



**INNOVATIVE INSTITUTE OF LAW**

Approved by Bar Council of India (BCI), Delhi & Affiliated To CCS University, Meerut, U. P.

## **HANDBOOK ON HUMAN VALUES & PROFESSIONAL ETHICS**



**INNOVATIVE INSTITUTE OF LAW**

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## INTRODUCTION

Human values and professional ethics form the cornerstone of human culture and life as individuals and societies. The purpose of education, particularly legal education, is to realize human potential by instilling these values in all stakeholders - administrators, faculty members, staff, and students.

The University Grants Commission, in its application "**UGC Quality Mandate**" released in November 2019, has urged all Higher Education Institutions to inculcate Human Values and Professional Ethics in all their stakeholders.

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## Core Human Values in Legal Education

- 1. Truth (Satya):** Truth is eternal and unchanging as it deals with ultimate and unchangeable truth. In legal education, this translates to unwavering commitment to facts, evidence, and justice.
- 2. Non-Violence (Ahimsa):** Non-violence means abstaining from consciously causing harm through thoughts, speech, or actions. In legal practice, this extends to promoting peaceful conflict resolution and protecting rights.
- 3. Righteousness (Dharma):** Good conduct guided by morality, propriety, and duty. In legal education, this means upholding constitutional values and principles of natural justice.
- 4. Peace (Shanti):** Encompasses both individual and collective peace. Essential for legal professionals to maintain objectivity and fairness.
- 5. Service (Seva):** Service begins when selfishness ends. In legal education, this translates to commitment to public service and access to justice.

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## PROFESSIONAL ETHICS FRAMEWORK

### Professional ethics in legal education encompasses:

1. Decision-making guidelines for human behavior in professional organizations.
2. Standards of conduct and moral judgment.
3. Integration of personal conviction with professional responsibility.

### Professional Code of Ethics for Various Stakeholders

#### A. Institution Level Administration

The governing body should:

1. Ensure transparent and ethical operations.
2. Maintain academic integrity and standards.
3. Foster an environment conducive to legal education and research.
4. Promote equal opportunities without discrimination.
5. Ensure accountability and responsible resource management.
6. Maintain harmony among stakeholders.
7. Promote sustainability and environmental consciousness.

#### B. Faculty Members

Faculty should:

1. Uphold the noble profession of teaching law with dignity
2. Act as mentors and guides to shape students' legal careers
3. Create an environment conducive to learning and critical thinking

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4. Maintain punctuality and professional conduct
5. Refrain from any form of discrimination or harassment
6. Foster research and innovation in legal education
7. Maintain confidentiality of sensitive information
8. Promote legal ethics and professional responsibility

## **C. Administrative/Support Staff**

### **Staff should:**

1. Execute official decisions faithfully and impartially
2. Maintain confidentiality of records
3. Create conducive working conditions
4. Provide comprehensive educational support services
5. Refrain from discrimination
6. Maintain professional behavior
7. Care for institutional property.
8. Support the academic mission.

## **D. Students**

### **Students should:**

1. Abide by institute rules and regulations.
2. Maintain academic integrity.
3. Be punctual and disciplined.
4. Exhibit professional behavior.
5. Respect faculty, staff, and fellow students.
6. Contribute to maintaining campus cleanliness.

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7. Participate in legal aid and community service
8. Uphold legal ethics and professional responsibility.
9. Refrain from any form of discrimination.
10. Maintain confidentiality of client information during legal aid clinics.
11. Develop advocacy skills with integrity.
12. Promote access to justice.

## Implementation

The Innovative Institute of Law believes that values are learned through practice. Therefore, administrators, faculty members, and benchmark holders in legal education need to keep in mind that they are integrated and practiced by students through:

1. General legal awareness
2. Clinical legal education
3. Legal aid activities
4. Professional ethics training
5. Community outreach programs

The environment in and around legal educational institutions should be such as to conduct value orientation and professional ethics, which would bring quantum change in life and work at home and workplace with Professional Ethics.

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