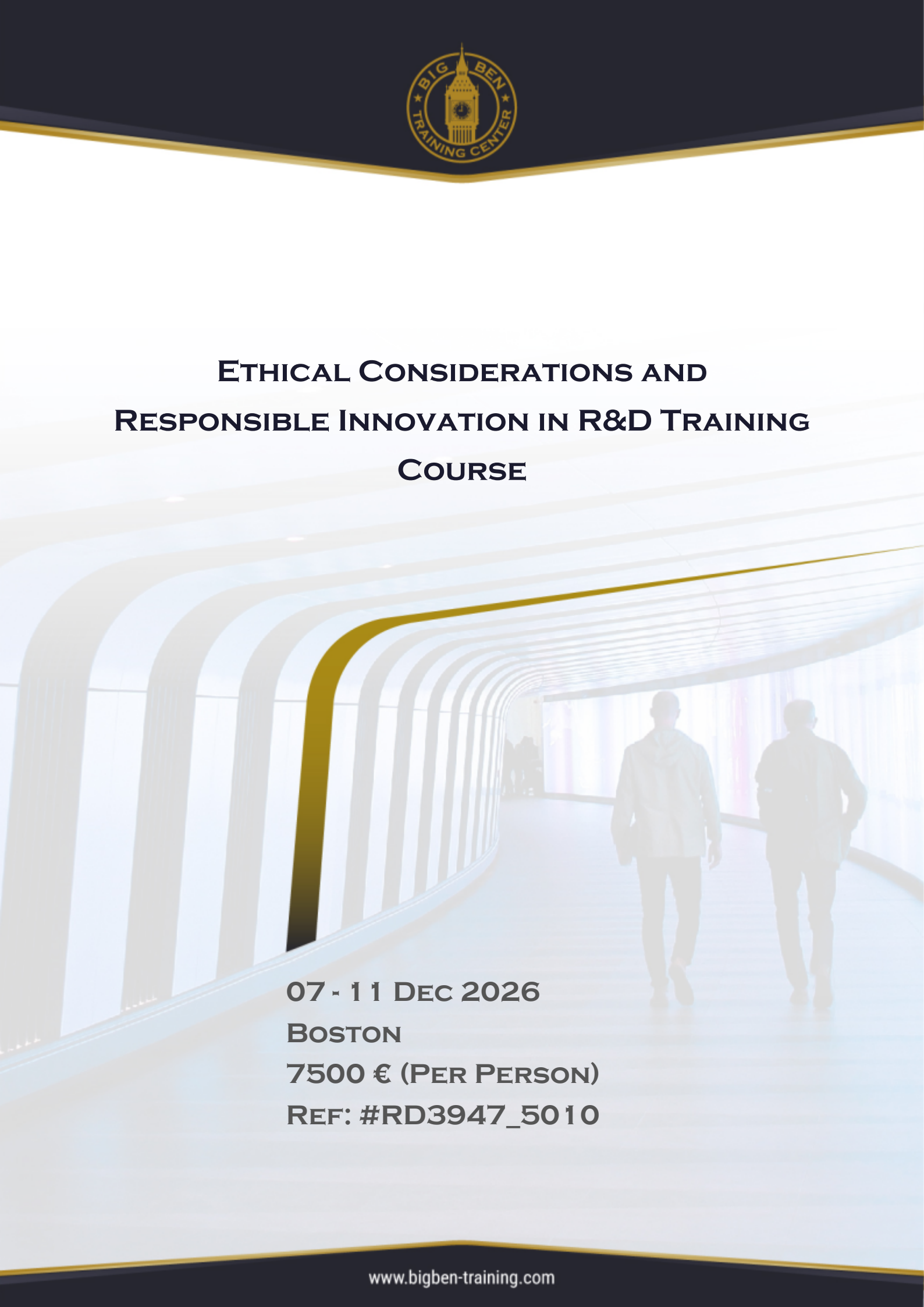
Ethical Considerations and Responsible Innovation in R&D Training Course



07 - 11 Dec 2026

Boston

7500 € (Per Person)

Ref: #RD3947_5010

Course Introduction / Overview:

