



Detailed Course Syllabus

Academic year: 2025/2026	Semester: Summer semester
Study Program: Sociologija (dvopredmetni) (R) (elective) Komunikologija (R) (elective)	Year of study: 1

I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

Name: Education for Character Formation and Human Flourishing

Abbreviation: IZBP-167

Status: Compulsory	ECTS: 3	Code: 209009
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Prerequisites: No

Total Course Workload

Teaching Mode	Total Hours
Lecture	30

Class Time and Place: HKS - according to the published schedule

II. TEACHING STAFF

Course Holder

Name and Surname: Kompes Marijana

Academic Degree:	Professional Title: izvanredni profesor
Contact E-mail: marijana.kompes@unicath.hr	Telephone:

Office Hours: According to the published schedule

Course Assistant

Name and Surname: Sertić Marija

Academic Degree:	Professional Title: docent
Contact E-mail: marija.sertic@unicath.hr	Telephone:

Office Hours: According to the published schedule

III. DETAILED COURSE INFORMATION

Teaching Language: English

This course explores the multifaceted nature of education, with particular attention to its aims, purposes, and its role in fostering the integral development of the human person. It critically engages with reductionist paradigms that narrow the concept of education and, consequently, diminish the anthropological vision that undergirds it. In contrast to such limited frameworks, the course advances an understanding of education as a fundamental human right oriented toward the cultivation of human dignity and the enhancement of one's capacity for ethical and humane living.

Course Description

Rather than conceiving education solely as a mechanism for producing technically proficient or intellectually capable individuals, the course underscores the necessity of forming persons of virtuous character and moral integrity. Central to this inquiry will be an examination of the ethical dimensions of education, the formative influence of educators and institutions, and the role of character development in educational practice. Special attention will be given to prominent Anglo-Saxon theorists in the field of moral education, whose contributions will be analyzed critically in light of broader philosophical and pedagogical concerns.

The concluding portion of the course will focus on the analysis of key magisterial documents on education issued by the Catholic Church, from pre-conciliar to post-conciliar periods. These documents will be examined for their contributions to an integral and morally grounded vision of education, as well as their implications for both individual formation and the ethos of the academic community.

Educational Outcomes

1. Critically evaluate reductionist paradigms within educational theory and practice.
2. Demonstrate the significance of integral personal formation, integrating intellectual cultivation with the moral development of character.
3. Articulate and analyze foundational ethical theories, examining their theoretical underpinnings and practical relevance to moral education.
4. Engage in critical analysis of contemporary Anglo-Saxon scholars in the field of moral education, assessing the philosophical coherence and pedagogical implications of their contributions.
5. Analyze official Catholic documents on education, evaluating their vision for comprehensive human and moral formation within educational contexts..

Textbooks and Materials**Required**

Nussbaum, Martha. *Not for Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2010. (selected parts)

Noddings, Nel. *Educating Moral People: A Caring Alternative to Character Education*. New York: Teachers College Press, 2002. (selected parts)

Second Vatican Council. Declaration on Christian Education *Gravissimum Educationis*, 1965.

	<p>Carr, David and Jan Steutel. <i>Virtue Ethics and Moral Education</i>. London: Taylor & Francis, 1999.</p> <p>Noddings, Nel. <i>Starting at Home: Caring and Social Policy</i>. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002.</p> <p>Noddings, Nel. <i>Happiness and Education</i>. London: Cambridge University Press, 2003.</p> <p>Peterson, Christopher and Martin E. P. Seligman. <i>Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification</i>. New York: Oxford University Press, Inc., 2004.</p> <p>Grochowelski, Cardinal H. E. Zenon. "The Congregation for Catholic Education: How it Works to Support the Educational Mission of Universities and Schools Internationally." <i>International Studies in Catholic Education</i> 7, broj. 2 (2015): 134-144.</p> <p>Kohlberg, Lawrence. "The Cognitive-Developmental Approach to Moral Education." <i>The Phi Delta Kappan</i> 56, broj 10 (1975): 670-677.</p> <p>Lapsley, Daniel K. and Darcia Narvaez. "Character Education." <i>U Handbook of Child Psychology, Child Psychology in Practice</i>, uredili William Damon and Richard. M. Lerner, 248-296. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley, 2006.</p> <p>Lickona, Thomas. "The Teacher's Role in Character Education." <i>Journal of Education</i> 179, broj 2 (1997): 63-80.</p> <p>Lickona, Thomas. "Character Education: Seven Crucial Issues." <i>Action in Teacher Education</i> 20, broj 4 (1999): 77-84.</p> <p>Lickona, Thomas. "What is Good Character?" <i>Reclaiming Children and Youth</i> 9, no. 4 (2001): 239-251.</p> <p>Sen, Amartya. "Elements of a Theory of Human Rights." <i>Philosophy & Public Affairs</i> 32, broj 4 (2004): 315-356.</p> <p>Newman, John Henry. <i>The Idea of a University: Defined and Illustrated</i>, dostupno na https://www.gutenberg.org/files/24526/24526-pdf.pdf</p> <p>UNESCO. "Education for the 21st Century," dostupno na https://en.unesco.org/themes/education-21st-century</p>	
<i>Supplementary</i>		
<i>Examination and Grading</i>		
To Be Passed DA	Exclusively Continuous Assessment NE	Included in Average Grade DA
Prerequisites to Obtain Signature and Take Final Exam	Regular class attendance – participation in at least 70% of scheduled classes in accordance with the study program and course syllabus. Achievement of a minimum performance level of 35% through continuous assessment during the course, cumulatively attained across two colloquium.	
The numerical grading scale for student performance is as follows:		
Examination Manner	<p>Sufficient (2): 50 – 64.9%</p> <p>Good (3): 65 – 79.9%</p> <p>Very Good (4): 80 – 89.9%</p> <p>Excellent (5): 90% and above</p>	
Grading Manner	Course assessments – First written colloquium and second written colloquium. Final examination (oral).	
Detailed Overview of Grading within ECTS		

VRSTA AKTIVNOSTI	ECTS bodovi - koeficijent opterećenja studenata	UDIO OCJENE (%)
Pohađanje nastave	0.8	0
Kolokvij-međuispit	0.77	35
Kolokvij-međuispit	0.77	35
Ukupno tijekom nastave	2.34	70
Završni ispit	0.66	30
UKUPNO BODOVA (nastava+zav.ispit)	3	100

Midterm exam dates:

Exam period dates:

IV. WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE

[Predavanja]

#	Topic
1	Introduction to the Course: Objectives and Purpose of Education
2	From the Humanistic Vision of Education to the Marketization and Instrumentalization of Higher Education
3	The Impact of Technology in Education
4	Education for Intellectual and Moral Transformation: Against Reductionist Trends
5	The Importance of Character
6	Ethical Theories
7	First written colloquium
8	Moral Education
9	Character Education within the Educational System
10	Care Ethics within the Educational System
11	Happiness and Education
12	Participation in Panels, and Roundtables
13	Second written colloquium
14	The Catholic Church and its Contribution to Education: Pre-Council Church Documents
15	The Catholic Church and its Contribution to Education: Post-Council Church Documents