Reflection & Responsibility Thread

Description
This requirement area encourages you to reflect meaningfully on your own values and to explore the ethical dimensions of human existence. You will investigate and examine such important issues as individual and collective responsibility to a common good, the notion of a “good life,” and the nature and significance of personal and civic engagement.

Learning Goals and Outcomes
Courses in this thread will be guided by the following learning goals and outcomes. Each course will meet at least five of the following ten learning outcomes:

GOAL THREE: To promote active reflection on the human self in its full range of contexts.
Outcomes:
2) Students analyze and reflect on their own sources of identity and values.
3) Students explore contemporary and enduring questions about human meaning and purpose.
4) Students recognize and engage with that which is other or unfamiliar to them.

GOAL FOUR: To challenge students to critically examine their ethical responsibilities and choices in both local and global contexts.
Outcomes:
1) Students affirm the value of an enlarged ethical responsibility to other persons, the natural world, and future generations.
2) Students explore their relationship to the global public good as well as the larger goals of human and ecological flourishing.
3) Students appreciate sustainability as an economic, social, and environmental value.

GOAL FIVE: To encourage purposeful public engagement and social responsibility.
Outcomes:
1) Students demonstrate the intellectual and practical skills necessary for meaningful work and active participation in the local community and larger world.
2) Students investigate multiple and evolving forms of civic identification and belonging with particular attention to the practice of citizenship in local, national, and global contexts.
3) Students explore the value of purposeful action in the face of the pressing problems of the 21st century.
4) Students come to see themselves as responsible, engaged, and informed persons, capable and willing to act in ways that will improve or reshape the world.

Staffing
Primary staffing responsibility for this thread will be delivered by the Department of Religion and Philosophy. Additional staffing will come from selected service-learning courses from across the curriculum.