



# Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit - 2022-2023

## Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

# Philosophy and Ethics

Course Code	X_400433
Credits	3.00
Period	P5
Course Level	200
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Science
Course Coordinator	dr. J.J.W. Wieland
Examiner	dr. J.J.W. Wieland
Teaching Staff	dr. J.J.W. Wieland
Teaching method(s)	Lecture

## Course Objective

At the end of the course, the students will be:

- familiar with basic knowledge of the main ethical theories [knowledge and understanding];
- able to apply these theories to moral dilemmas concerning new technologies [applying knowledge and understanding];
- able to write and argue for their solutions of these dilemmas [communication skills];
- trained to deal with moral dilemmas they might encounter in their future career [lifelong learning skills].

## Course Content

Argument of the course:

1. New technologies (e.g. systems for detecting illnesses, criminal behavior, selecting the best employees, our news feed, the ads we see, nudging us to make healthy and sustainable choices, tracking infected people, etc.) take over the world.
2. These technologies better meet moral standards.
3. Hence, those involved in design or regulation (i.e. you, in the future) should know about the main ideas in ethics.

In this course, you will learn about the main ethical theories (namely, contractualism, utilitarianism, Kantian ethics, and theories of well-being), and learn to utilize these theories to resolve moral dilemmas in a justified and intelligent way.

## Additional Information Teaching Methods

Lectures.

## Method of Assessment

There will be 5 home assignments, and you pass the course if you pass at least 4 of them.

## Literature

Textbook (Rachels: The Elements of Moral Philosophy), plus texts that will be shared on Canvas.