Honour your Parents

**Question Authority** 

Do Unto Others As You Want Done Unto You Save The Planet

THE EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

### Teaching Ethics at Ashesi

# 01. Ethical Reasoning

Teaching the ability to identify, assess, and develop ethical arguments from a variety of positions.

## 02. Leadership & Good Societies

Teaching leadership and governance models, and debating their merits or otherwise.

## 03. Ashesi's Honour Code

Voted into force by students in 2008; teaching students to exercise moral muscle.



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# Stanley Milgram's Agency Theory

Why do good people do bad things even when they know it is wrong?

#### Agentic State

We follow orders from authority and attribute consequences to the authority but not ourselves.

#### **Autonomous State**

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#### **Moral Strain**

Psychological distress which can be experienced when one follows an order from an authority that is against one's own beliefs.

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### Giving Voice to Values

Tools and strategies for effective expression of values and ethical action in conflict situations.

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#### Reframe

"What if I were going to act on my values? What would I say and do? How could I be most effective?"

#### Reflect

Think through situations in the past and from shared experiences of alumni, and what patterns do we see?

#### Reinforce

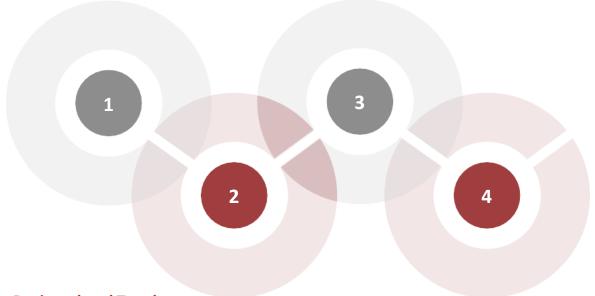
Take scenarios and act out strategies for speaking up and taking ethical action.

### Class Structured as Peer Support Group

Small class sizes of 12-15 students, meeting weekly.

### Puts Students in "Charge"

Students develop scripts and act plans for case scenarios



### Designed and Taught With Alumni

Each class has an alum as co-facilitator, and class uses anonymous cases from real alumni experiences.

### Taught in first-year then senior-year

Give students tools to act in year 1, so they can practise over their time on campus



"

Jonathan Haidt,
The Righteous Mind:
Why Good People
are Divided by
Politics and Religion.

If you really want to change someone's mind on a moral or political matter, you'll need to see things from that person's angle as well as your own. And if you do truly see it the other person's way—deeply and intuitively—you might even find your own mind opening in response. Empathy is an antidote to righteousness, although it's very difficult to empathize across a moral divide."



#### **Evaluations From Recruiters & Employers**

Percentage that Rank Students as Excellent

91%

87%

Ethics & Civic Engagement

Leadership & Teamwork

92%

82%

**Professionalism** 

Communication

95%

Technological Competence

83%

Critical Thinking & Quantitative Reasoning

84%

Innovation & Action Orientation

87%

Curiosity & Skill

