

Business Ethics (BMGT 1341) FALL 2022



Credit: 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

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:

The Business Ethics Workshop, v. 3.0

By: James Brusseau

eISBN: 978-1-4533-8744-3

NOTE: The FREE textbooks are an earlier edition

FREE textbook (download) in PDF format

<http://www.saylor.org/site/textbooks/The%20Business%20Ethics%20Workshop.pdf>

Download in WORD format:

<https://www.bookshare.org/browse/book/567494>

OPTIONAL MATERIALS: (purchase digital access or hard copy text online)

<https://students.flatworldknowledge.com/course/2594150>

Course Objectives

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

1. Define business ethics.
2. Discuss the consequences of unethical business practices.
3. Describe reasoning for analyzing ethical dilemmas.
4. Describe different ethical views.
5. Explain how business, government, and society function interactively.
6. Explain corporate social responsibility.
7. Discuss social and ethical threats emerging from rapid technological change.

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 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

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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
 - e. The Domination Office: The Star System and Labor Unions

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:

- | | |
|------------|---------|
| 1. Exam #1 | 33 1/3% |
| 2. Exam #2 | 33 1/3% |

3. Final Exam

33 1/3%

Course Requirements

1. Satisfactory exam grades.
2. Satisfactory attendance.
3. Satisfactory utilization of online component included with textbook

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 unless being used for a legitimate classroom purpose such as taking notes or accessing a digital textbook.
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, papers, etc. should be stored under the desks and out of your line of sight - including CELL PHONES and other digital devices.
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 may 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 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that

provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)839-2018. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](http://www.lit.edu/special-populations)

<https://www.lit.edu/student-success/special-populations>

Course Schedule (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Week of	Topic
Week 1	What Is Business Ethics?
Week 2	Theories of Duties and Rights: Traditional Tools for Making Decisions in Business When the Means Justify the Ends
Week 3	Theories of Consequence Ethics: Traditional Tools for Making Decisions in Business when the Ends Justify the Means
Week 4	Theories Responding to the Challenge of Cultural Relativism
Week 5	Employee's Ethics: What's the Right Job for Me?
Week 6	Employee's Ethics: Getting a Job, Getting a Promotion, Leaving
Week 7	Employee's Ethics: Making the Best of the Job You Have as You Get from 9 to 5
Week 8	Manager's Ethics: Getting, Promoting, and Firing Workers
Week 9	Manager's Ethics: Deciding on a Corporate Culture and Making It Work
Week 10	The Tense Office: Discrimination, Victimization, and Affirmative Action
Week 11	The Aroused Office: Sex and Drugs at Work
Week 12	The Selling Office: Advertising and Consumer Protection
Week 13	The Responsible Office: Corporations and Social Responsibility
Week 14	The Green Office: Economics and the Environment
Week 15	The Domination Office: The Star System and Labor Unions
Week 16	Final Exam