



ISLAMIC ETHICS FOR PROFESSIONALS

A Unique Online Course in 11 Sessions

20 January 2025 - 20 May 2025

**Covering: Biomedical Ethics, Environmental Ethics, Business Ethics and Public Life,
Social Media Ethics and Ethics of Journalism, Islamic Ethics and AI**

**This course is also beneficial for non-professionals who are interested in
any of the above topics**

Course Overview:

This specialised course offers a comprehensive exploration of Islamic ethics as applied to contemporary professional contexts. Divided into 11 sessions, each lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes, the course provides a unique blend of academic insights and practical applications.

Course Structure:

Each topic features two expert speakers: one discussing the ethical implications of a specific topic from a general perspective and the other offering an Islamic ethical analysis. This dual approach provides a well-rounded understanding of the subject matter. There are two exceptions to the above structure: biomedical ethics will be discussed in three sessions while AI and Ethics in one session.

Session Format:

- **Lecture (1 hour):** A detailed presentation on the chosen topic, covering both general and Islamic ethical perspectives.
- **Q&A Session (45 minutes):** An interactive discussion where participants can ask questions and engage in dialogue with the experts.

Session Benefits:

By participating in this course, you will:

- Gain a deeper understanding of Islamic ethical principles.
- Develop practical skills in applying ethical reasoning to professional challenges.
- Benefit from the expertise of leading scholars in the field.
- Have the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions with peers.

Course Duration:

The course will take place every Friday from 6:00 PM to 7:45 PM, starting on Friday, 24th January 2025 and ending on the 20th May 2025.

Course Duration:

£400 for working professionals

£200 for students and trainees

Course Syllabus:

Session 1: What Are These Things Called Ethics and Professional Ethics?
Dr Jeremy Shearmur, Australia National University

Session 2: Biomedical Ethics (1)
Professor Soren Holms, University of Manchester

Session 3: Biomedical Ethics - Islamic Perspective (2)
Dr Nermina Lamadema, King's College, London

Session 4: Biomedical Ethics - Islamic Perspective (3)
Dr Nermina Lamadema, King's College, London

Session 5: Ethics in Business and Public Life (1)
Professor Philip Booth, St. Mary University, London

Session 6: Business Ethics - (2) Islamic Perspective
Professor Iqbal Asaria, London Institute of Banking and Finance

Session 7: AI and Ethics (Opportunities and Threats)
Islamic Perspective
Professor Ezzieddin Elmahjub, Qatar University College of Law

Session 8: Environmental Ethics - (1)
Dr Jeremy Shearmur, Australia National University

Session 9: Environmental Ethics - (2) Islamic Perspective
Dr Syed Ali Akbar Naqvi, North East London NHS
Foundation Trust

Session 10: Social Media Ethics and Ethics of Journalism- (1)
Islamic perspective
Professor Basyouni Hamada, Qatar University

Session 11: Social Media Ethics - (2)
Dr Kate Orton-Johnson, University of Edinburgh



Dr Jeremy Shearmur:

Jeremy Shearmur holds a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics, where he also worked as assistant to Professor Sir Karl Popper. He later taught philosophy at Edinburgh, Political Theory at Manchester and was a Research Associate Professor at George Mason University. He subsequently taught political theory and then philosophy at the Australian National University, of which he is now an Emeritus Fellow. Jeremy has taught widely in philosophy including both ethics and applied ethics, and has published papers and supervised Ph.D. theses in these fields. He served as Chair of the Australian Federal Government's Department of Health and Ageing Research Ethics Committee.



What Are These Things Called Ethics and Professional Ethics? Outline:

There may be unexpected tensions within and between the moral practises of different societies. Ethics looks at such matters and also investigates whether our customary ideas and practises should be improved on. Various striking theories have been developed, and illuminating ideas explored, about our moral conduct. Professional ethics considers codes of conduct within different professions but also reflects critically on them. Engagement with these matters may involve ideas from the study of ethics, but also specialist knowledge of the fields in question and their history and sociology.



