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# The Influence of Ethical Awareness and the Academic Environment on the Ethical Behavior of Medan State University Students

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**Abstract:**

This research aims to know the influence of awareness ethics and academic environment ethics on the behavior ethics of students at Medan State University. This study uses the quantitative method. The population in this study was UNIMED students, and the sample used was as many as 32 respondents. Testing The hypothesis used is multiple linear regression, t-test, F-test, and dominance test. The results of the study show that awareness of ethics is significant to behavior, and environmental academic influence is significant to behavior. Simultaneously, awareness of ethics and environmental academic influence is significant to behavior. Variable awareness ethics are influential in the behavior ethics.

**Keywords:** Awareness Ethics, Environment Academic, Behavior Ethical.

## Introduction

Student ethical behavior is an important issue in higher education, especially at Universitas Negeri Medan. In an increasingly complex era of globalization, students are faced with various moral and social challenges that require a high level of ethical awareness. Ethical awareness refers to an individual's ability to understand and apply moral values in everyday decisions and actions. On the other hand, the academic environment, such as lecturers, interactions with other students, and university policies, plays an important role in shaping students' ethical behavior.

Awareness of ethics refers to understanding somebody's moral values that can guide their actions in various situations. Research by Lestari (2020) shows that students who have a high sense of ethics are more likely to the possibility of taking it reasonable and responsible decisions. In this academic context, awareness of ethics plays an important role in preventing unethical behavior such as plagiarism, cheating on exams, and other actions that violate academic integrity.

Environmental academics also play an important role in shaping behavior and student ethics. Research by Anggraini et al. (2021) emphasized that a supportive environment, such as positive interaction between lecturers and students and appropriate learning opportunities, can increase awareness of student ethics. On the other hand, a stressful environment and unhealthy competition can give rise to unethical behavior among students. Therefore, it is essential to create an academic atmosphere to support the development of student character.

Several previous studies also show the existence of a significant relationship between awareness of ethical, environmental, academic, and behavioral ethics. Butterfield (2000) found that students who study in an environment have a level of awareness of higher ethics, which has an impact on behavior. This study shows that when students feel appreciated and supported in their learning, they tend to behave more ethically. It shows the importance of social support for the formation of values and student ethics.

The significance of this research lies in its efforts to understand better the factors that influence the behavior and ethics of Medan State University students. Studying the connection between awareness of ethical, environmental, academic, and behavioral ethical research can give further insight into dynamics. The results of this study can also be a basis for formulating more effective education policies to support the development of student character.

In the context of education, behavior ethics are important not only for academic success but also for students' willingness to face challenges professionally. Students with good behavior and good ethics are expected to be capable of promoting social change and implementing moral values in various aspects of life. Therefore, education must emphasize the importance of awareness of ethical behavior and a creative academic environment that encourages ethical behavior.

Medan State University has a responsibility to educate students not only with academic intelligence but also with high integrity and ethics. Understanding the connection between awareness of ethics, environmental education, behavior ethics, and institutional education can develop better strategies for supporting the development of student character. The purpose of this research is to make a significant contribution to the effort and become a reference for the study of student ethics and behavior.

This research is expected to give a clear picture of the influence of ethical and environmental academics on the behavior ethics of Medan State University students through comprehensive analysis. The results of this study are expected to be useful not only for academics but also for parties involved in education, including teachers, program managers, and students themselves. Therefore, this research is expected to contribute significantly to the creation of a better education and support the development of ethical and responsible student personalities. Considering the importance of the topic, this research aims to fill the gap in the

existing literature and provide a deeper understanding of the factors that influence the behavior of ethical students in modern times.

## Literature Review

### Awareness Ethics

Awareness ethics is the ability of individuals to recognize, understand, and consider moral values in making decisions every day. According to Rest (1986), consciousness ethics consists of four main components: attention, judgment, intention, and action. Research by Lestari (2020) shows that students with awareness and high ethics tend to behave more academically well, including with honesty and integrity. Awareness of strong ethics allows students to face moral dilemmas in a responsible way to answer and consider the consequences of their actions (Manik et al., 2022).

Besides that, research by Treviño and Nelson (2021) emphasized the importance of ethics education in increasing awareness of ethics among students. Ethics education not only teaches moral theories but also helps students develop skills for applying values and ethics in real situations. This is important for forming capable students who will act ethically in the professional world.

### Environment Academic

Environment academic refers to the atmosphere in which the learning process takes place, which includes interaction between lecturers, students, and facilities and policies institutions. Research by Anggraini (2021) shows that a positive academic performance, supported by support and adequate social and facilities, can increase the motivation of students to behave ethically. A conducive environment creates an atmosphere in which students feel appreciated and encouraged to develop character.

