



COMILLAS

UNIVERSIDAD PONTIFICIA

ICAI

ICADE

CIHS

Syllabus
2026 - 2027

GENERAL INFORMATION

Data of the subject	
Subject name	Professional Ethics
Subject code	E000006292
Main program	Bachelor's Degree in Social Work
Credits	4,5 ECTS
Type	Obligatoria (Grado)
Department	Departamento de Sociología y Trabajo Social

Teacher Information	
Teacher	
Name	José Ángel Ceballos Amandi
Department	Departamento de Sociología y Trabajo Social
Office	D-417-B
EMail	jaceballos@comillas.edu

DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBJECT

Contextualization of the subject
Prerequisites
None.
In a professional field such as Social Work, attention to users and the ability of the professionals themselves to create their own work space come together on the one hand. This peculiarity, together with the sensitivity of the situations with which the social worker has to deal and the seriousness of the consequences that can follow from his actions and assessments, mean that a mere ethical sensitivity is not enough, which often translates into evaluations resulting from mere subjective intuitions. To begin with, in Spain is a collegiate profession. Therefore, it is essential to delve deeper into the implications that this entails: from the knowledge and understanding of the deontological code and its scope, to the collegiate structures themselves. Likewise, a deep knowledge of the purpose, structure and operation of ethical committees is essential. The social work professional must be able to adequately analyze and weigh the ethical and legal implications of the situations he faces, as well as the consequences that may follow from his interventions, because they will not only affect him personally, but, ultimately, ordinary, will have consequences on the life and dignity of other people. Therefore, he must be able to analyze his decisions from the perspective of the rational and well-founded justification of his ethical criteria and evaluations. The subject focuses on the knowledge, understanding and critical analysis of the conceptual scheme and methodologies on which the exercise of ethical professional practice must be based, as well as the deontological codes that guide the performance of social workers.



COMILLAS

UNIVERSIDAD PONTIFICIA

ICAI

ICADE

CIHS

Syllabus
2026 - 2027

Course contents

Contents

- 1: Conceptual introduction: profession, deontology, legality, ethics, morality.
- 2: Professional ethics in the field of social work: role of the profession, professional association, code of ethics, ethics and ethics committees.
- 3: General principles of Professional Ethics and their application in the practice of Social Work.
- 4: Ethical and professional criteria and responsibilities in the practice of Social Work.
- 5: Ethical conflicts in the professional practice of the social worker.

EVALUATION AND CRITERIA

The use of AI to produce full assignments or substantial parts thereof, without proper citation of the source or tool used, or without explicit permission in the assignment instructions, will be considered plagiarism and therefore subject to the University's General Regulations.

Evaluation activities	Evaluation criteria	Weight
Final Exam - The final exam will consist of a written test on the theoretical content covered in the course, as well as its application. - Under no circumstances will it be divided into separate exercises or exams.	- Understanding and reasoned explanation of theoretical concepts. - Ability to synthesize and relate concepts. - Connection between theoretical concepts and real professional practice. - Grammar and spelling correction.	65
Group or individual works (will be specified at the beginning of the course). Submitting the document on time and in the correct manner will be an essential requirement for its presentation and defense before the professor. The work will be graded for the defense. Failure to comply with the deadlines and formalities will result in the denial of the defense and the subsequent failure of the work.	- In each case: adaptation to the objectives and specifications set for the work. - Coherence of the analysis and proposals with the contents and approaches of the subject. - Correction and quality of oral or written expression. - Originality.	20



Exercises or practical cases (will be specified at the beginning of the course). Submitting the document on time and in the correct manner will be an essential requirement for its presentation and defense before the professor. The work will be graded for the defense. Failure to comply with the deadlines and formalities will result in the denial of the defense and the subsequent failure of the work.	• In each case: adaptation to the objectives and specifications set for the work. • Coherence of the analysis and proposals proposed with the contents and approaches of the subject. • Correction and quality of oral or written expression. • Originality.	15
---	--	----

Grading

GRADING CRITERIA:

