



COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE:	Business Ethics	COURSE CODE:	PHIL290
PREREQUISITES:	None	SEMESTER:	FALL 2020
INSTRUCTOR:	CATHARINA WULF, PhD	CREDITS:	3
EMAIL:	cwulf@groupe-igs.fr catwulf@gmail.com	SCHEDULE:	Group 1 Friday 12h30-15h30

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

- This course focuses on the importance of ethical perceptions and corporate social responsibility as an inevitable factor in business. As a discipline, Business Ethics has considerably grown within the last decades and has become a major field in the age of globalization. It refers to values-based conduct, which does not only apply to individuals but to corporations.
- A fundamental feature of this course is its ONLINE training component. Out of the 12 sessions, 4 sessions will be online and physical class meetings are cancelled (cf dates below). Students will have the unique opportunity to work virtually - individually and as a team - as if they were in a real-world corporate setting.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

It is hoped that the students will:

- acquire a good grasp of the major issues, philosophers and concepts in business ethics
- develop the tools for shaping and defining appropriate moral values and conduct
- be able to progress analytically in a (self)critical, interactive cross-cultural team environment.
- Be organized in a virtual collaborative setting

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- Understand and make proper use of the philosophical concepts pertaining to individual- and corporate ethics they have acquired in the course,
- Attain a higher level of tolerance and respect for their intercultural peers
- Use theories studied in class and apply them to real-life corporate examples



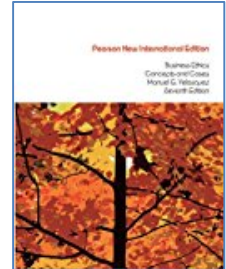
- Recognize pitfalls of general assumptions, such as “business is business”
- Appreciate the flexibility and creativity of online collaboration

MANDATORY TEXTBOOK:

Manuel G. Velasquez, BUSINESS ETHICS Concepts and Cases Seventh edition
Pearson Education. ISBN: 978-0131930070

This is the link for the more economical e-book version

<http://shop.smdbooks.com/schools/business-ethics-ms-wulf/>



EVALUATIONS:

Presence in class is mandatory. More than 2 absences will lead to a failing grade.

Grades are based on both individual (60%) and ONLINE group participation (40%).

Face-to-face (F2F)

30%: (INDIVIDUALLY GRADED. GROUPS WHO SHOW A MAXIMUM LEVEL OF COHESIVENESS WILL RECEIVE A BONUS)

Consisting of one in-class group presentation (based on case study or topic of your own choice) (Powerpoint; approx.15 slides + bibliography slide) THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM. Each team will choose a case from the book (or receive a hand out by the instructor), which is to be presented in front of the class. Students must apply selected theories of the relevant chapter to the case. The presentation should not last longer than 20 minutes, followed by a class discussion. It is the group's responsibility to make up 3 questions (or use the questions of the case in the book) to launch an in-class debate. As the presentations should generate class discussion, all students are expected to read the chapters and all the case studies.

Requirements for F2F presentations: Each oral presentation must have the following components:

-Table of contents/Agenda; introduction of topic; problem statement; illustration of applied examples/case; application of theories /ethical concepts relevant for the particular case/example; conclusion(s) and a conclusion or recommendation. It is important to be critical about any information you find pertaining to your topic. You do not need to agree with your group members but can express different viewpoints in your conclusion.

Academic and analytical writing skills:

Check your spelling and grammar (proofread your documents prior to presenting or handing them in). Make sure that the content is well organized and structured, be critical when evaluating data or



information, i.e. you need to do research on academic databases or on the internet and compare your findings/sources. “Cut and paste” from Wikipedia is definitely below academic standards. Your coherence will be graded. Presenting or handing in disorganized and /or badly written/rambling PowerPoints will lead to a lower grade. **Remember to document your sources (bibliography, foot-or endnotes), cutting and pasting from undocumented sources will be automatically F.**

40 % for 4 ONLINE FRIDAYS (Collectively GRADED):

Online Fridays are: 2+16+30 October; 4 December. Please note that there are NO in-class meetings during these dates. Each Online Friday is worth 10%. 4x10% in total. The specific group assignments are uploaded, along with the deadlines for each online assignment. Students who fail to respect the deadlines won’t receive any points/grade during the online weeks.

30 % (INDIVIDUALLY GRADED)

SHORT TESTS/Final ESSAY to be announced (TBA).

BE AWARE THAT A MINIMUM OF 40 % OF YOUR GRADE DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON YOUR ONLINE WORK AND VIRTUAL IMPLICATION. IF YOU DON’T SUBMIT ANY WORK, YOU WILL FAIL THIS COURSE.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Grades will be based on the standard ABS Grading Rubrics available on beecome. Online contributions are graded according to a point system. Each online week/Friday WITHOUT physical class meeting is worth 10 % (total of 40%. 4 OLW=40%).

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Dates	Classwork	Session Content
Session 1 18 Sept	Intro, team bonding ☺	General introduction, explanation of requirements. Students are assigned to teams. Explanation of online assignments. Students receive time to meet their team members. FULLER CASE
Session 2 25 Sept	Chapter 1	Basic Principles of Ethics. CASE: Chocolate and Slavery
Session 3 2 Oct	ONLINE 1	Group assignments online
Session 4 9 Oct	Chapter 2	Conceptual frameworks in ethics: utilitarianism, rights, virtue, justice etc
Session 5 16 Oct	ONLINE 2	Group assignments online
Session 6 23 Oct	Chapter 3+4	Philosophers and the Marketplace: Locke, Marx, Smith, Darwin etc;



Session 7 30 Oct	ONLINE 3	Group assignments online
Session 8 6 Nov	Chapter 5	Ethics and environment consumer rights.
Session 9 13 Nov	Chapter 6	Consumer rights. Do companies respect consumer safety?
Session 10 20 Nov	Chapter 7	Diversity and Discrimination in the Workplace
Session 11 4 Dec	ONLINE 4	Group assignments online
Session 12 11 Dec	Final Session	Final projects (TBA)

The schedule of Final Exams will be confirmed and published by 31 October 2020. The last day of the semester is 18 December 2020. DO NOT PLAN ANY TRAVEL BEFORE THIS DATE AS THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS.