

Business Ethics (BMGT 1341)



Credit: 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

Prerequisite/Co-requisite: None

Course Description: Discussion of ethical issues, the development of a moral frame of reference, and the need for an awareness of social responsibility in management practices and business activities. Includes ethical corporate responsibility.

Required Textbook and Materials

Title	The Business Ethics Workshop, v. 1.0
Author	James Brusseau
eISBN	978-1-4533-2735-7
Publisher	Flat World Knowledge
Type	Digital
URL	http://students.flatworldknowledge.com/course?cid=978615&bid=64806
Required	\$19.95
Optional	Printed Textbook, Study Pass, All Access Pass
Additional Requirement	Black Board access

Course Objectives (with applicable SCANS skills after each)

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Define business ethics. (SCANS: F1, F2, F4, F10, F11, F12, F13, F15, F16, C10, C11, C12, C13, C16, C17)
2. Discuss the consequences of unethical business practices. (SCANS: F1, F2, F4, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F11, F12, F13, F15, F16, C1, C2, C4, C7, C8, C9, C10, C11, C12, C13, C16, C17)
3. Describe reasoning for analyzing ethical dilemmas. (SCANS: F1, F2, F4, F8, F9, F10, F11, F12, F13, F15, F16, C1, C2, C4, C9, C10, C11, C12, C13, C16, C17)
4. Describe different ethical views. (SCANS: F1, F2, F4, F8, F9, F10, F11, F12, F13, F15, F16, C9, C10, C11, C12, C13, C16, C17)
5. Explain how business, government, and society function interactively. (SCANS: F1, F2, F4, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F11, F12, F13, F15, F16, C1, C2, C4, C8, C10, C11, C12, C13, C16, C17)
6. Explain corporate social responsibility. (SCANS: F1, F2, F4, F9, F10, F11, F12, F13, F15, F16, C1, C2, C4, C7, C8, C9, C10, C11, C12, C13, C16, C17)

7. Discuss social and ethical threats emerging from rapid technological change.
(SCANS: F1, F2, F4, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F11, F12, F13, F15, F16, C9, C10, C11, C12, C13, C16, C17)

SCANS Skills and Competencies

Beginning in the late 1980's, the U.S. Department of Labor Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) conducted extensive research and interviews with business owners, union leaders, supervisors, and laborers in a wide variety of work settings to determine what knowledge workers needed in order to perform well on a job. In 1991 the Commission announced its findings in *What Work Requires in Schools*. In its research, the Commission determined that "workplace know-how" consists of two elements: foundation skills and workplace competencies.

Course Outline

1. What is Business Ethics?
 - a. What is Business Ethics?
 - b. The Place of Business Ethics
 - c. Is Business Ethics Necessary?
 - d. Unavoidability of Business Ethics
2. Theories and Duties of Rights:
Traditional Tools for Making Decisions in Business when the Means Justify the Ends
 - a. The Means Justify the End versus the Ends Justify the Means
 - b. Perennial Duties
 - c. The Duties of Categorical Imperative
 - d. Rights
3. Theories of Consequence Ethics:
Traditional Tools for Making Decisions in Business when the Ends Justify the Means
 - a. What is Consequentialism?
 - b. Utilitarianism: The Greater Good
 - c. Altruism: Everyone Else
 - d. Egoism: Just Me
4. Employee Ethics: What's the Right Job for Me?
 - a. Finding Jobs to Want
 - b. Working for Ethically Complicated Organizations
5. Employee Ethics: Getting a Job, Getting a Promotion, Leaving
 - a. The Resume Introduction
 - b. What am I Worth?
 - c. Plotting a Promotion
 - d. Looking for a Better Job outside the Company
 - e. Take this Job and...
6. Employee Ethics: Making the Best of the Job you Have as You Get from 9 to 5
 - a. Taking Advantage of the Advantage: Gifts, Bribes, Kickbacks
 - b. Third-Party Obligations: Tattling, Reporting, and Whistle-Blowing
 - c. Company Loyalty
 - d. Stress, Sex, Status, and Slacking: What are the Ethics of Making It through the Typical Workday?
7. Manager Ethics: Getting, Promoting, and Firing Workers
 - a. Hiring
 - b. Wages
 - c. Promoting Employees
 - d. Firing
8. Manager Ethics: Deciding on a Corporate Culture and Making it Work
 - a. What is Corporate Culture?
 - b. The Relation between Organizational Culture and Knowing the Right

