

# Ethical Understanding - Consumption and Production

## INTRODUCTION

Students develop the general capability of ethical understanding as they identify and investigate the nature of ethical concepts, values and character traits, and understand how reasoning can assist ethical judgement. (Australian Curriculum General Capabilities-Ethical Understanding). The curriculum supports students to become responsible local and global members of the community in an interconnected world and to engage with complex ethical issues and concepts (Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration, 2019, p15).

## RATIONALE

The curriculum content for this short course focuses on what we ought to do and how we ought to live within the context of consumption and production. A basic foundation for ethical understanding is that human behavior has consequences for the welfare of others and for the environment. We can knowingly and unknowingly make decisions that increase or decrease the quality of others' lives and the environment. We are capable of helping or harming others and the environment.

Building ethical understanding within the context of consumption and production requires learners to engage with basic ethical concepts such as truth, fairness, justice, equality and respect. Learners will develop their ethical understanding as they explore these concepts and reflect on ethical principles underpinning consumption and production, especially those embodied in UN Sustainable Development Goal 12.

Engaging with complex ethical issues, understanding differing ethical perspectives and reflecting on personal values and actions in relation to consumption and production supports learners to behave ethically and to become active and informed local and global citizens.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this qualification, learners will be able to:

- analyse behaviours that exemplify ethical concepts
- identify and describe different ethical positions and decisions from a personal, social and global perspective

- consider and reflect on how perceptions impact actions and consequences.

## KEY SKILLS

- identify and explore ethical issues and dilemmas
- analyse ethical positions and decisions
- reflect on perceptions and consequences
- make informed decisions

## KEY KNOWLEDGE

- behaviours and actions exemplify ethical principles and values
- ethical values support individuals and groups to make decisions about what they ought to do and how they ought to live
- obligations or duties are important considerations in ethical decision making
- our decisions and actions have consequences for the welfare of others and the environment

## QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE

### Module 1

- What is ethical understanding?
- Ethical understanding and Consumption and Production

### Module 2

- The WEF (water, energy, food) Dilemma

### Module 3

- The real cost of what we buy

### Module 4

- Think globally, act locally

## WORK REQUIREMENTS

A body of work within an ePortfolio which will include:

1. A Journal: Comprising ongoing responses and reflections from throughout the qualification. The type of journal (oral, written, multimodal) will be determined by the learner
2. Module Assessment Tasks:  
Select one of the targets of SDG12 and provide 3- 5 ethically grounded reasons for personal action.
  - a. Select one of the water, energy or food dilemmas provided and identify possible actions and their consequences.

- b. Compose a series of tweets, from a personal, social and global perspective, taking a stance on an issue related to ethical consumerism.
- c. Ethical Donations Dilemma: Consider the three personal donation scenarios and decide which path you would take. Explain your reasoning for making this decision.

## CAPABILITY STANDARDS

**Capability Standard 1:** The learner can analyse behaviours that exemplify the dimensions and challenges of ethical concepts in a range of contexts

**Capability Standard 2:** The learner can investigate scenarios that highlight ways that personal dispositions and actions can affect consequences

**Capability Standard 3:** analyse perceptions of occurrences and possible ethical responses in challenging scenarios

## RESULTS AVAILABLE

Has met/has not met the Capability Standards

This course is awaiting *Recognised Formal Learning* status from the Office of Tasmanian Assessment, Standards and Certification. Should this be agreed, this course may contribute credit points towards the Tasmanian Certificate of Education.