Professor Soren Holms:

Søren Holm is a Danish medical doctor and philosopher. He holds degrees in medicine, and in philosophy and religious studies, a Masters degree in Health Care Ethics and Law, a PhD, and a higher Danish doctorate. He is Professor of Bioethics at The University of Manchester, UK and part-time Professor of Medical Ethics at the University of Oslo, Norway. He is a former President of the European Society for the Philosophy of Medicine and Health Care, and of the International Association of Bioethics, and a former Editor in Chief of the Journal of Medical Ethics, and the journal Clinical Ethics. He has published widely on issues in medical ethics and the philosophy of medicine.



Biomedical Ethics

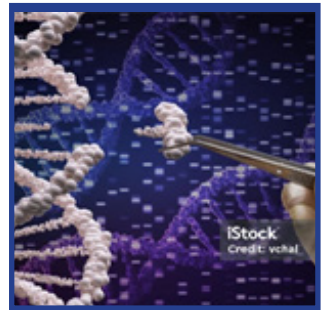
Outline:

This talk will present an outline of current approaches to biomedical ethics. The first section of the talk will present a brief account of the history of modern biomedical ethics from its emergence at the end of the 1960s to the current day. The second section will then present and discuss the two main theoretical frameworks used in biomedical ethics, the ‘four principles’ of Tom Beauchamp and Jim Childress, and Anglo-American consequentialism / pragmatism. This section will also discuss the importance of analogical arguments and appeals to consistency in analyses and argument in this area. The third section will finally outline how a ‘typical’ analysis of a biomedical ethical issue might proceed, and highlight some problems in applying the main theoretical frameworks to clinical and regulatory cases with ethical implications.



Dr Nermina Lamadema:

Dr Nermina Lamadema obtained her doctorate at King's College School of Medicine working on gene editing of tumour suppressor genes using zinc finger nucleases. She was awarded a grant to study epigenetic landscape of T lymphocytes cell cycle stages at the department of Haematological Medicine at King's where she used Next Generation sequencing platform to develop an epigenomic and transcriptomic profile of cycling T cells. This expanded her research into the study of epigenetic signatures in endothelial cells during hypoxia at the School of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine & Sciences at King's. She developed a concept of epigenetic oxygen sensors that could potentially be used as a therapeutic modality.



Biomedical Ethics - Islamic Perspective Outline:

The first session on Islamic Perspectives on Bioethics will examine a wide range of key bioethics issues across various disciplines. The ultimate goal is to gain a better understanding of the major principles and themes related to the practice of bioethics.

The themes we will address include research and clinical ethics, bioethics advocacy, emerging dilemmas in reproductive medicine, recent developments in genomics (including issues of 'big data' security and privacy), ethical issues and controversies surrounding the field of neurotechnology. We will also briefly explore the latest trends in biotechnology and bioengineering, the ethics of human-animal relationships, deficit model approaches in science communication for 'lay' audiences, and issues of autonomy, community, and paternalistic approaches in



Dr Nermina Lamadema:

Dr Nermina Lamadema obtained her doctorate at King's College School of Medicine working on gene editing of tumour suppressor genes using zinc finger nucleases. She was awarded a grant to study epigenetic landscape of T lymphocytes cell cycle stages at the department of Haematological Medicine at King's where she used Next Generation sequencing platform to develop an epigenomic and transcriptomic profile of cycling T cells. This expanded her research into the study of epigenetic signatures in endothelial cells during hypoxia at the School of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine & Sciences at King's. She developed a concept of epigenetic oxygen sensors that could potentially be used as a therapeutic modality.



Biomedical Ethics – Islamic Perspective Outline:

In the second session, we will begin with a brief overview of key bioethical approaches currently used to address ethical concerns. We will then turn our attention to Islamic perspectives on bioethics, examining the contemporary insights offered by Muslim theologians and academics that contribute to the ongoing bioethical dialogue. Our primary emphasis will be on exploring the salient features of the Islamic spirituality and intellectual tradition that can meaningfully respond to the profound questions posed by bioengineering and related bioethical challenges. Main feature is the Islamic perspective on the sacred quality of nature as a place of Divine Creativity and Presence and central place for a human being as a vessel in which the sacred has manifested itself.



Professor Philip Booth :

Philip Booth is Director of Catholic Mission and Professor of Finance, Public Policy and Ethics at St. Mary's University. Professor Booth is a fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, a fellow of the Institute of Actuaries, and an honorary member of the Society of Actuaries of Poland. He has a B.A. in economics from the University of Durham and a Ph.D. from City University.

