

Syllabus for Scientific and Professional Ethics (MGT/BIO 326)

Instructor

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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.

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;
- perform research and write a 1,000 word paper on an aspect of ethics.

Required Texts

Defining Moments

by Joseph L. Badaracco

Harvard Business Press (1997)

ISBN 0-87584-803-6

Practical Business Ethics for the Busy Manager

by M. Neil Browne, Andrea Giampetro-Meyer, and Carrie Williamson

Pearson/Prentice Hall (2004)

ISBN 0-13-048109-2

Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Business Ethics and Society, 11th Edition

Lisa H. Newton, Elaine Englehardt, Michael S. Pritchard

McGraw-Hill (2009)

ISBN 978-0-07-352731-4

Course Approach

Classes will consist of classroom lectures, group exercises, and a weekly topical workshop. Students will be required to actively participate in the workshops. Each week, additional reading materials will be available on Blackboard to supplement the class discussion and workshop. Suggestions will be given for research on the workshop dilemma and students are encouraged to explore the topic to enhance their learning experience.

Course Policies

Since we meet just once a week, your attendance and participation at each class meeting is essential for your success. Please notice that class participation is one-fourth of your grade for this course. Attendance will be taken at each class. If you cannot attend, you will lose class participation credit for that class as well as points awarded for the random quiz, should one be offered.

Please see the online CSUCI Student Guidebook at:

<http://www.csuci.edu/students/publication/guidebook/>

for campus-wide policies applicable to this and all CSUCI courses including policies on Academic Dishonesty and accommodations that are available for students having disabilities.

Grading

The final grade for this course will be based on a total of 100 points, as follows:

Points	Date	Description
45	Mar 15 May 17	Tests. A midterm and final exam will be offered with the midterm worth 20 points and the final worth 25 points. Tests will primarily consist of essay questions.
15	Apr 12	Film Assignment. The project will consist of a written document with an approximate length of five (5) pages double-spaced.
15	Random	Class Prep Quizzes. Unannounced quizzes will be given at the start of five (5) random classes. Each quiz will be worth three (3) points. Questions will come directly from the reading assignment for that class.
25	Each Class	Class Participation. Points will be awarded for participation in class discussions, for the weekly topical workshop, and for group assignments.

While course grades may be affected by a class curve, the following scale should serve as an approximate guide:

A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	0% - 60%

Please note that achieving a certain percentage such as 90 percent does not guarantee an A. Letter grades will include “plus” and “minus” designation as may be appropriate.

Throughout the semester, there may be opportunities for extra credit. All written assignments (including mid-term and final exam) will be graded based on:

Critical Analysis	70%
Organization	20%
Style, Grammar and Usage	10%

Reading Assignments (schedule of assignments subject to change with notice):

Textbook Key for Reading Assignments:

Defining Moments (DM), Practical Business Ethics (PBE), Taking Sides (TS)

Week	Date	Discussion	DM	PBE	TS	Workshop
1	25-Jan-13	Capitalism			1	
2	1-Feb-13	Dirty Hands; Friedman	1		3	Credit Cards (1)
3	8-Feb-13	Right vs Right; Grand Principles; Individual Virtue	2-3		4	Entertainment (2)
4	15-Feb-13	Sleep-Test; Defining Moments; Good Work; e-Mail Privacy	4-5	1	9	Multitasking (15)
5	22-Feb-13	Becoming You; The Modern Workplace; Compensation	6-7	2	11	Social Responsible Business (4)
6	1-Mar-13	Truth;; Individual Ethics; Direct Marketing of Drugs	8	3	12	Executive Compensation (5)
7	8-Mar-13	Virtue and Virtu	9	4	13	Business Gifts (7)
8	15-Mar-13	Midterm				
9	22-Mar-13	* spring break *				
10	29-Mar-13	Moral Mentors; Moral Obligations		5	15	Genetic Counseling (6)
11	5-Apr-13	FILOP: Facts; Patents		6	17	Food Labeling (12)
12	12-Apr-13	FILOP: Issue; Law; Environment; Film Project Due		7	18	Environment (10)
13	19-Apr-13	FILOP: Law		8	10	Cloning (9)
14	26-Apr-13	FILOP: Options; Labeling		9	14	Health Care (8)
15	3-May-13	FILOP: Principles; Whistleblowing		10	8	Outsourcing (11)
16	10-May-13	H.B. Fuller; Restructuring		11	2	Right to Die (13)
17	17-May-13	Final Exam Due				

Film Project

Students will select from one of the following films, or a film not listed of the student's choosing (with instructor approval) and prepare a five (5) page paper (exclusive of cover) describing an ethical dilemmas faced by one or more of the characters in the film.

A Bag of Hammers (2011)

A Happy Event (2011)

A Man for All Seasons (1966)

A Separation (2011)

Amreeka (2009)

Avatar (2009)

Blue Chips (1994)

Blue State (2007)

Coach Carter (2005)

Dead Man Walking (1995)

Enron: The Smartest Guys... (2005)

Erin Brockovich (2000)

Gattaca (1997)

Gladiator (2000)

Glengarry Glen Ross (1992)

Good Night, and Good Luck (2005)

Hotel Rwanda (2004)

Incident in an Alley (1992)

Margin Call (2011)

Million Dollar Baby (2004)

My Sister's Keeper (2009)

Norma Rae (1979)

One Two Three (1961)

Precious (2009)

Quiz Show (1994)

Rainbow Song (2006)

Saving Private Ryan (1998)

Schindler's List (1993)

Serpico (1973)

Silkwood (1983)

Thank You for Smoking (2005)

The Boiler Room (2000)

The Company Men (2010)

The Devil Wears Prada (2006)

The Efficiency Expert (1992)

The Insider (1999)

The Last Word (2008)

The Life of David Gale (2003)

The Rainmaker (1997)

Tin Men (1987)

To Kill a Mockingbird (1962)

Traffic (2000)

Wall Street (1987)

Wall-E (2008)

Whose Life is it Anyway? (1981)