The study by Butterfield (2000) also underlined that an environment full of academic support contributes to students' awareness of ethics. When students feel safe and supported, they tend to be more open to discussing ethical issues and more committed to answering honestly and responsibly. On the other hand, an environment full of pressure can lead to unethical behavior, such as academic fraud.

### Behaviour Ethical

Ethical students' behavior covers actions that reflect integrity, honesty, and responsibility in academic and social contexts. Research shows that awareness of ethics and the academic environment significantly influence ethical behavior. Students who have high ethics and learn in a positive environment tend to show ethical behavior, such as not plagiarizing and respecting other people's opinions. According to Ajzen (2011), an individual's attitude toward a behavior is certainly influential on their intention and action. In context, if students have a positive attitude toward ethics and a supportive academic environment, they are more likely to act ethically. This is in line with the results of research by Puspitasari &

Danaya (2022), which found that factors like social support from Friends, peers, and lecturers immensely contribute to ethical student behavior.

## Research methods

As for type, the research used is the quantitative method. The data collection method used in this study is a study field or survey to investigate the influence of awareness ethics and academic environment on student ethics at Medan State University, which is carried out in the following ways. For example, a direct review of the agency related to obtaining primary data is done through the questionnaire media. This questionnaire will be shared or distributed to all active students of Medan State University registered in the current semester with the assumption that they are willing to answer all the questions in the questionnaire. The population in this study were all active students at Medan State University registered for the current semester. This university has various faculties and study programs that include various disciplines of science, which allows students to cover diverse backgrounds and perspectives. With a large population, this study aims to obtain a representative picture of awareness of ethics, academic environment, and behavioral ethics among students. In contrast, the sample in this study was taken randomly from the existing population. The sample used was stratified random sampling, where students were selected based on faculty and study program. They are here to ensure that all groups are represented. Sample size: This study had 32 respondents, which was considered sufficient to give strength and adequate statistics for analysis. To test the hypothesis, we used multiple linear regression, validity test, reliability test, normality test, t-test, coefficient test, and determination ( $R^2$ ). The location and time of this research were at Medan State University, and it was conducted starting in September 2024.

## Results and Discussion

**Analysis results in statistics descriptive are as follows:**

Table 1. Statistical Test Results Descriptive

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Awareness Ethics	32	12	20	16.16	2,451
Environment Academic	32	10	20	14.47	2.423
Behavior Ethical	32	14	25	20.09	2,810
Valid N (Listwise)	32				
Valid N (Listwise)	100				

Source: Researcher (2024)

Looking at the data above, we can see that awareness ethics has a minimum value of 12 and a maximum value of 20, with a mean of 16.16 and a standard deviation of 2.451. The environment academic has a minimum value of 10 and a maximum value of 20, with a mean of 14.47 and a standard deviation of 2.423. Behavior ethical has a minimum value of 14 and a maximum value of 25, with a mean of 20.09 and a standard deviation value of 2.810.

Table 2. Validity Test Results

VARIABLE X1	Pearson Correlation	Conclusion
Question 1	,817 **	Valid
Question 2	,787 **	Valid
Question 3	,844 **	Valid
Question 4	,829 **	Valid
VARIABLE X2	Pearson Correlation	Conclusion
Question 1	,882 **	Valid
Question 2	,602 **	Valid
Question 3	,888 **	Valid
Question 4	,791 **	Valid
VARIABLE Y	Pearson Correlation	Conclusion
Question 1	,878 **	Valid
Question 2	,868 **	Valid
Question 3	,867 **	Valid
Question 4	,564 **	Valid
Question 5	,668 **	Valid

Source: Researcher (2024)

It can be concluded that all the question indicators used are valid because the  $R_{\text{count}}$  of each indicator is greater than the  $R_{\text{table}}$  (0.3494) and can be said to be valid because the level is not significant enough from 0.05.

### Reliability Test

reliability test is as follows:

Table 3. Reliability Test Results

Model	Cronbach Alpha	
X1	.836	Valid
X2	.804	Valid
Y	.826	Valid

Source: Researcher (2024)

The output results above show the value of Y is above 0.34946, namely 0.826, so stated that Y data is reliable.

Normality tests are as follows:

Table 4. Normality Test Results

One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test
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		Unstandardized Residual
N		32
Normal Parameters a,b	Mean	.000000
	Std. Deviation	1.82609002
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.097
	Positive	.097
	Negative	-.067
Test Statistic		.097
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)		.200 <sup>c,d</sup>

a. Test distribution is Normal.

b. Calculated from data.

c. Lilliefors Significance Correction.

d. This is a lower bound of the true significance.

