

**Wollo University**  
**College of Informatics**  
**Department of Information system**  
**Course Outline**

**General information**

- Course Title..... Civics and Ethics (CESt 1011)
- Prerequisites.....No prerequisites
- Target Group.....4<sup>th</sup> year students
- Semester II.....Year 2012E.C
- Lecture Times.....3 hrs.
- Office.....B21R07
- Duration ..... One Semester
- Instructor ..... Amanuel D.
- Address .....amanueldejen365@gmail.com

**I. Module/course Rationale and Description**

This module/course is designed for undergraduate students taking Civics and Ethics as a common course at all Ethiopian universities and it aims at cultivating students with the competence of actively participating in the public life using their democratic rights and discharging their responsibilities with the necessary civic knowledge and skills and attitudes. This is imperative especially in countries like Ethiopia where the process of cultivating and inculcating modern constitutional and democratic values in the minds of citizens is still experiencing challenges largely because the country had no established civic culture dominated by these values/ principles in its past history and partly because these values and principles are not yet well institutionalized even in its current history.

**II. Intended Learning Outcomes**

- ❖ Upon a successful completion of this module/course, students will be able to:
  - ↳ Understand the subject matter of Civics and Ethics;
  - ↳ Gain knowledge about the theoretical discourses and practices of state/government, society and citizenship and their mutual interplay especially in the context of Ethiopia;
  - ↳ Know the civic, social and political dimension of their citizenship lives in line with the importance of active civic participation of citizens to the healthy life of their state and society;
  - ↳ Understand the essences of such values and principles as democracy and human rights, multiculturalism and constitution and constitutionalism especially in the context of Ethiopia;
  - ↳ **Examine Ethiopia's experience in constitutional development and issues of democracy and human rights thereof;**
  - ↳ Understand the interdependence of Environment and development in light of ethics;
  - ↳ Cultivate certain moral values and civic virtues that enable them be morally matured and civically competent in their professional and citizenry lives by practically exposing them to moral and civic debates/discussions and engagements.

**III. Module/course content out line**

No	Course Content	week	Teaching Aid	Teaching Methods	Modes of Assessment
1	<b>Chapter One: Understanding Civics and Ethics</b> <b>Introduction</b> 1.1. Defining Civics, Citizenship, Ethics and Morality 1.2. Similarities and differences of Civics and Ethics 1.3. Goals of Civics and Ethics 1.4. Citizenship and Competences of Good Citizens	Week 1-3	Black board/white board, chalk and board with marker	Lecturing and class discussion	Assignment/ Test

2	<b>Chapter Two: Understanding Society, State and Government: Ethiopian Focus</b> <b>2.1. Society</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition and attributes of society</li> </ul> <b>2.2. State</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition and attributes of the state</li> <li>Theories on the origin and development of state</li> <li>State structure: Unitary Vs Federal</li> </ul> <b>2.3. Government</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition and Functions of Government</li> <li>Forms and systems of Government</li> <li>Similarities and differences between society, state and government</li> </ul> 2.4. Ethiopian Society, State and Government	Week 4-8	Black board/white board, chalk and board with marker	Lecturing and class discussion and brainstorming	Mid-exam
3	<b>Chapter Three: Understanding Citizenship: Ethiopian Focus</b> 3.1. Definition and Aspects/dimensions of Citizenship 3.3. Modes of acquiring and losing citizenship	Week 9-10	Black board/white board, chalk	Lecturing and class discussion	
4	<b>Chapter Four: Constitution, Democracy and Human Rights: Ethiopian Focus</b> <b>4.1. Constitution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition of constitution and constitutionalism</li> <li>Purpose and classifications of constitution</li> </ul> <b>4.2. Democracy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition and ways of exercising democracy</li> <li>Fundamental values and principles of democracy</li> <li>Democratization and actors in democratization process</li> </ul> <b>4.3. Human rights</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition, nature and classification of human rights</li> </ul>	Week 11-12	Black board/white board, chalk and board with marker	Lecturing and class discussion and brainstorming	
5	<b>Chapter Five: Ethics and Civic Virtue</b> 5.1. Overview of Ethics and Ethical theories/school of thoughts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consequentialist theory</li> <li>Duty theory</li> </ul> 5.2. Selected issues in Applied Ethics.	Week 13-15	Black board/white board, chalk and board with marker	Lecturing and class discussion and brainstorming	

### Assessment Criteria and Grading System

#### A. Assessment Criteria

The assessment criteria are based on continuous assessment of class activities, individual and group assignment, field visit and report writing, test and final exams. This in turn can be broken down into;

Group assignments and presentation .....	20%
Tests/quizzes .....	40%
Final Exam.....	40%
Total.....	100%

#### B. Grading System: As per the legislations of respective Universities

#### References and/ or reading Materials

Alexander, Larry (ed.).1998. Constitutionalism: Philosophical Foundations. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Assefa Fisseha. 2006. Federalism and Accommodation of Ethnic Diversity in Ethiopia: Comparative Study. Utrecht: Wolf Legal Publishers.

Fasil Nahum. 1997. Constitution for a Nation of Nations: The Ethiopian Prospect. Lawrenceville, NJ: Red Sea Publishers.

#### Important Documents

- Ethiopian constitutions
- Ethiopian nationality proclamations