

Students will be able to identify and address conflicting ethical values and develop a sense of responsibility for the broad impacts of individual actions, social institutions and public policy. They will understand their role as citizens and their responsibility to work with others in promoting quality of life and a sustainable society. Social responsibility, like civic engagement, means promoting the quality of community life through both political and non-political processes. Ethical reasoning is reasoning about right and wrong human conduct. *(NOTE: Terms in italics below are defined in glossary.)*

Social Responsibility and Ethical Reasoning	What is being assessed	Beginning 1	Developing 2 - Core 2000	Proficient 3	Exemplary 4
<b>8.1 Social Justice &amp; Civic Action</b> (Social Responsibility)	Understanding and addressing issues related to inequality and/or social justice	Recognizes instances of inequality and/or injustice within and/or between societies	Identifies causes of inequality and/or injustice	Describes existing strategies for addressing causes of inequality and/or injustice, imagining possibilities or alternatives for a different future	Demonstrates ability to participate in and meaningfully reflect on <i>civic</i> activities aimed at reducing inequality and/or injustice in partnership with public groups, OR critiques, from multiple perspectives, strategies for addressing causes of inequality and/or injustice
<b>8.2 Civic Engagement</b> (Social Responsibility)	Understanding an individual's role in working toward <i>democratic</i> social change	Identifies basic components of <i>citizenship</i> in a <i>democratic</i> society	Explains why <i>civic engagement</i> is important to <i>democratic</i> decision-making, identifying implications, rights, and responsibilities	Views an individual as responsible to be an active citizen in a <i>democratic</i> society, including identifying ways to participate	Identifies and reflects on strategies that an individual can use to collaboratively work within community contexts and structures to achieve a <i>civic</i> aim
<b>8.3 Social and Ethical Reasoning</b> (Ethical Reasoning)	Ability to recognize contentious social or ethical issues and to deploy relevant forms of ethical reasoning in grappling with these issues	Identifies a contentious social or ethical issue but may not yet grasp the complexity of the issue or identify relevant forms of ethical reasoning	Shows a partial grasp of complexities involved in a contentious social or ethical issue OR recognizes different possible approaches to ethical reasoning	Develops and justifies a position on a contentious social or ethical issue while taking account of other possible positions or ethical approaches	Critically reflects on an individual's values and approaches to ethical decision-making and how they relate to diverse perspectives and positions on a contentious social or ethical issue, OR collaborates with a diverse group to develop and implement an approach to a <i>civic</i> issue or ethical dilemma
<b>8.4 Application of Ethical Perspectives/ Concepts</b> (Ethical Reasoning)	Ability to apply forms of ethical reasoning to ethical questions and problems	Identifies (in a limited way) ethical perspectives/concepts that would apply to an obvious ethical issue (though the application may be inaccurate)	Appropriately identifies ethical perspectives/concepts that would apply to an ethical issue	Accurately applies ethical perspectives/concepts to an ethical question and considers obvious implications of the application	Accurately applies ethical perspectives/concepts to an ethical question and is able to consider full implications of the application.

## Glossary

Note: Words in italics in the rubric are defined in the glossary.

**Citizenship:** The practice of active participation in society with a strong commitment and responsibility to work with others toward public purposes. Citizenship is a broad term that transcends national boundaries. It is a practice rather than a status and involves seeing oneself as part of and responsible to a larger community. (Adapted from AACU and The Center for Engaged Democracy).

**Civic:** Of or related to citizenship, citizens, a city, or community affairs. (Merriam-Webster online).

**Civic engagement:** Working to make a difference in the civic life of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, and motivation to make that difference. (AACU and *Civic Responsibility and Higher Education*).

**Democratic:** Characterized by free and equal participation in the decision-making processes of government or other organizations in which the government or organization is accountable to the public or its members.