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22-3-2024 | 1

Mastertrack **Ethics of Education:** Philosophy, History and Law

Masterweek 2024

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Education (schooling, socialization, youth care) is full of ethical and moral dilemmas

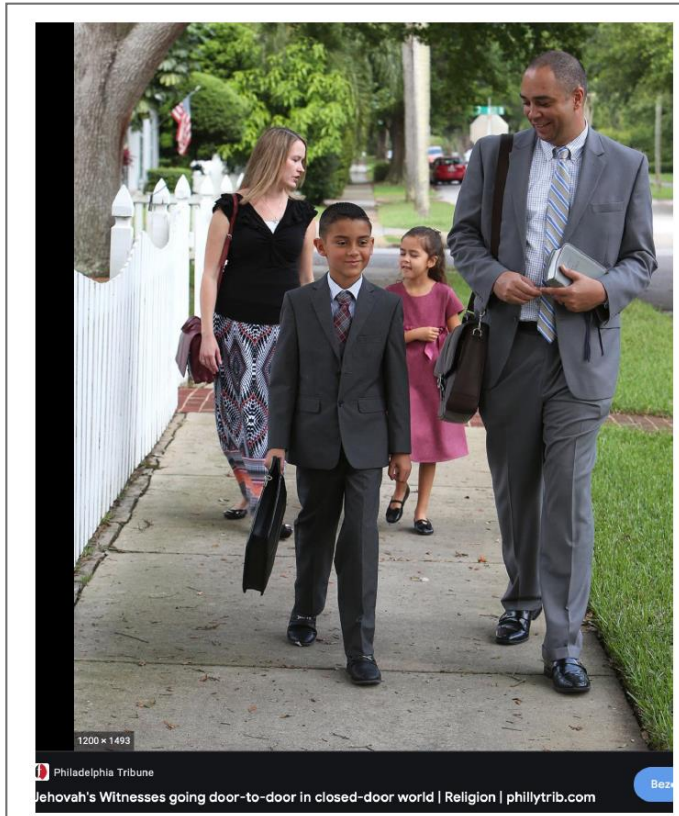
Mini-matadors train in the art of bullfighting



— Nino, a ten-year-old toreador apprentice of the Nimes bullfighting school, nicknamed El Nino, performs a muleta pass during a beginner's bullfight (becerrada) at the bullring of Bouillargues, near Nimes, Oct. 5, 2013. A muleta is a small cloth attached to a short tapered stick and used by a matador. Jean-Paul Pelissier / Reuters



Education (schooling, socialization, youth care) is full of ethical and moral dilemmas





What do you learn?

- › You can use ethical theories and moral models to analyze educational dilemmas and make decisions
- › You can analyze critically (governmental) policies developed for educational and pedagogical fields. You are able to understand the practical implications of such policies.
- › You can place the development of pedagogical and educational fields in a historical perspective as well as understand the influence of their scientific effect on daily practice.
- › You can weigh and justify decisions about education, parenting, child and youth care when rights between different stakeholders are at odds



The curriculum of the master is divided in three lines

- › **Thematic line** (25 EC): using three perspectives: philosophy (ethics, moral reasoning), law (children's rights) and history (history of 'scientification' and educational policies)
- › **Professionalization line** (10 EC): educational and practical skills (writing reports) and traineeship
- › **Research line** (25 EC): qualitative research course and master thesis



1A	1B	2A	2B
Ethics in Care and Education	In the Best Interest of the Child	<u>Citizenship and Education</u>	Education for a Better World
Domain-specific skills (5)	Expertise, education and psychological practice	Traineeship	Traineeship
Introduction to research thesis	<u>Qualitative Research Methods</u>		
Research proposal	Research proposal	Thesis	Thesis



Thematic line

Combining philosophy, history, law

- › **Ethics in Care and Education**
 - Ethical theories, moral reasoning, and decision making in educational dilemma's
- › **In the best interests of the child**
 - Moral reasoning and decision making with a focus on the legal aspect in youth care / parenting
- › **Expertise, education, and psychological practice**
 - The interrelation of psychological research and the educational practice (STS)
- › **Education for a better world**
 - Historical perspective on the role of schooling in international societal policies



Topics

- › Critical thinking
- › Citizenship Education
- › Moral dilemmas in the teaching practice
- › Privatisation in education
- › Inclusive education
- › Medicalisation
- › Scientification and the use of technology (STS, AI)
- › Data-ethics / learning analytics

Example assignment >>>



Case: Shadow Education

Scenario 1

Imagine you work at the Ministry of Education and you need to provide the Minister advice on if the government should restrict the private tutoring business in the Netherlands. Would a restriction be necessary or not?

Scenario 2

Imagine you are part of the Board of a large school; a private tutoring business (already used by some of your students) has offered your school a deal: you buy a contract with them and they will tutor at your school (which means: they will provide extra lessons after school) without any costs for the parents. Would you agree to this or not?



Professionalization line

› Professional Skills

- Training in two lines of professional skills
 - Policy & consultancy
 - Teaching & training

› Traineeship

- Short traineeship (120 hours) in professional setting



Examples of current traineeships

- › Research on moral issues at the department of social work of the Hanzehogeschool Groningen
- › Research on student's voice in past and present of Montessori education, Saxion Hogeschool Deventer
- › Assisting on academic work for the *Journal of Political Thinking*
- › Co-organizing a summerschool in Uganda on youth, education and work in (post-)conflict areas
- › Assisting on starting up a research project on wartime schooling in past and present in comparative perspective
- › Analyzing transcripts of interviews with professionals on adoption of children of unmarried mothers



Research line

› Qualitative research course

- Introduction into a range of qualitative research methods

› Research thesis

- Examples of research topics:
 - Hannah Arendt's educational ideas in practice
 - Buber, Dewey and Kohnstamm: comparison of their ideas on personality formation
 - UNESCO's role in promoting citizenship education
 - Euthanasia among young people
 - Gender in children's literature
 - Citizenship education in secondary vocational schools



Practicalities

- › Program of 1 year (fulltime!); however, some students opt to do this in 2 years
- › Meetings will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays
- › Our schedule of classes will be planned as comprised as possible: 2 days in the week
- › Two moments per year to start: September and February
- › Most students start in September
- › Mixed group of around 20 students, both internationals and nationals
- › Team of experts in various fields: history, ethics, pedagogy, social sciences, psychology, anthropology, religious studies...



- › *Good to know for Dutch language students: courses are in English, but exams can be answered in Dutch, as well as papers, traineeship report and thesis can be in Dutch*



What are you prepared for in the future?

- › Policy & consultancy
- › Teaching & training
- › Writing & research



After the master...

- › Policymaker and consultant in educational organisations and institutions
- › Project manager or project team member in institutions like UN, UNESCO, Defence for Children ...
- › Teacher at the Hanze Hogeschool in social work / ethics
- › Coordinator educational program at the cinema in Groningen
- › Teacher trainer at NHL Stenden
- › Researcher in vocational education institute (mbo)
- › Consultant on reading promotion at the city library (working together with all kind of educational schools and levels)
- › PhD researcher on social media and youth at the University of Groningen



Want more information?

- › Do not hesitate to mail the coordinator: j.exalto@rug.nl



What are the students saying?



> <https://www.rug.nl/masters/ethics-of-education-philosophy-history-and-law/?lang=en#!contentblock-4>



- › Thank you for your attendance!
- › Questions?

