

Scientific and Professional Ethics[Mgt., Biol., Chem. 326]

Tuesday and Thursday Spring 2012

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.

Course Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Describe the major elements of ethical theory.
2. Analyze and present results of complex ethics cases.
3. Prepare and give effective oral presentations about ethical issues.
4. Conduct research and write a 1000 word paper on an aspect of ethics.

Required Text:

Moral Issues in Business Eleventh Edition (William H. Shaw, Vincent Barry) .

Schedule of Readings and Class Analysis:

Please read the chapter before the first class date noted for each chapter

1/24,26,31,2/2: Chapter 1, and Steinbock article posted on Blackboard.

2/7, 9,14: Chapter 2

February 16: Test 1 on chapters 1 and 2 and Steinbock article

2/21,23,28: Chapter 3

3/1,6 : Chapter 4

March 8: Test 2 on Chapters 3 and 4

3/13,15 : Chapter 5

March 19-23 Spring Recess

3/27, 29, April3, : Chapter 6

April 5 Test 3 on Chapters 5, 6

4/ 10, 12,17,19 : Chapters 7, 8, and 9

April 24: Test 4 on Chapters 7, 8, and 9

4/26, May 1, 3, 8 and 10 Chapters 10 and 11 plus essay issues from C. 7,8, 9

Test no. 5-Final Examination, week of December 12-17 (Chapters 10, 11 MC and essay issues, plus essay issues from C. 7, 8, and 9

Study method:

Each student should develop an individual analysis notebook stating the ethical issues, arguments, and resolutions presented in the reading materials. Read and study the material and summarize the basic arguments presented, the support provided and the conclusions derived. The most efficient way to develop a consistent, complete and clear analysis in ethics or any other area of study is to write and revise arguments and statements until they express precisely what is intended. The notebooks will not be submitted to the instructor or graded but they are useful to prepare for both class discussions and examinations.

Grading:

The final letter grade will be based on the final weighted percentage of five tests. Tests 1-4 will each have the weight of 19% and the final examination, Test 5 will have a 24 % weight. Makeup tests will not be provided. The student is responsible for organizing schedules to avoid conflicts with test dates. A missed test will be assigned a grade zero.

An A grade will represent 87+%, a B 77-86%, a C 65-76%, a D 57-64% , and F <57%, WU(five or more absences beginning with January 31, 2012)

The in class tests 1, 2,3, and 5 consist of a multiple choice section (**a pink scantron Form F-1712-PAR-L is required**) and a written analysis portion. Test 4 will be multiple choice questions only.

The questions for written analysis along with instructions will be posted on Blackboard in advance of the in class tests to allow for study and reflection. The written analysis test is to be completed outside of class and is due on the date of the in class test when the multiple choice portion will be taken. Each test is structured to assess critical thinking and analysis of value/ethical issues.

The Multiple Choice portion of each test is also designed to test comprehension of the assigned readings in the Chapters of the Shaw/Barry text and any supplemental readings. Students will be expected to demonstrate understanding of the substantive content, analysis, arguments and distinctions presented in the readings by choosing the correct answer from several choices.

The instructor does not “teach to the test” In the sense that the lectures are not designed to present what is on the test. Therefore, students should not expect that they will be fully prepared for the tests merely by reviewing class notes. The lectures will focus on concepts from the readings to assist students with critical thinking and analysis procedures that students may apply to portions of the assigned readings not specifically addressed in class and other ethical or value issues. The most efficient way to prepare for the multiple choice tests is to read the assigned chapter **before** the first class scheduled for the specific chapter,

outline the fundamental points and prepare thoughtful questions concerning the issues. This method will result in a detailed notebook that will serve as a useful test preparation manual.

The essay portion of the tests is meant to assess the student's ability to formulate value theory/ethical issues and analyze them from different perspectives and viewpoints. Since the essay questions are posted in advance each student is expected to invest quality time thinking about the issues before submitting the final work product. It is very important to rewrite your answers several times to produce clear, complete and thoughtful presentations free of rambling, irrelevant passages, spelling mistakes and grammatical errors.

The instructor may add up to three points to the total test grade for class participation. Class participation is demonstrated by making thoughtful contributions to the development of the value theory analysis during the course of the semester. For example, students may submit written questions by e mail to the instructor before the scheduled class discussion. Students will also be asked questions in class and are encouraged to participate in class discussions.

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. **In the interest of avoiding distractions Students are requested not to use computers, cell phone or texting devices during class and to be in class on time.**

Any student who is absent for five or more classes starting with class on January 31 will be assigned a WU(Withdrawal Unauthorized) grade.

Academic Ethics: This course is governed by the University policy on Academic Dishonesty. In particular, each student should realize that the assignments and exams should be each student's own work product in the sense that the assignments are not prepared by another or essentially 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.

Add/Drop: Students should read the Add-Drop rules in the University publications. A student may drop a course after the third week only for serious and compelling reasons. Since there is often a waiting list for this course the instructor will drop any student who is absent without written notice during the add/drop period.

Office Hours:

Tuesday/Thursday 8:30-10:30 a.m., Sage 1115 and by appointment.

Email: dennis.slivinski@csuci.edu. 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.