Profession Ethics[MGT 326]

Tuesday and Thursday (3-4:15): Fall 2015

Instructor: Dennis L. Slivinski, Ph.D., J.D.

Course Catalog Description:

Course issue development includes (1) discussion of ethical issues and societal challenges derived from scientific research and professional activities, (2) an examination of the sources, fundamental principles, applications of ethical behavior and the relationship between personal ethics and social responsibility of organizations; and the stakeholder management concept and (3) applies ethical principles to different types of organizations: business, non-profits, government, health care, science/technology, and other professional groups.

Program Learning Goals: These are the skills we try to help you build in all MVS courses:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Oral Communication
3. Written Communication
4. Collaboration
5. Conduct (Ethics)
6. Competency in Discipline

Course Learning Outcomes and Link between Course Leaning Outcomes and Program Learning Goals:

Upon completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Describe the major elements of ethical theory. (1,2,3)
2. Analyze and present results of complex ethics cases. (1,2,3,5)
3. Prepare and give effective oral presentations about ethical issues. (2,4,5)
4. Conduct research and write a 1000 word paper on aspects of ethics. (1,3,5,6)
Required Text:

Steven Scalet, Markets, Ethics, and Business Ethics with On Line My Search Lab (MSL), ISBN 9780205887750

Schedule of Readings and Class Analysis:

Please read the assigned pages before the class date. All case studies (CS) are found in MSL.

8/25: Discussion of syllabus, orientation, GVP analysis.

8/27: Essay writing analysis

9/1: Text p. 1-28

9/3: 29-42, CS Property Law and Animals

9/8: 43-57

9/10: 58-74

9/15: In class test on Chapters 1-4, case studies and class issues.

9/17: 75-95, CS, Madoff

9/22: 96-114, CS, BP oil spill, Patagonia, and Potential Extinction

9/24: 115-135, CS Clean Water Act

9/29: 136-155, CS, Blowing the Whistle and Sarbanes Oxley

10/1: In class test on chapters 5-8, case studies and class issues

10/6: 156-171, CS Employee Privacy Rights, Smoking Laws

10/8: 172-190

10/13: 191-208

10/20: 224-242

10/22: 243-257

10/27: In class test on chapters 9-14, case studies and class issues

10/29: Study session on final paper topics

11/3: Team 1 presentation

11/5: Team 2 presentation

11/10: Team 3 presentation

11/12: Team 4 presentation

11/17: Team 5 presentation

11/19: Team 6 presentation

11/24: Team 7 presentation

11/26: Thanksgiving Holiday

12/1: Team 8 presentation

12/3: Final review of paper topics

Final Exam: Final Paper, due Thursday December 10th at 1p.m. personally delivered to the classroom.

Due Dates for Essays:

9/29 Essay 1 Kant’s GVP/Ethical theory analysis

10/29 Essay 2- Fiduciary Obligations/Conflict of Interest/Ethical Dilemmas

1 p.m. Thursday December 10th on Final Exam Date- Ethics analysis based on statement of relevant facts. The final paper will have a five front page limit, instead of the three front page limit for the first two essays.
**In Class tests:**

The Multiple choice portion of the in class tests are intended to assess comprehension of the textbook analysis, case studies and issues developed in class. Sample questions are posted on Black Board. Students should prepare a notebook as they read the text and cases in preparation for class. Pay attention to the various thinkers and their ethical theories. The questions call for attention to detail. Outline the text and the cases so that you have a study guide to review before the tests. The in class tests may also contain some short answer questions concerning ethical theory and analysis.

**Essays:**

The essays are graded primarily on critical thinking and analytic performance according to the standards posted on Black Board. Sample essays are also posted on Black Board. Note that the essays are not to be summaries of the ideas of others. No quotations are permitted. Nor are the essays to be in the form of reports or rhetoric. The essay is to present a carefully crafted analysis of the ethical issues presented. The instructor will spend some class time illustrating the essay structure.

