



## Certificate in Professional Ethics

### **Professional Certificate Professional Ethics Department of Philosophy**

#### **Certificate Requirements:**

Ethical issues are becoming increasingly central to almost all areas of professional and public life. As work becomes faster, more technologically and bureaucratically complex and ever more economically productive, ethical issues increase in difficulty and seriousness. As a result, the demand for people with qualifications in professional ethics is growing in all sectors. The department's especially large range of courses in the area of professional ethics concentrates on real situations and case studies. By taking a number of these courses, students encounter many different concrete ethical issues and learn a variety of perspectives and methodologies for dealing with them. The department's style of professional ethics recognizes the diversity of values, traditions and points of view that are brought to bear today on actual current ethical problems. Nonetheless, these courses constantly attempt to integrate this situational approach by means of a search for generally applicable methodologies and ways of theorizing such issues. The certificate therefore gives students a wide range of experience and methodologies for understanding institutional practices that deal with ethical issues in the public and private sectors. They develop capacities to flexibly adapt this knowledge to different institutions and unforeseen ethical problems in such areas as education, business, health, media, government, law, social work, politics and personal life. Because the resolution of concrete ethical issues needs a creative response to the particularities of unforeseen situations, practice on cases in a number of different institutions and professions helps one to prepare for dealing with problems in one's own.

The Certificate in Professional Ethics is based in the Department of Philosophy. It is a direct entry program that is available to any students admitted to the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies or the University.

**Graduating with a certificate:** except where otherwise stated, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 4.00 is required to satisfy certificate requirements. Students must also submit application to graduate from a certificate program. Applications should be obtained from and filed with the unit administering the certificate program. Transcript notation that the requirements for a certificate have been completed will be made once the Registrar's Office has received notice from the unit administering the program. Certificates will not be conferred until candidates have successfully completed an undergraduate degree program if they are simultaneously enrolled in a degree and a certificate program. The Faculty does not award certificates retroactively. Refer to the Academic Standards section for details of the undergraduate certificate minimum standards.

Students wishing to enrol or make inquiries should contact the Department of Philosophy, S428 Ross Building, Tel.: 416-736-5113, Fax: 416-736-5114.

**Requirements:** 24 credits including:

a) Core requirements:

- AP/PHIL 2070 3.00, AP/PHIL 2075 3.00\*.

b) Elective requirements:

- 18 credits chosen from either List A or List B, but with no more than three credits from List B. 12 of these 18 credits must be at the 3000 level or above.

**List A:**



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AP/PHIL 1002 6.00\*  
AP/PHIL 2077 3.00  
AP/PHIL 3050 3.00  
AP/PHIL 3570 3.00\*  
AP/PHIL 3576 3.00  
AP/PHIL 3595 3.00 (cross-listed to:  
AP/HREQ 3595 3.00)  
AP/PHIL 3776 3.00  
AP/PHIL 4150 3.00

### List B:

AP/PHIL 2050 3.00  
AP/PHIL 2060 3.00  
AP/PHIL 2250 3.00  
AP/PHIL 3110 3.00

\*Available as Internet courses.

**Note:** *students who wish to complete both the Certificate in Professional Ethics and the Certificate in Practical Ethics may not count the same courses for both certificates. If the Certificate in Practical Ethics is completed first, then any additional courses must be chosen from List A of the Certificate in Professional Ethics. If the Certificate in Professional Ethics is finished first, then additional courses will be chosen for the Certificate in Practical Ethics in consultation with the student's certificate adviser.*

### Undergraduate Certificate Requirements

"Undergraduate Certificate" is the term applied to a program of study attesting to a level of competence or skill in a particular area or field. It is distinct from a defined undergraduate degree program, stream, specialization or informal concentration. A certificate recognizes a specific grouping of courses that are cross-disciplinary but with a thematic coherence, form a coherent yet distinctive complement to the major of a degree program or lead to the acquisition of specific skills or professional expertise that may meet requirements of outside accrediting bodies.

All academic regulations applying to degree students in degree programs will apply to students in certificates.

### Types of Certificates Offered by the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies

- Advanced certificate
- Cross-disciplinary certificate
- Certificate of proficiency
- General certificate
- Professional certificate

**Entry.** Students seeking direct entry to a certificate program must submit written application when applying for admission to the University. Students already enrolled in an undergraduate degree program are also expected to apply for entry to a certificate program, normally prior to completion of 36 credits of their undergraduate degree program. Applications should be obtained and filed with the unit administering the certificate program. Students who were admitted to a professional certificate offered by the School of Administrative Studies prior to the Fall/Winter 2005-2006 Session, may elect to follow the old certificate regulations or the new certificate regulations, whichever is more advantageous. All students admitted from September 2005 must follow new regulations.

*Note: depending on the undergraduate certificate, students may have an option of completing the certificate concurrently or consecutively. Please refer to the specific undergraduate certificate for further details and requirements.*

A student who wishes to change from a certificate to a degree must re-apply to the York University Admissions Office.

Students enrolled in a certificate program and who are not concurrently enrolled in a degree program may take only the courses required for the completion of the certificate.



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**Residency requirement.** the University residency requirement for undergraduate certificate programs is 18 credits for certificate programs requiring up to 36 credits and 50 per cent of the required credits for certificates comprising more than 36 credits. Normally, for undergraduate certificate programs requiring 18 credits or less, all credits are completed at York.

**Minimum requirements for multiple certificates.** Students may acquire more than one certificate provided that at least 18 credits in each certificate are unique to the specific certificate. Some certificate programs may have specific academic standing requirements.

**Advanced certificates:** as described by the program.

**Cross-disciplinary certificates:** 24 credits, at least 18 of which must be at the 2000-level or above, including six credits at the 3000 or 4000 level. In order to receive the certificate candidates must present a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 4.00 or greater in the courses taken to satisfy certificate requirements.

**Certificate of proficiency:** there would normally be a comprehensive examination in addition to course requirements (normally 12 credits). In order to receive the certificate candidates must present a cumulative GPA of 4.00 or greater in the courses taken to satisfy certificate requirements, although language certificates normally have higher requirements.

**General certificates:** as described by the program.

**Professional certificates:** normally 24 credits, 18 credits of which would be at the 3000 level or above. In most cases, at least 12 credits of the disciplinary courses that satisfy certificate requirements must be in addition for those used to satisfy requirements of an undergraduate major being completed concurrently.

*Note: to obtain a professional certificate offered by the School of Administrative Studies, at least 18 credits of the ADMS course credits that satisfy certificate requirements must be in addition to those used to satisfy a degree.*

**Graduating with a certificate.** Except where otherwise stated, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 4.00 is required to satisfy certificate requirements. Students must also submit an Application to Graduate with a Certificate form. Applications should be obtained from and filed with the unit administering the certificate program. Transcript notation that the requirements for a certificate have been completed will be made once the Registrar's Office has received notice from the unit administering the program. Certificates will not be conferred until candidates have successfully completed an undergraduate degree program if they are simultaneously enrolled in a degree and a certificate program.

The Faculty does not award certificates retroactively.