

## **EVALUATION OF LIBRARY RESOURCES ESSENTIAL TO THE SUPPORT OF: Undergraduate Certificate in Ethics**

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### **Background**

University of Louisville (UofL) Libraries include:

- 1) Ekstrom Library serving humanities, social sciences, life sciences, business, engineering, physical sciences, and technology;
- 2) Kornhauser Health Sciences Library;
- 3) Anderson Music Library;
- 4) Bridwell Art Library;
- 5) Brandeis School of Law Library;
- 6) University Archives and Special Collections.

UofL's library system supports the teaching and research needs of more than 22,000 students and more than 7,000 faculty and staff. UofL belongs to the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), an organization of 126 North American library systems affiliated with large, comprehensive research institutions; the State-Assisted Academic Library Council of Kentucky (SAALCK); and the Kentuckiana Metroversity, a consortium of Louisville area libraries.

Ekstrom Library provides access to the resources most relevant to the proposed Undergraduate Certificate in Ethics. The certificate requires 12 credit hours, primarily in philosophy. There are no new courses associated with the program. This report provides a summary of library resources that support teaching and research in ethics and related subjects.

### **Books**

Data from the library catalog indicate that the UofL library system includes thousands of books on ethics in its collections, with many books available in electronic format. The table below shows the total number of books for selected Library of Congress subject terms, as well as the percentage in each area published in the last ten years. The proposed ethics certificate consists entirely of existing courses already supported by University Libraries. As such, the book collection should be sufficient to meet the needs of faculty and undergraduate students in the new program.

| <b>LC Subject</b> | <b>Total # of Books</b> | <b>% Published 2010-2020</b> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ethics            | 12,703                  | 25%                          |
| Morals            | 8,941                   | 24%                          |
| Values            | 1,421                   | 19%                          |

|                       |       |     |
|-----------------------|-------|-----|
| Social Values         | 846   | 18% |
| Social Justice Ethics | 175   | 27% |
| Business Ethics       | 1,240 | 42% |
| Applied Ethics        | 59    | 32% |
| Medical Ethics        | 1,349 | 24% |

### Periodicals

UofL Libraries has online full-text access to a broad range of scholarly journals focusing on ethics, with several titles that apply ethics to other disciplines and professional activities. This access includes the top ten highest impact-factor journals according to InCites Journal Citation Reports, as well as a number of other relevant journals. Key journals are listed in the table below. Note that the most recent issues of *Environmental Values* and *Ethics and Behavior* are not available due to database restrictions. We request funding to purchase current subscriptions to these two high-impact journals, as detailed in the conclusion of this document.

| Journal  | Online Full-Text Holdings |
|--|---------------------------|
| <i>American Journal of Bioethics</i>           | 2001-present              |
| <i>Environmental Values</i>                    | 1992-6 years ago          |
| <i>Ethics</i>                                  | 1992-present              |
| <i>Ethics and Behavior</i>                     | 1991-18 months ago        |
| <i>Ethics and Information Technology</i>       | 1999-present              |
| <i>Journal of Animal Ethics</i>                | 2011-present              |
| <i>Journal of Business Ethics</i>              | 1982-present              |
| <i>Journal of Ethics</i>                       | 1997-present              |
| <i>Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy</i> | 2005-present              |
| <i>Journal of Medical Ethics</i>               | 1975-present              |

### Online Databases

UofL Libraries subscribes to a large number of online databases that include bibliographic data and full text access to scholarly journals and other sources in ethics, philosophy, and related fields. All databases are accessible on and off campus. Key databases for ethics include the following:

- Arts & Humanities Citation Index (scholarship in the humanities)
- EBSCO Academic Search Complete (general scholarship, periodicals, and news)
- Hein Online (law reviews and legal sources)

- Humanities Abstracts (scholarship in the humanities)
- JSTOR (scholarship across disciplines)
- Philosopher's Index (scholarship in ethics and philosophy)
- Perseus Digital Library (primary and secondary sources in the humanities)
- Project Muse (scholarship across disciplines)

### **Other Resources**

University Libraries has created a number of [online research guides](#) relevant to the ethics certificate, including guides for philosophy, legal ethics, and more. Students may also benefit from the Libraries' [Research DIY](#) website, which provides video tutorials and other materials to help students find and evaluate sources.

### **Research Assistance and Instruction**

All libraries in the UofL system provide information literacy instruction and research assistance to meet the needs of students and faculty in face-to-face, online, and hybrid learning environments. Ekstrom Library has a librarian assigned to the Philosophy Department to provide specialized assistance with research, collections, and information literacy instruction.

### **Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery**

Interlibrary loan provides access to books and articles not held by UofL Libraries. Ekstrom Library also offers document delivery, which allows patrons to request that library-owned articles or book chapters less than fifty pages, and within fair use guidelines, be scanned for electronic delivery. A Distance Learning Services Specialist provides distance and online learners with access to print and electronic resources.

### **Conclusion**

University Libraries already supports the courses that comprise the proposed Undergraduate Certificate in Ethics. Library collections and services should generally meet the needs of students and faculty in this program. In order to increase access to current high-impact research in ethics, we request funding in the amount of \$2124.00 per year to purchase current subscriptions to *Environmental Values* (\$420.00 per year) and *Ethics and Behavior* (\$1704.00 per year).