

## Ethics & Leadership Strand Descriptions

### **Business Ethics:**

Students in the Business Ethics strand study issues of morality applicable to corporations. Topic areas include corporate social responsibility, ethical leadership, organizational culture, and consumer protection. Within this strand, students are exposed to a variety of disciplinary perspectives including business, communication, philosophy, and American studies.

Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- Research on the ethics of marketing in the food industry.
- Research on corporate social responsibility.
- Internship at TOMS Shoes, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.
- Internship at Microsoft, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.

### **Ethics of Health Care:**

The Ethics of Health Care strand introduces students to ethical issues in health care policy and administration and in medical, nursing, and other health professions. It teaches them strategies for thinking through complex ethical questions. Courses explore the ethical and legal implications of controversial topics such as abortion, euthanasia, palliative care, scientific research with human subjects, technological innovation, and access to health care. Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- Research on Mexican American children's access to health care.
- Research on the ethical implications of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
- Research on the ethics of medical treatments for severe epilepsy.
- Internship at the Center for Disease Control, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.
- Internship at Dell Children's Medical Center, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.

### **Media, Ethics, and Public Policy:**

Students in this strand explore ethical questions related to the relationship between the media and the public. Topic areas include the ethics of representation, government surveillance, media law, and ethical codes of conduct in journalism and advertising. Students engage with a variety of disciplinary perspectives including journalism, information sciences, communication studies, government, advertising, and radio-television-film. Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- Research on Latino images in the media.
- Research on media framing of the same events across different cultures.

- Internship with the Texas Film Commission, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.
- Internship with Texas Tribune, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.
- Internship with Texas House of Representatives Press Office, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.

### **Race, Ethnicity, and Ethics:**

The Race, Ethnicity, and Ethics strand invites students to explore the societal and cultural implications of race and ethnicity.

Students in this strand have the opportunity to explore racial and ethnic groups through various lenses including film, public policy, education, business, mass media, politics, medicine, and literature.

Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- Research on images of African Americans in the media, 1960-1990.
- Research on race policy in the U.S.
- Research on the path leading to the DREAM Act.

### **Social Justice, Politics, and Law:**

Students in this strand explore politics and the law through the lens of social justice and ethics. Topic areas include leadership, civic participation, public policy, and social change. Disciplinary perspectives offered in this strand go beyond government to include anthropology, history, rhetoric, social work, and many others. Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- Research on compensation for wrongfully convicted defendants.
- Research on Title IX and funding for collegiate sports.
- Research on President Lyndon B. Johnson, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., and wiretapping.
- Internship at Texas State Capitol, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.
- Internship at Texas Advocacy Project, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.
- Internship at Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life, with an ethics interview and case study assignment.