

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Academic and Student Affairs**  
**Consent**

**AGENDA ITEM: 5 – E (1)**

**DATE: May 10, 2022**

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**SUBJECT**

**New Undergraduate Certificate – DSU – Ethics in Technology**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

[BOR Policy 2:23](#) – Program and Curriculum Approval

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

Dakota State University (DSU) requests authorization to offer an undergraduate certificate in Ethics in Technology. The certificate will include four courses that contribute to the understanding of ethics and their use in relation to decisions involving technology. Students will gain an understanding of the foundational theories of ethics including examining the validity of these theories for current ethical concerns, study the ethical implications of managerial decisions, and explore the uses and misuses of computers and other technologies as impacted by moral codes.

Technology ethics is an area of increasing importance as the sophistication and capacities of technologies have advanced. Technology ethics is the application of ethical thinking to the practical concerns of technology. The certificate will prepare students to fill roles such as tech ethicist, which is a corporate role that involves examining the use of a company's technologies to ensure that they meet ethical standards.

**IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION**

DSU plans to offer the certificate in Ethics in Technology on campus and online. DSU does not request new state resources. No new courses will be required.

Board office staff recommends approval.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment I – New Certificate Request: DSU – Ethics in Technology (Undergraduate)

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**DRAFT MOTION 20220510\_5-E(1):**

I move to authorize DSU to offer an undergraduate certificate in Ethics in Technology, as presented.



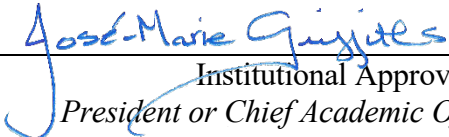
## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

### New Certificate

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	DSU
<b>TITLE OF PROPOSED CERTIFICATE:</b>	Ethics in Technology
<b>INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:</b>	Fall 2022
<b>PROPOSED CIP CODE:</b>	38.0104
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	Business
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT CODE:</b>	DBUS
<b>UNIVERSITY DIVISION:</b>	College of BIS
<b>UNIVERSITY DIVISION CODE:</b>	DCBIS

#### University Approval

*To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.*

 _____ Institutional Approval Signature President or Chief Academic Officer of the University	2/9/2022 _____ Date
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**1. Is this a graduate-level certificate or undergraduate-level certificate (place an "X" in the appropriate box)?**

Undergraduate Certificate   ☒      Graduate Certificate   ☐

**2. What is the nature/purpose of the proposed certificate?**

The certificate will include four courses that contribute to the understanding of ethics and their use in relation to decisions involving technology. Students will gain an understanding of the foundational theories of ethics including examining the validity of these theories for current ethical concerns, study the ethical implications of managerial decisions, and explore the uses and misuses of computers and other technologies as impacted by moral codes.

**3. Provide a justification for the certificate program, including the potential benefits to students and potential workforce demand for those who graduate with the credential.<sup>1</sup>**

Technology ethics is an increasingly important area of focus as the sophistication and capacities of technologies have advanced. Technology ethics is the application of ethical thinking to the practical concerns of technology. The certificate will prepare students to fill roles such as tech ethicist, which is a corporate role that involves examining the use of a company's technologies to ensure that they meet ethical standards.

**4. Who is the intended audience for the certificate program (including but not limited to the majors/degree programs from which students are expected)?**

This certificate will be attractive to students in business and information systems programs, the cyber leadership program, and programs related to artificial intelligence. The intended audience will also include workforce employees interested in developing the skills to help them deal with ethical issues in their company or business.

**5. List the courses required for completion of the certificate in the table below (if any new courses are proposed for the certificate, please attach the new course requests to this form):<sup>2</sup>**

Prefix	Number	Course Title (add or delete rows as needed)	Credit Hours	New (yes, no)
BADM	457	Business Ethics	3	No
CLI	370	Cyber-Ethics	3	No
PHIL	220	Introduction to Ethics	3	No
BADM CSC CIS	201 247 378	Choose one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fundamentals of AI in Organizations</li> <li>Introduction to Artificial Intelligence*</li> <li>Applied Artificial Intelligence and Applications</li> </ul>	3	No
Subtotal			12	

\*Prerequisite for this course is CSC 150 and MATH 201.

**6. Student Outcome and Demonstration of Individual Achievement.<sup>3</sup>**

**A. What specific knowledge and competencies, including technology competencies, will all students demonstrate before graduation?** *The knowledge and competencies should be specific to the program and not routinely expected of all university graduates.*

Students will:

1. Demonstrate a broad understanding of relevant literature on ethical issues.

<sup>1</sup> For workforce related information, please provide data and examples; data sources may include but are not limited to the South Dakota Department of Labor, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regental system dashboards, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Regental system certificate programs typically are a subset of the curriculum offered in degree programs, include existing courses, and involve 9-12 credits for completion. Deviations from these guidelines require justification and approval.

<sup>3</sup> Board Policy 2:23 requires certificate programs to "have specifically defined student learning outcomes."

2. Gain an awareness of the importance of considering ethical implications in the use of technology.
3. Use ethical reasoning to anticipate issues that arise in the use of technology to create plans for avoiding them.

**B. Complete Appendix A – Outcomes using the system form.** *Outcomes discussed below should be the same as those in Appendix A.*

	BADM 457	CLI 370	PHIL 220	BADM 201 or CSC 247 or CIS 378
Demonstrate a broad understanding of relevant literature on ethical issues.			X	
Gain an awareness of the importance of considering ethical implications in making decisions	X	X		
Use ethical reasoning to anticipate issues that arise in the use of technology to create plans for avoiding them.				X

## 7. Delivery Location.<sup>4</sup>

**A. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off campus location (e.g., UC Sioux Falls, Capital University Center, Black Hills State University-Rapid City, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an on-line program)?**

	Yes/No	Intended Start Date
<b>On campus</b>	Yes	Choose an item. Choose an item.

	Yes/No	If Yes, list location(s)	Intended Start Date
<b>Off campus</b>	No		Choose an item. Choose an item.

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods <sup>5</sup>	Intended Start Date
<b>Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)</b>	Yes	online	Choose an item. Choose an item.

<sup>4</sup> The accreditation requirements of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) require Board approval for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery.

<sup>5</sup> Delivery methods are defined in [AAC Guideline 5.5](#).

- B. Complete the following chart to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver more than 50% but less than 100% of the certificate through distance learning (e.g., as an on-line program)? <sup>6</sup>**

	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b><i>If Yes, identify delivery methods</i></b>	<b><i>Intended Start Date</i></b>
<b>Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)</b>	No		Choose an item. Choose an item.

- 8. Additional Information:** *Additional information is optional. Use this space to provide pertinent information not requested above. Limit the number and length of additional attachments. Identify all attachments with capital letters. Letters of support are not necessary and are rarely included with Board materials. The University may include responses to questions from the Board or the Executive Director as appendices to the original proposal where applicable. Delete this item if not used.*

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<sup>6</sup> This question responds to HLC definitions for distance delivery.