

Cover Sheet for Activity¹

Title: Code of Ethics Homework

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Course(s) and textbook(s) (or other info to contextualize the course and activity): Any course; preferably service courses at the sophomore or higher level so that students have completed an introductory writing course and at least one course in their discipline.

Type/Size of Institution(s): Any

Class Size(s): 30 or smaller

Mathematical Content: Any service course in mathematics.

Learning Objective(s): In this assignment, the students will

- a. **Research and Select** a professional ethics code relevant to their chosen career.
- b. **Summarize** the structure, tone, and key principles of the ethics code without simply restating its contents.
- c. **Analyze** how the ethics code addresses (or fails to address) uncertainty, estimation, and potential errors in mathematical models.
- d. **Develop Concise Communication Skills** by crafting a clear, well-structured one-page summary.

Time Required & Implementation Plan: This activity is an assignment. It can be a small project in a course, or one of the regular homework assignments. No additional in-class instruction was provided for a modified version of this assignment when it was piloted. Instead, the assignment itself includes examples to help guide the student to understand the expectations. However, an instructor may choose to add ten minutes of class time to discuss what a code of ethics is, general goals for the code for a professional organization and how to find sample codes.

Grading and Assessment Recommendations: This assignment introduces students to codes of ethics and helps them develop a foundational understanding of ethical guidelines relevant to their future careers. Instructors are encouraged to assess students' work based on their ability to identify key ethical principles, describe the structure and intent of the code, and communicate their findings effectively.

Required resources and technology: Internet access for students.

Brief Description/Abstract: Many students in service mathematics courses will use mathematical concepts, computations, and models in their future careers, even if they do not become mathematicians. This assignment introduces students to professional ethical guidelines

¹ Supported by NSF Grant 2220314, 2220423, 2220395

by having them research and summarize a code of ethics relevant to their chosen career. In addition to analyzing the structure and key principles of the code, students will examine whether it addresses uncertainty, estimation, and potential errors in mathematical models used in professional decision-making.