

Teaching-Learning Ethics in University: A Necessity in the Professional Training of Young People

Carmen Cozma

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Romania
tragedarois@gmail.com

Abstract

Ethics represents a major coordinate in nowadays higher education; all the more so given the decline of morality in society. Beyond the various specializations in the university, the study of ethics is required for the formation and strengthening of the moral personality of young people; having a decisive influence on the successful achievement of the future professional activity in which they will be involved. By learning and deepening the knowledge-understanding of fundamental values and ethical principles, as well as by appropriating a dynamic-holistic vision of life, in addition to an epistemic and practical authority in a certain field, students also manage to form their moral authority. Actually, they succeed to acquire moral competence, which develops only through education; and which is of crucial importance in the context of our rapidly changing world with its accentuated digitalization of existence that must be complemented by a humanistic perspective. Here comes the role of teachers trained in moral philosophy, too, capable of transmitting advanced cognition, but also illustrating real models of conduct. Using the hermeneutic method, we highlight some defining elements, in order to raise awareness as regards the need for ethics in university curricula. The aim is to awaken and cultivate the consciousness of internalizing a minimum wisdom by identifying healthy and safe landmarks for enlightenment and guidance, unraveling a moral compass in life and profession; so, helping the human being to face the challenges and difficulties of such chaotic times in which he recognizes himself to be increasingly alienated and in danger of atrophying to the point of losing his moral sense.

Keywords: ethics, university teaching-learning, ethical values and principles, moral competence, professional success