Ethics and College Skills Workshop for High-School Students

Abstract
This pre-college workshop is open to high school students entering grades 9-12. Students will learn the main ethical theories needed to address today’s ethical questions. Ethical decision making is crucial in all professions, and we will examine questions that arise related to business ethics, environmental ethics, ethics and science, free speech, and other important ethical issues. Students will also work on important skills needed for college success:

Critical thinking / Ethical leadership / Public speaking / Teamwork / Creative problem solving /
Research skills / Multicultural Understanding

Students will receive instruction and guidance and work in small groups on an ethical case study of their choice.

Workshop is led by a Philosophy professor from Rowan University. The free workshop runs from 9:00-3:30 and includes lunch and a campus tour.

Basic Information
Project Coordinator(s)
Ellen Miller

Funding Amount Requested
$650

Expected Project Completion Date
June 2020

Project Description
I will run a one-day workshop for high school students entering grades 9-12. I will provide an overview of three major ethical theories and apply those theories to examples that are relevant to high school students. I will prepare resources so that students can work on individual case studies in small groups. Students will research their case study and use the theories and examples discussed in the workshop. Students will prepare presentations that they will share at the end of the workshop. The workshop will include lunch and a campus tour, including a scavenger hunt in the library. I will have undergraduate mentors available who will assist with the case study work and workshop organization. The workshop will emphasize the skills students develop in philosophy classes and introduce students to the philosophical study of ethics. This grant will enable me to offer the workshop for free which is important for attracting a wide-variety of students.
Project Impact
The workshop will introduce south jersey high school students to philosophy. Most schools in our area do not offer philosophy classes. I think that early exposure will cause more students to enroll in university philosophy courses. In addition, pre-college philosophy training will help students develop an understanding of their own views, learn how to be fair to opposing viewpoints, and develop their position on important ethical issues. Much of the evidence for pre-college philosophy's benefits is anecdotal. I intend to include a survey at the beginning and end of the workshop. Over time, I will compile evidence about the workshop’s benefit. I plan to present and publish these findings. The undergraduate mentors from our philosophy major will also benefit from the opportunity to teach and mentor high school students.

Project Goals
- My primary goal is run a successful workshop for a diverse audience of high school students where students learn about major ethical theories and apply them to contemporary case studies. I will achieve this by developing the contacts I have already devel
- A second goal is to provide south jersey students with a better understanding of philosophy and ethics. I will demonstrate that ethical issues arise in all careers as well as their personal lives. I will achieve this by ensuring my presentation of ethic
- A third goal is to provide undergraduate philosophy majors with the opportunity to mentor high school students. I will use our philosophy club and honor society in order to recruit student mentors. I will also recruit from my classes and my colleague's c

Project Timeline
I will organize the workshop during the 2019-20 academic year. I will reserve a room in the fall. In the spring, I will advertise the workshop and recruit student mentors. I have my presentation of ethical theories completed. I will compile handouts and resources for each case study during the fall and spring semesters. I will also arrange lunch and a campus tour during the spring semester. The workshop will be held in late June or early July. 2020.

Project Outreach
Our potential audience is high school students entering grades 9-12. I will advertise on our university announcement system, department Facebook page, college Facebook page, and community Facebook pages. I have a flyer created that can be distributed to area high schools. Our university is across the street from Glassboro High School. I have strong connections with that high school and other area high schools.

Accessibility Plan
The workshop will be held on the Rowan University campus. The campus is fully accessible. We have the resources to accommodate those with disabilities.

Evaluation Plan
I will administer a survey at the beginning and end of the workshop. I will ensure that the survey has been reviewed by our research office for IRB compliance. I am interested in three main items: 1) Do students feel they know more about ethical theories and issues at the end of the workshop, 2) Do students feel more
prepared to take an ethics course in college, 3) Do students have a better understanding of how to develop their position and counterarguments to their position?

I ran the workshop for the first time this June. I did not include a survey for this year. I did receive informal feedback from parents and students (all very positive!). I look forward to offering the workshop again and initiating a more formal evaluation plan.

**Online Presence**
The project will have an online presence through our department, college, and university websites and social media outlets. Our media specialist will take pictures on the day of the events. Our college has a newsletter that will cover the workshop. I will also seek out additional media coverage for the workshop.

**Budget Narrative**
Lunch for Workshop participants; student mentors; workshop coordinator: Lunch in our student center is $9.50 per person.

Honoraria for Student mentors: $100.00 each for three mentors

Printing costs for workshop materials; flyers; advertising: This fee will cover printing flyers, handouts, and research materials for workshop participants.

Water-bottles and bags for workshop participants: This will cover costs for 24 water-bottles and drawstring bags.

Flash-drives for workshop participants: Students will save their work on flash-drives. I will also load the flash-drives with resources.

Workshop Supplies: Lanyards, name tags, and notebooks for 24 students.

**Other Funding Sources**
Our department will cover $525.00 towards the conference. This has been confirmed, and the funds have been set aside for next year. Funding from the APA will allow us to run the conference and have it run at no cost to students.