

Ethical Framework ** Signature Assignment **
Length: Paper: 7 - 10 double-spaced pages
Due: Week 6 by Sunday Midnight
Value: 300 Points for 30% of the grade
Post: Week 6 Assignments Folder

Ethical Framework Paper Guidelines

Ethical Framework Definition

An ethical framework is a decision-making model that outlines step-by-step processes for reaching ethical decisions. A framework for ethical decision-making addresses the “how” not the “what” of ethical decisions. It reflects the process of ethical decision-making. It will be similar to a decision-making framework but must include specific ethical considerations. Ethical frameworks frequently take the form of a series of questions such as, “How would I want someone else to act in this situation?” “How would my behavior be judged by my mother/father/children?” “What is the greatest good in this situation?” “What values are represented by this decision?”

You will prepare and submit through Turnitin, a 7 - 10 page paper following APA guidelines.

Your paper will include four sections:

- Describe your ethical framework.
- Describe a difficult ethical decision related to your personal or work life.
- Apply your ethical framework (described above) to your case.
- Assess how you might apply a different or more complex decision-making process in the future to complex ethical issues.

The paper should include the following components:

1. Describe your ethical framework

Research and define ethical frameworks and their purposes. Use examples from the literature. Then, thoroughly describe **your own** ethical framework based on what you have read. Describe any principles you have included or rejected. How are your values represented in your framework? How did you develop your framework? Clearly reference the ethical positions, principles, or other frameworks that influenced your own framework.

2. Describe a difficult ethical decision related to your personal or work life.

Discuss an experience from your personal or work life that involved a difficult ethical decision. This case study should be an ethical dilemma about which you personally have had to make a decision. It is not acceptable to present a case you have encountered of someone else behaving unethically. Discuss the circumstances surrounding difficult ethical choice for you. What pressures were exerted on you to decide one way or another? What are the cultural influences on you and other players? Do changing circumstances impact the decisions made? What assumptions were held by you at the time and/or were held by others that impacted your decision? You must state clearly why the decision is difficult; and must clearly state the conflict as you see it. What principles and values appeared to be in conflict?

3. Apply your ethical framework (described in #1 above) to your case.

Discuss your personal case based on your learnings this term and apply your ethical framework to the case you have described in #2 above. What are the primary or most important issues or ethical dilemmas presented in your case? How might your framework help you resolve these issues? What decision-making criteria (principles and values) did you use at the time the incident described in your case happened? How might you have resolved the issues presented in your case using your ethical framework?

4. Assess how you might apply a different or more complex decision-making process in the future.

What are your conclusions or learning from your case study? Would you make the same decision again? How would you apply your ethical framework in the future? How has your thinking about ethical decision-making changed or developed? How will this framework change how you might approach complex ethical decisions in the future?

Finally, make sure you follow this outline. Points will be taken off if you miss a section. Your paper will be evaluated on the clarity of your thought process and reasoning. You must include a minimum of five academic journals in your paper. The depth of your analysis is important as well as your demonstrated knowledge of ethical principles and values. Your paper will not be judged on your decision or decisions.

OLCU 601 - Democracy, Ethics & Leadership

Rubric for 601 Signature Assignment					
<i>Paper Elements</i>	Exemplary	Proficient	Developing	Emerging	No credit
Ethical Theory and Framework	75 Provides accurate and clear definitions and descriptions of key ethical theories. Comprehensively and accurately discusses ethical frameworks (decision-making processes). Comprehensively identifies major elements of ethical decision-making.	63 Provides fairly accurate definitions and descriptions of some key ethical theories. Somewhat comprehensively and accurately discusses ethical decision making processes. Identifies some major elements of ethical decision-making.	56 Provides somewhat clear and concise definitions and descriptions of key ethical theories. Discussion of ethical frameworks is lacking some key elements or is unclear in some areas.	45 Provides limited or unclear definitions and/or descriptions of ethical theories. Weak ethical framework definition and application. Limited if any discussion of ethical decision-making.	0 <i>Assignment, meeting grading criteria, was not submitted</i>
Application	75 Accurately applies ethical framework to a personal case study. Clearly identifies the conflicting values, or principles inherent in case. Demonstrates depth of understanding of multiple viewpoints.	63 Fairly accurately applies ethical framework to case study. Somewhat identifies conflicts of values or principles within the case. Identifies few alternate viewpoints.	56 Somewhat applies ethical framework to case study. Does not discuss multiple viewpoints or conflicts inherent in case.	45 Limited if any application of ethical framework to case. Fails to identify competing values, principles or conflicts inherent in case.	<i>Assignment, meeting grading criteria, was not submitted</i>
Critical Analysis	75 Comprehensively and effectively critiques various approaches to ethical decision-making. Effectively uses framework to draw conclusions and make recommendations about case presented. Includes persuasive arguments for the use of an ethical framework.	63 Fairly consistently employs critical analysis in discussing approaches to ethical decision-making. Uses ethical framework to draw some conclusions and make some recommendations. Identifies some ways an ethical framework is useful.	56 Somewhat employs critical analysis in discussing an ethical framework and/or assessing the strengths and improvement needed in decision-making. Weak connection between framework and ethical decision-making. Lacking solid conclusions and/or recommendations.	45 Limited if any critical analysis in discussing ethical framework and/or assessing the strengths and improvement needed in decision-making. Limited if any conclusions and recommendations. No support for use of ethical framework.	<i>Assignment, meeting grading criteria, was not submitted</i>
APA and Sources	30 Uses 5 or more scholarly sources to support an ethical framework. Consistently uses sources to connect theory to application. The work of others is correctly cited. Uses headers to organize paper, and	27 Use 4 sources to support an ethical framework. Often uses sources to connect theory to application. The work of others is correctly cited with minor errors. Uses headers to organize paper, and adheres to APA standards;	22 Use 3 sources to support an ethical framework. Somewhat uses sources to connect theory to application. The work of others is cited but with numerous errors. APA standards are somewhat followed; the work of others is cited but with numerous (4	18 Use 2 or less sources to support an ethical framework. Limited if any use of sources to connect theory to application. The work of others may not be cited and/or with multiple errors. Limited adherence to APA	<i>Assignment, meeting grading criteria, was not submitted</i>

OLCU 601 - Democracy, Ethics & Leadership

	accurately adheres to APA standards; reference page and citations are correct. All sources listed in References are cited in paper	reference page and citations are correct with minor (1-3) errors. All sources listed in References are cited in paper	– 10) errors. Sources listed in References and citations may not match	standards in the paper and Reference page; work of others may be cited but with multiple (11+) errors. Sources listed in References and citations do not match	
Writing Mechanics	45 The paper is logical, well-written, and the required length. Spelling, grammar and punctuation are accurate. APA formatting standards are followed; citations and reference page is correct.	39 The paper is logical, well-written, and is the required length. Minor errors in spelling, grammar and/or punctuation. APA standards are followed with a few minor errors.	34 The paper is somewhat logical and well-written; may be 10% too long or short. Some errors in spelling, grammar and/or punctuation. APA standards are somewhat followed but with numerous errors.	27 The paper lacks clarity and may be confusing; may be 15% too long or short. Numerous errors in spelling, grammar and/or punctuation. Limited if any adherence to APA standards.	<i>Assignment, meeting grading criteria, was not submitted</i>