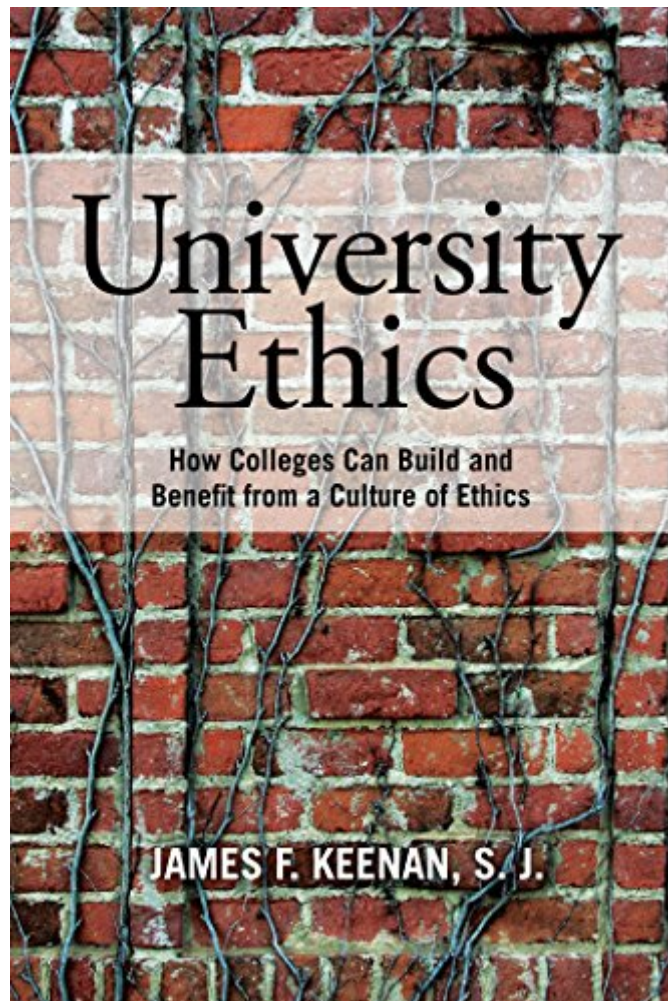


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# University Ethics: How Colleges Can Build And Benefit From A Culture Of Ethics



## Synopsis

Stories about ethical issues at universities make headlines every day. From sexual violence to racial conflict, from the treatment of adjuncts to cheating, students, professors, and administrators face countless ethical trials. And yet, very few resources exist to assist universities in developing an ethical culture. University Ethics addresses this challenge. Each chapter studies a facet of university life—including athletics, gender, faculty accountability, and more—highlights the ethical hotspots, explains why they occur, and proposes best practices. Professional ethics are a key component of training for numerous other fields, such as business management, medicine, law, and journalism, but there is no prescribed course of study for the academy. Professors and administrators are not trained in standards for evaluating papers, colleagues, boundaries, or contracts. University Ethics not only examines the ethical problems that colleges face one by one but proposes creating an integrated culture of ethics university-wide that fosters the institution's mission and community. In an environment plagued by university scandals, University Ethics is essential reading for anyone connected to higher education today.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book should be required reading for everyone who works or studies at a university. Keenan argues that because they purport to teach ethics, universities are (often falsely) assumed to be ethical themselves. What results are the crises we are so used to reading about in the news-- campus sexual assault, racist fraternity parties, athletic scandals, and poorly-treated adjunct faculty, to name just a few. Though others have written on related topics, this is the most comprehensive and thoughtful treatment of university ethics as a whole to date.

With ubiquitous news reports of the "bad apples" in higher education, *University Ethics* elucidates the radioactive basket that ties the myriad infractions together: the absence of a culture of ethics across the entire university. Despite all the stories of college athletics agents, cheating on tests, hazing, and other scandals too numerous to count, this is the first book to examine the whole of university life and spotlight the lack of an ethical foundation. This absence is felt not only in the classroom, but also runs the gambit from "undergraduates behaving badly" to million-dollar presidents. The book details the historical trajectory of the university to contextualize the current situation, and discusses emerging ethical issues such as the commodification of higher education. Keenan writes of "the university's" prescription that we write with a detached, inaccessible, frigid, dense style" and thankfully rebels against this custom with an engaging and entertaining style. I really hope it is read widely by university faculty, administrators, and students to build momentum for a cultural shift that is long overdue.

In *University Ethics*, James Keenan examines the disturbing question of university ethics, or rather the lack thereof. Keenan addresses a multitude of topics, including race, gender, faculty, and discrimination, forcing the reader to acknowledge often uncomfortable truths about the current state of higher education in the United States. His approach is so successful because he employs numerous accessible examples (such as athletic, cheating, and fraternity scandals common in the news) to illustrate a much more systemic problem. Yet, Keenan does not merely preach. He also provides suggestions and recommendations to help remedy these issues. *University Ethics* is truly an engaging, albeit unsettling, read.

Wasn't what I was looking for but was still informative.

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