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- Thing to Do
 - c. Two Ethically Knotted Scenes of Corporate Culture: Clothes and Grooming
 - d. What Culture should a Leader Choose to Instill
 - e. Styles and Values of Management
9. The Tense Office: Discrimination, Victimization, and Affirmative Action
- a. Racial Discrimination
 - b. Gender Discrimination and Occupational Segregation
 - c. Discrimination and Victimization
 - d. The Prevention and Rectification of Discrimination: Affirmative Action
10. The Aroused Office: Sex and Drugs at Work
- a. Is there Anything Special about Sex?
 - b. Bad Sex: Harassment
 - c. Drugs
 - d. The Organization Wants you to Use Drugs
11. The Selling Office: Advertising and Consumer Protection
- a. Two kinds of Advertising
 - b. Do Ads Need to Tell the Truth?
 - c. We Buy, Therefore we Are: Consumerism and Advertising
 - d. Consumers and Their Protections
12. The Responsible Office: Corporations and Social Responsibility
- a. What Kinds of Business Organizations are there?
 - b. Three Theories of Corporate Social Responsibility
 - c. Should Corporations Have Social Responsibilities? The Arguments in Favor
 - d. Should Corporations Have Social Responsibilities? The Arguments Against
13. The Green Office
- a. The Environment
 - b. Ethical Approaches to Environmental Protection
 - c. Three Models of Environmental Protection for Business
 - d. Animal Rights

Grade Scale

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
0 – 59	F

Course Evaluation

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

Exam #1	25%
Exam #2	25%
Exam #3	25%
Final Exam	25%

Course Requirements

1. The student will access and utilize the online textbook.
2. The student will complete three regular exams.

3. The student is expected to actively participate in classroom discussions.

Course Policies

1. A grade of 'C' or better must be earned in this course for credit toward degree requirement.
2. Proper classroom decorum must be maintained at all times.
3. No DISRUPTIONS will be tolerated and in this classroom, we will respect one another's right to learn.
4. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
5. Cell phones, headphones, and any other electronic devices must be turned off while in class.
6. Do not bring children to class.
7. Do not walk out of class early without talking to me before the class begins.
8. Academic Dishonesty will be dealt with most strictly - An automatic F for the semester, plus a report will be filed.
9. On exam day, all desks MUST be clear except for exam materials. All purses, backpacks, notebooks, etc. should be stored under the desks - including CELL PHONES.
10. No late assignments will be accepted.
11. Makeup exams will not be given, unless arranged for in advance. If you miss an exam (including the final) for any reason, without making arrangements with me prior to the exam, you will receive a zero on that exam.
12. Exams (including the final) will begin on time. If you are more than 5 minutes late for the exam, you will not be allowed to take it.
13. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.
14. Attendance is expected and required.
15. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.

Disabilities Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the office in Student Services, Cecil Beeson Building.

Week of	Topic	Reference
Week 1	Course introduction and policies What is Business Ethics? The Place of Business Ethics Is Business Ethics Necessary? Unavoidability of Business Ethics	pp. 5-18
Week 2	Theories and Duties of Rights	pp. 27-43

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Week of	Topic	Reference
	The Means Justify the End versus the Ends Justify the Means Perennial Duties The Duties of Categorical Imperative Rights	
Week 3	Theories of Consequence Ethics What is Consequentialism? Utilitarianism: The Greater Good Altruism: Everyone Else Egoism: Just Me	pp. 53-69
Week 4	Exam #1 Employee Ethics Finding Jobs to Want Working for Ethically Complicated Organizations	pp. 107-127
Week 5	Employee Ethics The Resume Introduction What am I Worth? Plotting a Promotion Looking for a Better Job outside the Company Take this Job and...	pp. 129-146
Week 6	Employee Ethics Taking Advantage of the Advantage: Gifts, Bribes, Kickbacks Third-Party Obligations: Tattling, Reporting, and Whistle-Blowing	pp. 155-166
Week 7	Employee Ethics Company Loyalty Stress, Sex, Status, and Slacking: What are the Ethics of Making It through the Typical Workday? Exam #2	pp. 167-172
Week 8	Manager Ethics Hiring Wages Promoting Employees Firing	pp. 183-200
Week 9	Manager Ethics What is Corporate Culture? The Relation between Organizational Culture and Knowing the Right Thing to Do Two Ethically Knotted Scenes of	pp. 209-219

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Week of	Topic	Reference
	Corporate Culture: Clothes and Grooming	
Week 10	Manager Ethics What Culture should a Leader Choose to Instill Styles and Values of Management Exam #3	pp. 220-226
Week 11	The Tense Office Racial Discrimination Gender Discrimination and Occupational Segregation	pp. 237-244
Week 12	The Tense Office Discrimination and Victimization The Prevention and Rectification of Discrimination: Affirmative Action	pp. 244-256
Week 13	The Aroused Office Is there Anything Special about Sex? Bad Sex: Harassment Drugs The Organization Wants you to Use Drugs	pp. 267-281
Week 14	The Selling Office Two kinds of Advertising Do Ads Need to Tell the Truth? We Buy, Therefore we Are: Consumerism and Advertising Consumers and Their Protections	pp. 293-310
Week 15	The Responsible Office What Kinds of Business Organizations are there? Three Theories of Corporate Social Responsibility Should Corporations Have Social Responsibilities? The Arguments in Favor Should Corporations Have Social Responsibilities? The Arguments Against	pp. 321-337
Week 16	The Green Office The Environment Ethical Approached to Environmental Protection Three Models of Environmental Protection for Business Animal Rights	pp. 347-363

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Week of	Topic	Reference
	Final Exam	

Instructor Contact Information

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