ENGR 482--Engineering and Ethics

Offered: Summer 2004, Chatenay Malabry, France

Course Desc: Development of techniques of moral analysis and their application to ethical problems encountered by engineers, such as professional employee rights and whistle blowing; environmental issues; ethical aspects of safety, risk and liability and conflicts of interest; emphasis on developing the capacity for independent ethical analysis of real and hypothetical cases.


Prerequisites: Junior classification

Instructor: Dr. Ray W. James, P.E., Dept. of Civil Engineering

Office: TBA

Grading
Homework 25%
In-class Participation 25%
Exams 50%

Meeting Date Topic
1 July 11 Factual & Conceptual Issues (Ch. 1&2)
2 July 13 Conflict & Line -Drawing Problems (Ch. 3)
3 July 15 Utilitarianism (Ch. 4, pp. 75-84)
4 July 16 Respect for Persons (Ch. 4, pp. 84-95)
5 July 18 Bernard Gert’s Morality (handout)
6 July 19 Professions and Professionalism (Ch. 5)
7 July 22 Missouri City Tower case (short video)
8 July 29 Honesty & Professional Liability (Ch. 6)
9 July 30 The Citicorp Building case (video)
10 July 31 Mid Term Exam
11 Aug 01 International Ethics and Engineering (Ch. 10)
12 Aug 02 Risk, Safety & Liability (Ch. 7)
13 Aug 05 The Space Shuttle Challenger case (video)
14 Aug 13 To Engineer is Human (video)
15 Aug 14 Engineering & the Environment (Ch. 9)
16 Aug 15 Gilbane Gold case (video)
17 Aug 16 Intellectual Property
18 Aug 17 Engineers as Employees and Managers (Ch. 8)
19 Aug 18 Promoting and Enforcing Ethics in Engineering (Ch. 11)
20 Aug 19 Final Exam

Comment: Patrick Du Besset spoke to the class in Summer 01 on the topic of international ethics.
Some other candidates (from Contributors to Technology & Ethics, but not known if they can lecture in English) are Pierre Calame, Christelle Dutier, Annie Gireau-Geneaux, Philippe Goujon (who writes English books), Andre Grelon (EHESS-Paris), Michel Llory, Martin Meganck.