As technology advances at an unprecedented rate, the ethical implications of research and development have become more critical than ever. This training course is designed to provide R&D leaders, scientists, and engineers with the frameworks and practical skills to navigate ethical dilemmas and ensure their work contributes to the greater good. It goes beyond simple compliance to focus on building a proactive culture of responsible innovation. We will explore how to identify potential harms, engage with stakeholders, and integrate ethical principles into the entire R&D lifecycle. The curriculum is informed by the foundational work of global academics like Shannon Vallor, whose book "Technology and the Virtues" explores how to develop moral character in a technological age. Her work provides a valuable lens for thinking about how to build a virtuous R&D organization that creates a positive impact on the world. This program provides a clear blueprint for turning ethical challenges from a source of risk into a strategic advantage and building an organization that not only creates innovative products but also acts as a responsible global citizen. BIG BEN Training Center is committed to empowering professionals to innovate with integrity.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- R&D directors and managers.
- Scientists and engineers.
- Innovation managers.
- Corporate social responsibility (CSR) professionals.
- Legal and compliance officers.
- Public policy professionals.
- Product development managers.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Technology and software.
- Biotechnology and genetic engineering.
- Artificial intelligence and robotics.
- Pharmaceutical and medical devices.
- Aerospace and defense.
- Consumer goods.
- Government agencies and regulatory bodies.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Research and Development (R&D).
- Corporate social responsibility.
- Legal and compliance.
- Innovation and technology.
- Corporate strategy.
- Product management.
- Public relations.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Conduct an ethical risk assessment for R&D projects.
- Develop and implement a responsible innovation framework.
- Engage with stakeholders on ethical issues.
- Navigate the regulatory and legal landscape of emerging technologies.
- Foster a culture of ethical awareness and accountability.
- Identify and mitigate potential harms of new technologies.
- Communicate their organization's commitment to responsible innovation.
- Develop a personal ethical leadership roadmap.

Course Methodology:

This training course uses a highly interactive and case-based methodology to ensure participants gain actionable skills in ethical decision-making. The program incorporates detailed case studies of companies that have faced significant ethical dilemmas, from data privacy issues to the misuse of AI. We will use interactive workshops and ethical dilemma exercises to practice critical skills like identifying a moral hazard, conducting a stakeholder analysis, and developing an ethical review process. The course includes a hands-on group project where participants will work together to create a full ethical framework for fictional technology. BIG BEN Training Center believes that hands-on training is essential for mastering these complex issues. Our expert facilitators will guide discussions and provide personalized feedback, ensuring that participants leave with the confidence and practical experience needed to lead their teams in an ethically responsible way.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Ethical R&D

- The growing importance of ethics in innovation.
- Defining responsible innovation.
- Ethical frameworks and principles.
- Case studies of ethical failures and successes.
- Building a culture of integrity.

Unit Two: Identifying and Mitigating Ethical Risks

- Conducting an ethical risk assessment.
- The social and environmental impact of technology.
- Identifying unintended consequences.
- Stakeholder analysis and engagement.
- Creating a framework for ethical review.

Unit Three: Responsible AI and Data Ethics

- Algorithmic bias and fairness.
- Data privacy and security.
- The societal impact of AI.
- Ethical guidelines for AI development.
- Building trust and transparency.

Unit Four: Regulatory and Policy Landscape

- Understanding global ethical regulations.
- The role of government and public policy.
- Navigating intellectual property and ethics.
- Building a proactive compliance strategy.
- Communicating with regulators.

Unit Five: Leading an Ethically Responsible Organization

- The role of leadership in fostering ethical behavior.
- Developing a code of conduct.
- Rewarding ethical decision-making.
- Leading a dialogue on difficult ethical issues.
- Building a personal ethical roadmap.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

How can R&D leaders foster a culture of open inquiry and intellectual freedom while also establishing clear ethical boundaries that prevent potential misuse or harm?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This training course is a highly specialized program that focuses on the critical, yet often overlooked, relationship between innovation and ethics, which sets it apart from traditional courses on either topic. We go beyond a simple focus on legal compliance to provide a holistic framework for building a truly responsible organization. Our curriculum is tailored to address the specific needs of R&D professionals, providing them with the tools to identify and navigate complex ethical challenges. The course distinguishes itself by emphasizing not only the theoretical skills needed to understand ethical frameworks but also the practical and leadership skills required to embed those principles into daily work. By focusing on both the practical and the philosophical aspects of responsible innovation, this program provides an invaluable skill set that is essential for any professional committed to a more integrated and successful approach to technology.