

Teaching Strategy: “Additional Strategies to Increase Student Engagement”

Fortunately, many of the academic and professional practices you present and explore in your classes will surely raise related ethical issues, and they can be brought into the classroom using virtually any pedagogical approach familiar to you to. You might try some of these:

Role-playing is an easy way to engage students to examine ethics from the point of view of another person. This type of role-playing has an important benefit—increasing the capacity of students to empathize.

Sharing personal stories of how others have faced and dealt with ethical problems in the real world can help students relate to ethical concepts in a tangible way. These can be your own, or those of a guest.

Students creating their own videos about ethics can be a hands-on approach to learning about ethical concepts. Students have a vast amount of technology available to them than ever before. They should be more than consumers of it—they should create with it!

Debates are always engaging. They can be pre-arranged and demonstrate student knowledge of the topic, present their arguments, and counter those of the opposing side.

Discussion forums using a learning management system (Blackboard, Moodle, Sakai, etc.) integrating ethical concepts will allow students who may be shy, or less-than-willing to participate in a face-to-face environment, to share and engage with their classmates in a moderated environment.

Blogs, both online and written (as a journal), can be an effective way for students to write about ethical issues raised in class and/or course materials and engage in a consistent practice of ethical reflection.

Ideally, these ethical inquiries would be conducted throughout a major or program. If faculty integrated ethical thinking into their syllabus, their courses, and into their interactions, students would become more aware, accustomed to, and adept at ethical decision-making.



Academic
Technologies