Different Ethical Perspectives/Concepts</b>	Student states a position and can state the objections to, assumptions and implications of and can reasonably defend against the objections to, assumptions and implications of different ethical perspectives/concepts, and the student's defense is adequate and effective.	Student states a position and can state the objections to, assumptions and implications of, and respond to the objections to, assumptions and implications of different ethical perspectives/concepts, but the student's response is inadequate.	Student states a position and can state the objections to, assumptions and implications of different ethical perspectives/concepts but does not respond to them (and ultimately objections, assumptions, and implications are compartmentalized by student and do not affect student's position.)	Student states a position but cannot state the objections to and assumptions and limitations of the different perspectives/concepts.	

*Adopted from Student Learning Assessment Board of the Regents of the University of Wisconsin System (2019). Association of American Colleges and Universities Value Rubrics.*