

Detailed syllabus description

Name of the Qualification	Languages
Name of the Pathway (Specialization)	Applied English
Name of the Course	Professional and Workplace Ethics
Course Code	L61500134
Prerequisite / Co-requisite	None
Credit Hours	1
Theoretical Hours	0
Practical / Applied Hours	1 (Seminar)
Nature of Practical / Applied Component	Seminar-based discussions, case study analysis, ethical role-play, and reflective writing
Teaching Method	On campus

First: Course Short Description

This course explores the ethical responsibilities and standards relevant to language professionals, including translators, interpreters, editors, writers, linguists, and language educators. It provides a foundation in ethical theories and applies them to real-world challenges faced in language work—such as confidentiality, accuracy, impartiality, intellectual property, cultural sensitivity, and professional conduct. Through case studies, practical examples, and discussions, students will engage with common ethical dilemmas—like balancing fidelity with readability in translation, ensuring fairness and inclusion in educational settings, avoiding plagiarism, and dealing with bias in media and linguistic research. The course also examines professional codes of ethics (e.g., ATA, IAPTI, TESOL) and promotes reflective practice that supports integrity and accountability.

Second: Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

CLO	Learning Outcome
CLO1	Understand core ethical principles and how they apply to language-based professions.
CLO2	Identify ethical dilemmas in translation, interpretation, editing, teaching, and related fields.
CLO3	Apply ethical reasoning to situations involving accuracy, confidentiality, neutrality, and professionalism.
CLO4	Critically evaluate issues such as bias, censorship, and authorship in linguistic and communication work.
CLO5	Familiarize themselves with professional codes of ethics relevant to their specialization (e.g., ATA, FIT, TESOL).
CLO6	Promote fairness, respect for diversity, and intercultural sensitivity in their language practices.
CLO7	Reflect on their professional identity and responsibilities as language practitioners.
CLO8	Demonstrate ethical decision-making skills through the analysis of case studies and real-life scenarios.

Third : Seminar Plan

Week	Seminar Topic	Seminar Focus & Activities	Allocated Hours	CLOs
1	Introduction to Ethics in Language Professions	Overview of course goals, roles of language professionals, and why ethics matters in the field.	1	CLO1, CLO7
2	Foundations of Ethical Thinking	Explore core ethical theories (duty, virtue, responsibility) and apply to language-based scenarios.	1	CLO1
3	Dilemmas in Real-World Language Work	Analyze real ethical dilemmas in translation, teaching, editing, and interpreting. Role-play solutions.	1	CLO2, CLO8
4	Confidentiality & Professional Boundaries	Discuss privacy, neutrality, and ethical relationships with clients and students.	1	CLO3
5	Accuracy, Loyalty, and Mistranslation	Explore ethical tensions between fidelity and readability in professional language use.	1	CLO3, CLO8
6	Editing, Plagiarism & AI	Evaluate authorship, ghostwriting, and responsible use of AI in writing/editing.	1	CLO4, CLO8
7	Intercultural & Religious Sensitivity	Discuss ethical issues in handling sensitive content across cultures and belief systems.	1	CLO6
8	Professional Codes of Ethics	Compare and critique professional codes (e.g., ATA, TESOL, local). Discuss their role and limits.	1	CLO5
9	Case Study Workshop	Analyze and present ethical case studies (local/international); apply ethical frameworks.	1	CLO2, CLO8
10	Ethics in Language Teaching	Discuss fairness, bias, student rights, and the ethical use of digital tools in the classroom.	1	CLO4, CLO6
11	AI, Social Media & Misinformation	Debate the ethics of AI translation, digital privacy, and responsible information sharing.	1	CLO4
12	Reflective Practice & Personal Code	Draft and revise a personal statement of ethical values. Peer review and feedback.	1	CLO7, CLO8
13	Student Presentations	Students present ethical reflections, code critiques, or case analyses.	1	CLO8

14	Final Reflection & Application	Group reflection on ethical growth and strategies for future professional integrity.	1	CLO1, CLO7, CLO8
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Main References :

1. Pinchevski, A., Buzzanell, P. M., & Hannan, J. (Eds.). (2025). *The Handbook of Communication Ethics* (2nd ed.). Routledge.
2. Ross, D. G. (Ed.). (2025). *The Routledge Handbook of Ethics in Technical and Professional Communication*. Routledge.
3. Munday, J., & Bermúdez, A. (Eds.). (2024). *The Handbook of Translation Ethics*. Routledge.

Suggested Jordanian Context Readings/Examples:

1. Arab Professional Translators Society (code of ethics): <https://www.arabtranslators.org/>
2. Jordanian Society of Translators & Applied Linguists (JSTAL) – if accessible, review any available ethics statements.
3. Sample Jordanian case studies (e.g., Arabic-English medical or legal translation errors, social media interpretation in politics).