He has written widely on investment, finance, social insurance, and pensions, as well as on the relationship between Catholic social teaching and economics. His books have included “Catholic Social Thought, the Market and Public Policy: Twenty-First-Century Challenges” and he edits the website www.catholicsocialthought.org.uk



Ethics in Business and Public Life

Outline:

The talk will discuss how all economic and business decisions are also moral actions and, as such, ethics should animate our participation in economic life. The consequences of a lack of ethics in economic life will be discussed and arguments addressed as to whether this provides a justification for government regulation of the economy. The catastrophic effects of corruption and the breakdown of ethics in government and public life will be demonstrated and then, at the end of the talk, there will be a discussion of the importance of a renewal of ethics in business and commerce. The talk will stress two key messages. The first is that business needs ethics because markets will not automatically generate good ethical behaviour. The second is that government regulation is no solution to a lack of ethics in markets.

Professor Iqbal Asaria:

M Iqbal Asaria is Visiting Professor, London Institute of Banking & Finance (LIBF); Visiting Faculty, Bangor Business School; Visiting Faculty, Birmingham University; Director of Afkar Group of Companies. Iqbal is Visiting Professor at the London Institute of Banking and Finance (LIBF). He teaches the Islamic Finance, Accounting, Banking and Insurance courses at Bangor Business School. Iqbal teaches the Chartered Banker module on Aspects of Global Banking for Bangor Business School. He has been a contributing tutor at Durham University's prestigious Summer School on Islamic Finance for the last nine years. Iqbal is the co-author of the Chartered Insurance Institute's (CII) 590 Diploma level module on Takaful.



Business Ethics – (2)Islamic Perspective Outline:

The presentation will focus on the influence of Islamic Values on Business Ethics. The primacy of a valid contract was the key feature of Muslim commerce and was instrumental in the spread of Islam as a trade-based civilisation. This key feature underpinned ethical behaviour based on trust.

Thus the key Islamic trade contract used during the Blessed Prophet's time, of Mudharaba (risk sharing contract) was based on trust. Any abuse of this trust would lead to severe ostracisation of the guilty parties.

Other practices of Muslim business which helped spread Islam will also be discussed.



Dr. Ezieddin Elmahjub :

Dr. Ezieddin Elmahjub is Associate Professor of Law at Qatar University and the Managing Chair of its Centre for Law and Development. Dr. Elmahjub completed a Master and PhD in intellectual property law and Islamic Studies at Queensland University of Technology (Australia). Dr. Elmahjub held various teaching and research positions at Swinburne University, Queensland University of Technology, the University of New England and the National University of Singapore. Ezieddin researches comparative legal philosophy with a particular focus on the interaction between law, ethics and technology. He is the author of numerous research publications in these areas, including a book entitled an Islamic Vision of Intellectual Property, published by Cambridge University Press, and a research



AI and Ethics (opportunities and threats) Islamic Perspective Outline:

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into business and society presents immense opportunities while raising significant ethical dilemmas. From an Islamic perspective, these challenges necessitate a careful balance between leveraging AI's potential and adhering to the principles of Shariah, which emphasize justice, human dignity, and the public good (maslaha). This talk will critically engage with the core ethical issues of AI and outline an Islamic framework for addressing them within contemporary business practices.

Dr Jeremy Shearmur:

Jeremy Shearmur holds a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics, where he also worked as assistant to Professor Sir Karl Popper. He later taught philosophy at Edinburgh, Political Theory at Manchester and was a Research Associate Professor at George Mason University. He subsequently taught political theory and then philosophy at the Australian National University, of which he is now an Emeritus Fellow. Jeremy has taught widely in philosophy including both ethics and applied ethics, and has published papers and supervised Ph.D. theses in these fields. He served as Chair of the Australian Federal Government's Department of Health and Ageing Research Ethics Committee.



Environmental Ethics Outline:

We are all familiar, these days, with difficult environmental problems. But what does the study of environmental ethics bring to the discussion? The field tends to discuss two kinds of problems. One is concerned with the unintended consequences of our actions and the problem that we may often discover ourselves to have been interacting with complex systems about the operations of which we may know little. The other tackles problems about what should matter to us beyond humans. What about the value of animals, plants, or environmental systems as such? Do they have intrinsic value by which we should be constrained? And do environmental problems perhaps raise wider issues about our attitudes towards the world?



