



**Sir Vithaldas Thackersey College
of Home Science (Autonomous),
S.N.D.T. Women's University, Mumbai**

Brochure on Professional Ethics



**Sir Vithaldas Thackersey College of Home Science (Autonomous)
S.N.D.T. Women's University, Juhu, Mumbai**

Professional Ethics

The faculty of the College are the backbone of the education system. They play a huge role in student's lives, and form a major influencing factor for them. Regarded as the noblest profession of all, these educators lay the foundation of students' life. Apart from imparting academic knowledge, these mentors are also responsible for inculcating invaluable life lessons in their students.

They thrive on the academic freedom to conduct activities deemed necessary for the attainment of the Vision and Mission of the institute. Freedom comes with responsibilities hence it is imperative that the faculty follow guidelines in their professional responsibilities.

The faculty has responsibilities to

- Students
- Colleagues
- Authorities
- Institution
- Guardians
- Community

To set a positive example, teachers must follow an ethical code of conduct to show professionalism. Those ethics ensure that these educational guides remain unbiased while doing their job and fulfil their objective of providing uncompromising education. Professional ethics determines their responsibilities towards the students.

Hence it is necessary to adopt ethical and professional standards which would serve as guidelines for faculty members in their conduct.

Ethics regarding a teacher's responsibilities towards the students

Teacher should,

- ❖ Have the responsibility for creating in his or her classroom or laboratory a climate that encourages the student to learn.
- ❖ Exemplify high scholarly standards and respect and foster the student's right to choose and pursue his or her own educational goals.
- ❖ Accept the role of providing a quality education to all students in the classroom.
- ❖ Recognize the differences in aptitude and capabilities among students and strive to meet individual needs.
- ❖ Inculcate amongst students scientific outlook and respect for physical labour and ideas of democracy and peace.
- ❖ Make clear the objectives of the course or program, establish requirements, set standards of achievement, and evaluate the student's performance.
- ❖ Be responsible to meet classes as scheduled and, when circumstances prevent this, to arrange equivalent alternate instruction.
- ❖ Feel responsible to teach courses in a manner that is consistent with the course description and credit published in the syllabus and with the announced objectives of the course. He or she must not intentionally interject into classes material personal views that have no pedagogical relationship to the subject matter of the course.

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- ❖ Present a reasonable range of opinion while discussing controversial issues within the scope of the course. When the faculty member presents his or her own views on such issues, they should always be identified as such.
- ❖ Be fair and impartial in the evaluation of the student's work. Such evaluation should be consistent with recognized and set standards.
- ❖ Be willing to be available for the students for academic discussions even beyond class hours without any remuneration or reward.
- ❖ Make classroom a place where free and open discussion of all content and issues relevant to a course can take place.
- ❖ Feel the obligation to be an intellectual guide and counsellor to students. In advising students, every reasonable effort should be made to see that information given to them is accurate.
- ❖ Conduct himself or herself at all times so as to demonstrate respect for the student. He or she should always respect the confidence deriving from the faculty-student relationship.
- ❖ Avoid exploitation of students for personal advantage. For example, in writings and oral presentations due acknowledgment of their contributions to the work should be made.

Ethics regarding the fellow workers

These include the responsibilities of a teacher toward other Staff and Colleagues.

Teacher should

- ❖ Respect and defend the freedom of associates and avoid interference with their work.
- ❖ Show due respect for the opinion of others for constructive criticism and new ideas.
- ❖ Refrain from personal vilification and acknowledge contributions of others to his or her work.
- ❖ Be objective when asked to evaluate the professional performance of a colleague/s.
- ❖ Take pride in the teaching profession and treat other members of the profession with respect and dignity.
- ❖ Refrain from accepting any gift, or favour that might impair or appear to influence professional decisions or actions.
- ❖ Avoid making any derogatory statements about colleagues, especially in the presence of pupils, other teachers, officials or parents.
- ❖ Maintain confidentiality of information concerning colleagues and dispenses such information only when authorized to do so.
- ❖ Refrain from allowing the considerations of caste, creed, religion or gender in their professional endeavours.

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Ethics regarding Authorities and Institution

Teacher should,

- ❖ Take part in his or her institution's decision-making processes to the best of his or her ability and should accept a fair share of the faculty's responsibility for its day-to-day operation.
- ❖ Discharge the professional responsibilities according to the existing rules and adhere to procedures and methods consistent with their profession bodies.
- ❖ Never attempt to exploit his or her standing within the Institute for private or personal gain.
- ❖ Only cite his or her connection with the Institute for the purposes of personal identification.
- ❖ Use the facilities, equipment, supplies, and other properties of the Institute only for professional work and never for personal work.
- ❖ Cooperate with authorities for the betterment of the institution keeping in view the interest and in conformity with the dignity of the profession.
- ❖ Take reasonable steps to prevent acts of violence and to reduce tension during periods of disturbance or high tension on campus.
- ❖ Adhere to the conditions of service.
- ❖ Give and expect due notice before a change of position is made.
- ❖ Refrain from availing of leave except on unavoidable grounds as far as practicable with prior information keeping in view their particular responsibility for completion of academic schedule.
- ❖ Treat non teaching staff as colleagues and equal partners in a cooperative undertaking within every educational institution.

Ethics regarding a teacher's responsibilities towards Guardians and Community

Teacher should

- ❖ Establish a relationship of trust with parents/guardians in the interest of overall development of students and communicate with them the performance reports of the students.
- ❖ Be aware of the social problems and take part in activities which would help in the social welfare.
- ❖ Remember to respect the composite cultural diversity of India from which the students and other staff members come.
- ❖ Refrain from taking part in such activities as may spread feelings of hatred or enmity among different communities, religious or linguistic groups.
- ❖ Refrain from taking part or subscribe to or assisting in any way activities which tend to promote feeling of hatred or enmity among different communities, religion or linguistic groups and actively work for National Integration.
