

## Ideas for Teaching Ethics

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## Ideas for Teaching Ethics

Teaching ethics presents a unique challenge to even the most experienced instructor. I have been on a career long search for ideas and strategies to use in teaching ethics. My first teaching job was at a private school called the Ethical Culture School in NYC. Students there take ethics classes from grade school on up through high school so I have been exposed from the very beginning of a long teaching career to the concept that ethics should be a part of the curriculum. My area is Sport and Exercise Science. I have always believed that sport is part of the education and that sport presents a wonderful arena for the practice of ethics. Each and every play presents the participant with an ethical dilemma. There is no shortage of examples that can be used for study and analysis from the world of sport. **I would simply like to present some of the ideas I have created, gathered and used successfully in teaching my ethics course for the past 16 years.** These ideas range from experiential assignments to critical and reflective thinking exercises, discussions, debates, case studies, community service projects, films, belief systems, journal writing, assigned observations and the presentation of sample moral reasoning strategies and systematic approaches to thinking. Each student creates their own moral reasoning strategy that they must apply to the issues that arise for the duration of the course. I will include tips about how to create and develop these assignments. My hope and intent is that attendees will gain an idea or two that they can use in their course construction and/or development.

**Keywords:** Experiential, Reasoning, Reflection