Dr. Syed Ali Naqvi :

Dr. Syed Ali Naqvi is an internationally renowned psychologist with over 35 years of experience working with governments, corporations, and foundations. He holds various professional credentials, including Chartered Consultant Psychologist and BABCP Accredited CBT Consultant. Dr. Ali's expertise spans psychotherapeutic approaches like CBT, EMDR, DBT, and Schema Therapy, and he specializes in PTSD, OCD, and health anxiety. He has worked in diverse cultural contexts, delivering therapy in Urdu, Punjabi, and Hindi. Dr. Ali has academic and clinical leadership experience, authored 8 books, and published research. He serves as a senior advisor and currently leads NHS Primary Care Mental Health Services in London.



Environmental Ethics - Islamic perspective Outline:

“Islam is a comprehensive framework for living that aligns seamlessly with the United Nations’ global sustainability goals in the pursuit of environmental stewardship. Central to this framework is the concept of humankind as stewards (khalifah) of the Earth, which emphasizes our responsibility to care for creation. This stewardship encompasses vital principles, such as maintaining *mizan*—the balance in nature, adhering to *israf*—the prohibition of waste, and the conservation of water resources. These teachings are deeply rooted in the Qur’an and Sunnah.

These Islamic principles resonate with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including responsible consumption (SDG 12) and ensuring access to clean water (SDG 6). Moreover, Islam encourages active participation from all members of the community in environmental issues, fostering a collective responsibility for environmental preservation. By embracing these values, we can ensure that



Professor Basyouni Hamada :

Dr. Basyouni Hamada is Professor and former Head of the Department of Mass Communication, College of Arts and Sciences, Qatar University. He has authored more than 65 journal articles, book chapters, and books, made more than 100 presentations at refereed international conferences, and has served as Editor, Associate Editor and Reviewer for several refereed international journals, organiser, chair and co-chair at several conferences. Currently, he is serving as the Editor of Digital Journalism Special Issue on “Journalism and Digital Authoritarianism”. Professor Hamada has a B.A., an M.A. and a Ph.D in Mass Communication from Cairo University, Egypt.



Social Media Ethics and Ethics of Journalism- (1)Islamic perspective

Outline:

The key questions which will be discussed in this talk are as follows:

- *What are the key pillars of a universal Islamic journalism ethics model for all humanity?
- *Why is it necessary to de-Westernize journalism ethics?
- *What steps can be taken to de-Westernize journalism ethics?
- *In what ways do social media challenge traditional journalism ethics?



Dr Kate Orton-Johnson:

Kate Orton-Johnson is a Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Edinburgh. Her research interests relate to intersections between technology, culture and everyday life. She has conducted research and published work on student use of digital technologies and social media in HE, decentralised social media, digital leisure, and social media and parenting. Her most recent book *Digital Culture and Society* was published by Sage in 2024. She is a convenor of the British Sociological Association Digital Sociology study group.

She has a long-standing interest in ethical issues and social media, as research tools and as research sites. As part of the NCRM (National Centre for Research Methods) she runs training on the ethics of social research using social media and in her own undergraduate and postgraduate teaching at Edinburgh she explores the ethical questions posed by our contemporary digital landscape.



Social Media Ethics

Outline:

Social media platforms have become powerful intermediaries that fundamentally reshape human communication, social interactions, and information dissemination. While digital platforms have the potential to empower individuals and foster connectivity, they also raise complex ethical questions. This talk will reflect on some of the ethical challenges emerging from our digital ecosystems, focusing on critical tensions between technological capabilities, corporate responsibilities, and individual rights and accountability, transparency, and democratic governance.



Register:

<https://islamic-college.ac.uk/study-short-courses/islamic-ethics-for-professionals/>

For more information:

Email: shortcourses@islamic-college.ac.uk

Tel: 0208 451 9993 Ext 231



THE
ISLAMIC COLLEGE

133 High Rd, London NW10 2SW

020 8451 9993

www.islamic-college.ac.uk