Source: Researcher (2024)

The size Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) obtained of  $0.200 > 0.05$  then concluded data value has been normally distributed. Because the value significance obtained is greater than 0.05.

### Heteroscedasticity Test

Table 5. Heteroscedasticity Test Results

Coefficients						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardize d Coefficients		
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	2.623	1.542		1.701	.100
	kesadaran etika	-.071	.109	-.149	-.655	.518
	lingkungan akademik	-.007	.110	.013	-.059	.953

a. Dependent Variable: ABS\_RES

Source: Researcher (2023)

Based on Table 5. above, the results of the heteroscedasticity test are as follows:

1. Awareness Ethics own mark significant  $0.518 > 0.05$
2. Environment Academic own mark significant  $0.953 > 0.05$

So it can be concluded that no symptoms occur in heteroscedasticity.

### Multicollinearity Test

Table 6. Multicollinearity Test Results

Coefficients <sup>a</sup>	
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Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		Sig.	Collinearity Statistics	
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t		Tolerance	VIF
1 (Constant)	5.010	2.423		2,068	.048		
awareness ethics	.636	.171	.555	3,710	.001	.652	1,535
environment academic	.333	.333	.287	1,918	.065	.652	1,535

a. Dependent Variable: behavior ethical  
Source: Researcher (2024)

Variables Awareness ethics tax own tolerance value of  $0.652 > 0.01$  and VIF value of  $1.535 < 10$ , environment academic own tolerance value  $0.652 > 0.01$  and VIF value of  $1.535 < 10$ . Then concluded that the assumption of multicollinearity has been met or there are no symptoms of multicollinearity.

### Multiple Linear Regression Test

**Table 7. Multiple Linear Regression Test Results**

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta			
1 (Constant)	5.010	2.423			2,068	.048
awareness ethics	.636	.171	.555		3,710	.001
environment academic	.333	.173	.287		1,918	.065

Source: Researcher (2024)

Awareness ethics have a mark significance of  $0.001 < 0.05$ , has a  $t_{count}$  result  $> t_{table}$  that is mark  $t_{count}$  of  $3.710 > t_{table} 2.04523$ , the environment academic have mark significance of  $0.065 < 0.05$ ,  $t_{count} 1.918 > t_{table} 2.04523$ .

### F Test

**Table 9. F test results ANOVA<sup>a</sup>**

Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	141,346	2	70,673	19,826	.000 <sup>b</sup>

Residual	103,373	29	3,565		
Total	244,719	31			

a. Dependent Variable: behavior ethical

b. Predictors: (Constant), awareness ethics, environment, academic

Source: Researcher (2024)

A probability value of  $0.000 < 0.05$  indicates that the model used in the research is suitable for use. Therefore,  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_a$  is accepted. So that it can be concluded simultaneously, awareness of ethics and the environment, academic, are influential to the behavioral ethics of students at Medan State University.

## Discussion

### **Awareness Ethics and Environment Partial Academic To Behavior Student Ethics of Medan State University**

Awareness ethics is influential to behavior ethics. This can be seen in the values its significance of  $0.001 < 0.05$  and the calculated t value of  $3.710 > t$  table 2.04523, based on the results of the value significance obtained from the calculation of the questionnaire answers that have been shared by researchers to students of Medan State University, most of the students of Medan State University gave response agree will awareness ethics that exist on campus. Then awareness of ethics is influential and significant.

The environment, academic influence on behavior, ethical. This can be seen in the values, its significance of  $0.065 < 0.05$ , t count  $1.918 > t$  table 2.04523, value significance obtained from statements given by students of Medan State University to the researcher through questionnaire, then the environment academic influence is significant.

### **Awareness Ethics, and Environment Academic Simultaneously To Behavior of the Student Ethics of Medan State University**

. The hypothesis in this study is that awareness ethics and environment academic influence simultaneous to behavior ethics of Medan State University students are simultaneous. This can be seen in the value of its significance of  $0.000 < 0.05$ .

### **Awareness Ethics and Environment Academic Influential Dominant To Behavior Student Ethics of Medan State University**

The hypothesis in this study is awareness ethics are influential and dominant to the behavior ethics of students at Medan State University. Based on Table 8. the variable awareness ethics own t - value of 3,710, environment academic of 1,918.

## Conclusion

From the research results, the following conclusions can be drawn: (1) Awareness ethics is influential and significant to behavioral ethics. The academic environment has a significant impact on ethical behavior. Awareness ethics and the environment academic have a simultaneous effect on the behavior ethics of

Medan State University students. Awareness ethics and environment academic influence dominate to behavioral ethics of students at Medan State University

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