- For written assignments (individual, group, etc.), submission of the document on time and in the correct manner is considered an essential requirement for presentation and defense before the professor. The grade for the assignment will be the same as the defense.
- Failure to comply with the deadline or formal requirements will result in the denial of the defense and the subsequent failure of the assignment.
- The average grade for assignments, cases, or reports will only be determined when the final exam is passed (minimum passing grade: 5.00). If the exam is failed, the course will be graded with its grade.
- Committing a serious academic offense, such as plagiarizing previously published materials or copying an exam or other assessed activity, may result in disciplinary proceedings and the loss of any sittings established by the faculty regulations.
- For written assignments, a Turnitin score above 30% will require justification.
- **COLLABORATION WITH AI (Level 3):**
 - AI can be used to assist in completing the assignment, including idea generation, writing, feedback, and assessment. Students must critically evaluate and modify the outputs suggested by the AI, demonstrating their understanding.
 - You can use AI to perform specific tasks, such as writing texts, refining and assessing your work. You must critically evaluate and modify any AI-generated content you use.
 - Misuse of AIs by students will be considered a serious offense, according to the University's General Regulations, art. 168.2.e: "carrying out actions intended to falsify or defraud academic performance assessment systems."
 - The consequences of this may include "temporary expulsion for up to three months or a ban from taking the exam in the next session, or the imposition of a sanction, in one or more subjects in which the student is enrolled, [...] in addition to a failing grade (0) in the respective subject, [...] [and] a ban from taking the exam in that subject in the next session."
 - The use of AI to create complete or relevant parts of papers, without citing the source or tool, or without being expressly permitted in the work description, will be considered plagiarism and regulated in accordance with the University's General Regulations.
- Unjustified absence from more than 30% of class sessions may result in the loss of the right to take the exam in the sessions established by the Faculty's regulations (Article 93.1 of the General Regulations).
- Failure to attend the first hour of a double class will result in the application of a failure to attend the entire session, regardless of whether the student attends the second hour.
- The professor will determine the attendance monitoring system at the beginning of the course and will periodically inform students of their progress.
- Cases, assignments, or reports submitted after the deadline will be considered unsubmitted.
- Failure to submit, present, or complete cases, assignments, reports, or exercises will result in a fail (zero) in the corresponding grading section.



COMILLAS

UNIVERSIDAD PONTIFICIA

ICAI

ICADE

CIHS

Syllabus 2026 - 2027

- If the subject is failed in the regular session, the grades for the assignments, cases, reports, or exercises provided in this teaching guide and submitted in the regular session may be applied to the extraordinary grade. In this case, the student will only be required to complete the failed or unsubmitted assignments, cases, reports, or exercises.
- For our own students who are on an exchange abroad and must take an exam for the subject, or in any other case where class attendance is not required, the grading system will consist solely of a final theoretical exam on the content determined by the Area Coordinator. In these cases, the final grade will be the grade obtained on the exam.
- In the case of exchanges (Out), it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor well in advance to specify the exam content.
- Unless otherwise stated, in all exam sessions, assignments, and exercises of any kind must have a grade of at least 5.00 out of 10.00 to pass.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

Basic References

- **Código Deontológico de Trabajo Social. Consejo General del Trabajo Social, 2012:** <http://www.comtrabajosocial.com/paginas/rincon-de-la-deontologia/>
- **Robertis, C. Fundamentos del trabajo social: ética y metodología.** Nau Llibres. Valencia, 2003.
- **Bermejo, F.J. La ética del trabajo social.** Desclee De Brower. Bilbao, 2002.
- **Uribe Pemán, M^a Jesús. Ética Social Contemporánea.** Eunote. Pamplona 2000.
- **VV.AA. Trabajadores Sociales: su papel y cometido.** Narcea. Madrid, 1992.

Throughout the course, specific and updated bibliography (books and magazine articles) may be requested.

In compliance with current regulations on the **protection of personal data**, we would like to inform you that you may consult the aspects related to privacy and data that you have accepted on your registration form by entering this website and clicking on "download"

<https://servicios.upcomillas.es/sedelectronica/inicio.aspx?csv=02E4557CAA66F4A81663AD10CED66792>