

Lesson Plan 1: Fundamental Concepts in Ethics and Deontology

1. Definitions

a) Morality:

- ✚ Morality refers to the set of principles that define what is right or wrong in human behavior.
- ✚ Example: Helping someone in need is considered a moral act.

b) Ethics:

- ✚ Ethics is the study of moral principles and how they apply to decision-making in specific situations.
- ✚ Example: In professional settings, ethics guides how people behave at work.

c) Deontology (Theory of Duty):

- ✚ Deontology focuses on duties and rules rather than consequences. It emphasizes doing the right thing because it is your obligation.
- ✚ Example: A teacher has a duty to treat all students fairly, regardless of personal feelings.

d) Law:

- ✚ Laws are rules created by governments or institutions to maintain order and protect rights.
- ✚ Example: Cheating on exams is against the rules in universities.

2. Understanding the Differences

A. Ethics vs. Morality:

- **Morality:** Focuses on personal beliefs about right and wrong.
- **Ethics:** Applies moral principles to specific contexts like work or study.
- Example: Morality might make you feel it's wrong to lie, while ethics might explain why lying in research is particularly harmful.

B. Ethics vs. Deontology:

- **Ethics:** Broader and includes various approaches, such as focusing on outcomes or duties.
- **Deontology:** A specific type of ethics that focuses strictly on following rules or duties, regardless of consequences.
- Example: A deontologist would argue that lying is always wrong, even if it could save someone's life.