The questions for the essay tests along with instructions will be posted on Blackboard in advance to allow for study and reflection. These tests are to be completed outside of class and are due at the beginning of class on the dates specified on the test schedule. **No electronic delivery.** Each test is structured to assess critical thinking and analysis of value/ethical issues. **No late papers will be accepted or graded.**

Since the written tests are prepared outside of class they will be graded on the assumption that students have taken care to present best work and have invested quality time thinking before submitting the final work product. Rewrite your answers several times to produce clear, complete and thoughtful presentations free of rambling, irrelevant passages, spelling mistakes and grammatical errors. Grading is rigorous based on achievement of the posted standards relative to the peer group.
**Team Presentations:**

Team Presentations are based on the Harvard University Ethics Case Studies posted on E-reserves. Eight teams of about four students will be formed in the first week of class. Individual team members will be graded by the individual students based on the standards stated on the score sheet. The instructor will make the final determination of the grade after due consideration of the grades submitted by students. The presentations are meant to assess teamwork as well as individual understanding of the ethical issues presented.

**Class Participation:**

Asking and responding to questions and engaging the instructor and fellow students in discussion is an important part of the education process in this class and very important preparation for careers that require oral communication skills. Students should expect that the instructor will ask questions of individual students about the readings, cases, and class analysis. Follow up questions will clarify the student’s thinking on an issue.

This is sometimes referred to as the “Socratic Method.” Please note that over the years some students have apparently viewed this approach as “intimidating” so that some students did not feel comfortable in class or asking questions in class. I have interviewed students this past semester concerning this matter. Generally, students explained that they felt singled out when the instructor called on them. Some became defensive and flustered and, consequently, were deterred from participation. Many students did not feel this way, and considered the questions a challenge facilitating development of oral communication and critical thinking skills.

This semester the approach will be modified. Instead of singling out individuals a team will be assigned the primary responsibility for responding to questions and developing the class discussion for a specific class. Advance notice and the comfort of the team backup should alleviate the apprehensions
that have concerned some students in the past. The instructor will evaluate the individual class participation performance. Of course, all students are encouraged to ask questions and participate in the discussions at every class.

**Grading:**

Makeup tests will not be provided. Essays must be hand delivered by the student on the dates required. No electronic delivery. The student is responsible for organizing schedules to avoid conflicts with test dates and to assure that papers are submitted in class on time. **A missed test and late papers will be assigned a grade zero. No exceptions.** The instructor does not have any set grade quota. However, to moderate grade inflation the targeted long term GPA average for the Smith School is 2.5 (C+/B-) for undergraduate courses. In the past the grades in this course have approximated that.

**Grade Ranges**

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Test 1</th>
<th>Test 2</th>
<th>Test 3</th>
<th>Team Present</th>
<th>Paper 1</th>
<th>Paper 2</th>
<th>Final Paper</th>
<th>Class Part.</th>
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**Grade Weights**

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**Class Attendance:** University Policy provides that students are expected to attend class regularly. The ability to understand and articulate the ethical reasoning presented in the written materials is enhanced by class discussions conducted by well-prepared students. The instructor does not prepare lecture notes for publication. **To avoid distractions Students are requested not to use**
computers, cell phone or texting devices during class and to be in class on time. Any student absent for five or more classes starting with Tuesday September 1 will be assigned a WU (Withdrawal Unauthorized) grade.

**Academic Ethics:** This course is governed by the University policy on Academic Dishonesty. Students should realize that the assignments and exams should be each student’s own work product not prepared by another or copied from the work of another. However, students are encouraged to build on the ideas presented in the readings and to discuss the issues with fellow students as they develop their own work product.

**Blackboard:** Blackboard will be used for course announcements, grade posting, and material supplemental to the text such as E-Reserves.

**Add/Drop:** A student may drop a course after the third week only for serious and compelling reasons. The instructor will drop any student who is absent without written notice during add/drop period.

Email: dennis.slivinski@csuci.edu. Office Hours: Sage 2152, Tuesday/Thursday 1:40-2:40 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday 11:40-12:40 p.m. It is requested that students provide advance notice of an office appointment.

**Students with special needs:**

Students with physical or learning disabilities are encouraged to contact the Student Services office (437-8510) for personal assistance.

**Disclaimer**

Information contained within this syllabus, other than that mandated by the University, is subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor due to substantially changed circumstances.