## MGT 326-02/BIOL 326-02: Scientific and Professional Ethics (Fall 2012)

### Instructor

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Class: T 6:00 – 8:50pm in NOR1535

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### Course Description

This course provides discussions of ethical issues and societal challenges derived from scientific research and professional activities. Students examine the sources, fundamental principles, and applications of ethical behavior; the relationship between personal ethics and social responsibility of organizations; and the stakeholder management concept. Students apply ethical principles to different types of organizations: business, non-profits, government, health care, science/technology, and other professional groups. Topics also include integrity of scientific research and literature and responsibilities of scientists to society, intellectual property, ethical practices in professional fields, ethical dilemmas in using animal or human subjects in experimentation, gene cloning, animal cloning, gene manipulation, genetic engineering, genetic counseling, and ethical issues of applying biotechnology in agricultural fields. The course emphasizes the study of cases to explore ethical issues.

### Course Learning Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

* Describe the major elements of ethical theory;
* Analyze and present results of complex ethics cases;
* Prepare and give effective oral presentations about ethical issues, and;
* Conduct research and write a 1,500 word paper on an aspect of ethics.

### Textbook

Vincent Ryan Ruggiero, ***Thinking Critically About Ethical Issues*,** Copyright 2012, Eighth Edition, McGraw-Hill.

ISBN-10: **0073535907**

ISBN-13: **978-0073535906**

Selected articles on Ethics to be downloaded from CI Learn/Blackboard – please check CI Learn regularly for announcements and additional readings.

### Class schedule

This serves as a general guide – additional readings and participation assignments will be added. Again, please check CI Learn regularly for announcements and additional readings.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Date** | **Textbook Chapter/topic** | **Key deliverables/exams** |
| Week 1 | August 28 | Introductions; What is ethics? |  |
| Week 2 | Sept. 4 | Chapter 1 – The Need for Ethics |  |
| Week 3 | Sept. 11 | Chapter 2 – The Role of the Majority View |  |
| Week 4 | Sept. 18 | Chapter 3 – The Role of Feelings |  |
| Week 5 | Sept. 25 | Chapter 4 – The Role of Conscience |  |
| Week 6  | Oct. 2 | Chapter 5 – Comparing Cultures & Midterm Review |  |
| Week 7 | Oct. 9 | Midterm | **Midterm** |
| Week 8  | Oct. 16 | Chapter 6 – A Foundation for Judgment | **Papers assigned** |
| Week 9 | Oct. 23 | Chapter 7 – The Basic Criteria |  |
| Week 10 | Oct. 30 | Chapter 8 – Considering Obligations |  |
| Week 11 | Nov. 6 | Chapter 9 – Considering Moral Ideals |  |
| Week 12 | Nov. 13 | Chapter 10 – Considering Consequences |  |
| Week 13 | Nov. 20 | Chapter 11 – Determining Moral Responsibility & Chapter 12 – A Perspective on History | **Paper Due** |
| Week 14 | Nov. 27 | Group work on Contemporary Ethical Controversies |  |
| Week 15 | Dec. 4 | Group work on Contemporary Ethical Controversies; Review for final |  |
| Week 16 | Dec. 11 | FINAL EXAM 7:00pm – 9:00pm | **FINAL EXAM 7:00pm – 9:00pm** |

### How the course is run

The course will be a mix of lecture, discussion and group work – with discussion and group work making up the biggest part. Class attendance is expected and your participation grade is based in part on your attendance. However, attendance alone is not enough for full participation points (which is 40% of your grade). Active participation is encouraged and expected. We will hold ourselves (that’s me and you) to a high standard, work hard and have fun. Every effort will be made to uphold the responsibility of the faculty to foster an environment of mutual trust and fairness. Students are responsible for acting ethically and not tolerating dishonesty or class disruptions on the part of others. If you have any questions, please contact me.

### Grading

Specific expectations and requirements for participation and the final exam will be discussed in advance of their due date. No makeup examinations will be allowed except in dire emergencies. *Late online participation/discussion entries get 0% grade and if you are not present in class to participate you get a 0% for that day/participation.* Online participation will take place on CI Learn/Blackboard. Please do not ask for unavailable exceptions. The CSUCI attendance policy can be found at:

<http://www.csuci.edu/academics/catalog/2008-2009/12_policiesandregulations/28_classattendance.htm>

Final grades will be based on the following:

* Participation (class/online, individual/group): 40%
* Midterm 20%
* Ethics Paper: 20%
* Final: 20%

TOTAL 100%

The final grading scale is as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A  | 93 +  |
| A - | 90 - 92 |
| B + | 88 - 89 |
| B  | 83 - 87  |
| B - | 80 - 82 |
| C + | 78 - 79 |
| C  | 70 - 77  |
| D  | 60 - 69  |
| F  | 60<  |

### A note on grading written assignments

Additional information will be provided for the details (requirements and expectations) of written work (e.g. the paper) but in general, I take the following approach to evaluating writing (including online discussions):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **My notation**  | **Grade range** | **Quality** |
| ✔+ (“check +”) | A to B+ | Easy to read and follow; shows deep critical thinking and connects to course material; a logical, easy to read structure; no major grammatical errors |
| ✔ (“check”)  | B to C | Professional; solid structure; shows some critical thinking; minor grammatical errors |
| ✔- (“check –“) | D and below | Unprofessional; inconsistent; poorly structured; little or no critical thinking or link to course material; numerous grammatical errors |

### CSUCI Disability Statement Cal State Channel Islands is committed to equal educational opportunities for qualified students with disabilities in compliance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The mission of Disability Accommodation Services is to assist students with disabilities to realize their academic and personal potential. Students with physical, learning, or other disabilities are encouraged to contact the Disability Accommodation Services office at (805) 437-8510 for personal assistance and accommodations.

### Academic Honesty

### Academic honesty is expected of all students.  Any academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes such things as cheating, inventing false information or citations, plagiarism and helping someone else commit an act of academic dishonesty. It usually involves an attempt by a student to show possession of a level of knowledge or skill that he/she does not possess.  Students in this course should abide by Policy on Academic Dishonesty at <http://www.csuci.edu/studentlife/judicial-affairs/academic-dishonesty.htm>

### Disclaimer

Information contained in this syllabus, other than that mandated by the University, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.