

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE:	BUSINESS ETHICS	COURSE CODE:	PHIL310
PREREQUISITES:	NONE	SEMESTER:	SPRING 2017
INSTRUCTOR:	CATHARINA WULF, PhD	CREDITS:	3
EMAIL:	cwulf@groupe-igs.fr catwulf@gmail.com	SCHEDULE:	Fridays GR1 11h30-14h30 GR2 14h30-17h30

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. We will use blackboard (BB) as a platform, and students will find all the instructions for their online work on BB

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

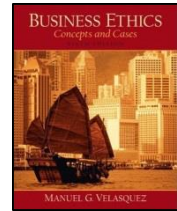
Presence in class is mandatory. More than 2 absences will lead to a failing grade.

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 Sixth edition
Pearson Education. ISBN: 978-0131930070

EVALUATIONS:

Grades are based on both individual (70%) and group participation/group project (30%).

Face-to-face (F2F)

30%: (COLLECTIVE GROUP GRADE)

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 a 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 (INDIVIDUALLY GRADED):

24 February, 17 March, 7 April, 21 April. Please note that there are **NO in-class meetings during these dates.** The specific group assignments are uploaded on blackboard, 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 % (mix online and F2F in-class) (INDIVIDUALLY GRADED)

surveys, quizzes, and short homework assignments to be announced in class and on blackboard.

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

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Dates	Classwork	Session Content
Session 1 3-Feb-2017	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 10-Feb-2017	Chapter 1	Basic Principles of Ethics. CASE: Chocolate and Slavery
Session 3 17-Feb-2017		Conceptual frameworks in ethics: utilitarianism, rights, virtue, justice etc
Session 4 24-Feb-2017 ONLINE	ONLINE 1	Group assignments on Blackboard
Session 5 3-Mar-2017	Chapter 3+4	Philosophers and the Marketplace: Locke, Marx, Smith, Darwin etc; CASE: HEALTH INSURANCE (international comparisons)
Session 6 10-Mar-2017	Chapter 5	Ethics and Sustainable Development
Session 7 17-Mar-2017 ONLINE	ONLINE 2	Group assignments on Blackboard
Session 8 31-Mar-2017	Chapter 6	Ethics and consumer rights. Do companies respect consumer safety?
Session 9 7-Apr-2017 ONLINE	ONLINE 3	Group assignments on Blackboard
Session 10 14-Apr-2017	Chapter 7	Diversity and Discrimination in the Workplace

Session 11 21-Apr-2017	ONLINE 4	Group assignments on Blackboard
Session 12 28-Apr-2017	Final Session	Final projects (TBA)