

### Learning Objectives

Define the words Ethics and morality.  
Differentiate the **types of normative ethics** including the "isms".  
Identify the **different key concepts related to ethics**.  
Relate the concepts of ethics with other teaching about human actions.

### Concept: Ethics and Morality

| Ethics                                                                          | Morality                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Broader and Objective.                                                          | More personal and gut feeling-based.               |
| Broader and systematic based on agreed rules of society, profession, and groups | Developed from one's values, beliefs, and culture  |
| Ex: code of conduct in medical field and corporate world                        | Ex of Morality: Inner judgement of right or wrong. |

### Concept: Morality

|                     |                                                                      |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ethiology           | Gree: <i>Mos</i> or Latin (Lt) means manner, character, and behavior |
| Meaning/Definition? | refers to rightness or wrongness.                                    |

How does it relate to ethics?

--> Morality is more personal, shaped by beliefs, values, culture, and upbringing,

### Concept: Ethics

Greek word **ethos** which means, custom, habit, behaviors and character.  
Definition: A system of moral philosophy/principles—a set of values and rules of human conduct (human actions).

### What's the nature of ethics?

--> a science that involves a **systematic investigation** before a judgment is made, classifying human actions as good or bad, right or wrong. It includes systematizing, defending, and recommending concepts of right and wrong behaviors.

### Division of Ethics

- A. Meta-ethics
- B. Applied Ethics
- C. Normative ethics

**A. Meta-ethics** study of the nature, scope, and meaning of moral judgment.

ask: "What do ethical statements mean?" and "Do ethical statements have objective truth or are they a mere subjective expression of opinion?"  
Debating if morality is a universal truth or a personal perspective

**B. Applied Ethics** Seeks to apply ethical principles to concrete social issues.

ex: topics such as abortion, euthanasia, human sexuality, animal welfare, environment, and poverty.

**Normative ethics** Concerned with the basic principles of right or wrong.

### Division of Ethics (cont)

It asks if morality is fundamentally about the consequences of our actions, the inherent nature of the acts performed, or our character as actors

### Summary

**A. Meta-ethics** - Nature. going back to ask Morality (how we understand moral language, the concept statement, what it means to be right or wrong)

**B. Applied Ethics** - taking and applying principles in real life (*society issues, real life*)

**C. Normative ethics** - figuring out if you should always tell the truth (provide frameworks/how to act)

### Normative Ethics: 4 Theories

A. Aristotle's Nicomachean (Aristotelean Teleology)

B. Hume's non-cognitive

C. Kant's deontology:

D. Bentham's utilitarianism:

**1. Aristotle's Nicomachean** Constant practice of virtues that will lead to a purpose or end. (Aristotelean Teleology)

Moral virtues include prudence, justice, fortitude, temperance, goodness, and generosity.

**2. Hume's Non-Cognitive** Moral judgment is based on passion and interest, such as happiness

**3. Kant's Deontology** Focuses on following universal rules, norms, and duties (Categorical Imperatives).



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### Normative Ethics: 4 Theories (cont)

4. **Bentham's Utilitarianism** One ought to do whatever will promote the greatest good and happiness for the greatest number, focusing on *consequences and results*.

provide different answers to a fundamental question: What makes an action right or wrong, and what should be the basis for our moral decisions?

Aristotle - Virtue Ethics  
Hume's Noncognitive - Emotivism  
Kants - Deontological Ethics  
Benthams Ullitarianism : Consequentialism

### Significance of the Study of Ethics

**Social moral problems:** Experts rebuild necessary measures to address the present characteristics of moral issues today.

**To enlighten people:** Especially the young, to behave in a good and right manner. Teens may be confused due to different influences and are unwilling or unable to act in a moral way.

**To establish solid foundation of values** In school, particularly in the interaction between teachers and students.

### Ethics in Moral life

indicates a focus on how ethics influences moral decision-making in everyday life.

**Provides advantage and answers:** Ethical theories are useful when they affect how human beings behave.

keywords: provides answers thru affecting how we behave (e.g. moral judgements and decisions)

**Provides a moral plan:** Ethics sets ethical rules and principles that provide a framework to find a way through difficult moral issues, offering a "cooler view" of problems

keywords: framework, blueprint for complex issues

### Ethics and People

☐shows concern for other people's well-being and God, rather than one's own desires and self-interest

**Ethics is about the "Other"** shows concern for other people's well-being and God, rather than one's own desires and self-interest.

**Source for group strength:** If a group has a strong moral foundation, they have the courage to correct wrongdoings without hesitation.

### Ethics and People (cont)

**Good people as well as good actions:** Ethics is also about the goodness of individuals and what it means to live a good life. Virtue ethics is concerned with the moral character of human beings.

### (4) Four Ethical -isms

These are various ways of making a moral judgment.

**Subjectivism** Moral judgment is based on feelings, emotions, or attitudes.  
> For example, whether a lie is bad or good depends on a person's feelings. Moral judgments do not contain factual truths.

**Moral Realism** There are real, objective moral facts or truths in the universe. Moral statements provide factual information about these truths. For example, "Respect the rights" is a universal moral truth.

**Emotivism** Moral statements are shown through gestures or signs that express feelings. For example, a thumbs-up gesture can show approval of a good act.

### (4) Four Ethical -isms (cont)

**Prescriptivism** Moral statements are just instructions and recommendations, showing how people "ought to do".  
>For example, "Students must have a complete uniform inside the school"

This are Meta-ethical theories.

- How we judge moral statements and decisions are judged (ex: abortion)

### Some Useful Rules in Our Lives

**Etiquette** A standard of moral judgment dictated by *a socio-economic elite*

**Legal** standard of moral statement to judge legal right or wrong in a democracy, through representatives

**Language** A standard to judge what is grammatically right or wrong, which has evolved through use.

**Aesthetic** A standard to judge good or bad art, usually dictated by a small group of art specialists.



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