

**BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY
School of Arts and Sciences**

**Section Designed for: School of Business
Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics**

**Course Outline
PHIL 305 Ethics and Public Policy
Business Ethics Section**

FALL 2021

Instructor/Location	Office Hours	Email
Dr. Frederick B. Mills MLK 0217	Virtual upon email request	fmills@bowiestate.edu

I. Course Description

This online asynchronous course examines the major ethical issues in business, including major trends in ethical theory. The ethical theories examined include utilitarian, justice, rights, and ethics of liberation points of view. Students will apply theory to current public policy debate in the area of business ethics.

Credit for the Course.

Three semester hours are awarded upon successful completion.

II. Required Texts and Assignment

Business Ethics News from 2021 as assigned.

International Panel on Climate Change Summary Report 2021.

William H. Shaw. (2017). Business Ethics. Ninth Edition. Wadsworth Cengage Learning.

Research Business Ethics News Each Morning

There will be assigned readings on contemporary business ethics issues relevant to the learning objectives of this course.

III. BlackBoard required

Students are advised that this is a BlackBoard based course and uses links to web-based videos to deliver course lectures. See BlackBoard for test scores, learning modules, the syllabus, the discussion board and announcements.

IV. Course Outline (Assignments, and Schedule)

Course Learning Modules, Schedule	Assigned Readings
<p>Module 1 08-30 to 09-14 OVERVIEW/ETHICAL STANDARDS Video lecture 1 <i>The Nature of Business Ethics.</i> A survey of interesting business ethics cases Video lecture 2 <i>Major Ethical Theories.</i> Immanuel Kant (Rights), J. S. Mill (Utility), John Rawls (Justice); Enrique Dussel (Ethics of Liberation). Summary 1 due 09-09 11:59PM Exam 1 Ethical Theories, due 09-14 11:59PM</p>	<p>Textbook (Shaw): Part 1 (ch 2 –3). Case 1.1: Made in the U.S.A.--Dumped in Brazil, Africa, Iraq... in textbook, pp 32-35. Case 2.2, Ford Pinto, pp 77-79</p> <p>Discussion: Use discussion tool on BlackBoard to discuss the learning objectives with peers.</p>
<p>Module 2 09-15 to 09-21 CORPORATIONS Video lecture <i>Corporations and the question of corporate moral agency.</i> Summary 2 due 09-17 11:59PM Exam 2 Corporations, due 09-21 11:59PM</p>	<p>Textbook (Shaw): chapter 5</p> <p>Research using online sources the significance of the Citizens United Supreme Court Case.</p>
<p>Module 3 09-22 to 10-01 THE CONSUMER Video Lecture <i>Product Safety; Advertising</i> Summary 3 due 09-24 11:59PM Exam 3 Product Safety; Advertising, due 10-01 11:59PM</p>	<p>Textbook (Shaw): chapter 6 Case: COVID 19 Vaccines Research on your own the function of the CPSC</p>
<p>Module 4 10-04 to 10-20 BUSINESS AND THE ENVIRONMENT Video Lecture: <i>Business and the Environment</i> Summary 4 due 10-12 by 11:59PM Midterm (exam 4) 10-20: due 9PM</p>	<p>Textbook (Shaw): Read chapter 7 Case: Global Warming: IPCC Summary (link is on Blackboard). Case: Berta Caceres</p>
<p>Module 5 10-25 to 11-12 THE WORKPLACE Video Lecture <i>The Workplace</i> Summary 5 due 11-05 by 11:59PM Exam 5, The Workplace, due 11-12 by 11:59PM</p>	<p>Textbook (Shaw): chapter 9, pp 332-342; chapter 10, pp 364 -386; ch 11, 403-424.</p> <p>Case: Impact of Race and Class during the COVID-19 pandemic</p>

<p>Module 6 11-15 to 11-24 THE NATURE OF CAPITALISM Video Lecture <i>Adam Smith and Karl Marx</i> Summary 6 due 11-19 by 11:59PM Exam 6 on the economic system, due 11-24 by 11:59PM</p>	<p>Chapter 4 of Shaw text Case: Free markets and economic warfare. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. on the three evils.</p>
<p><u>Review for Cumulative Final Exam: 11-29 to 12-13</u></p>	

V. COMPETENCIES: CPC and NCATE

Summary of CPC topics covered in this course:

Business Ethics, ETH, 27
International/Global Dimensions of Business, INTL, 10
Legal Environment of Business, LGL, 5.
Total: 42.

NCATE Curriculum Themes

Academic Scholar: Objectives 1, 17. The student scholar should become more aware of and appreciate cultural pluralism perspective by the study of moral dilemmas faced by business conducted internationally and by consideration of diversity in the workplace. A critical thinking perspective will be enhanced by the development and use of arguments on both sides of controversial ethical issues. A humanistic perspective will be enhanced by the study of ethics and a critical consideration of moral dilemmas faced by management and workers in the business environment.

Effective Practitioner: Objectives 1, 15.

Technological Applications: Objective 16.

Multiple Forms of Assessment: See grading criteria.

Special Population Perspectives: objective 12

Reflective Practitioner: objectives 1, 2, 8, 14, 17

Personal and Interpersonal Perspectives: objectives 1, 2, 8, 12, 14, 17.

VI. Specific learning objectives

Students are expected to demonstrate competency in business ethics by:

1. Comparing the utilitarian, justice, rights, Enrique Dussel, and ecological ethical theories.
2. Understanding arguments for and against business ethics.
3. Understanding the profit motive and the notion of the public good.
4. Understanding the concept of the corporation and the debate over corporate moral (or social) responsibility.

5. Defining perfect competition, monopoly competition, and oligopolistic competition.
6. Understanding environmental concerns, including the ethics of pollution control, global warming (climate change), and the conservation of depletable resources.
7. Understanding the ethics of consumer protection and marketing.
8. Understanding consumer relations and advertising ethics.
9. Identifying and assessing the business ethics implications of emerging technologies (e-commerce and the internet).
10. Identifying and explaining employee rights, job discrimination, affirmative action, and hiring practices.
11. Understanding the issue of whistle blowing and conflict of interest.
12. Defining sexual harassment.
13. Critically assessing employee relations, including the issue of confidentiality, the firm's duties to the employee and the employee's duties to the firm.
14. Applying an ethical standard to an actual case in an argumentative essay.

As demonstrated by achieving at least 75% on objective exams and essays and participating on the discussion board.

VII. Classroom rules

You may not record the class in any form without permission of the instructor and fellow students.

Plagiarism essays will result in an 'F'(zero) for the assignment. Plagiarism includes copying any material from books, articles or the internet or citing any text without proper quotation marks and reference identification. Plagiarism on any essay exam question will result in no credit for the essay.

VIII. Instructional Modes

BlackBoard communications, student participation in discussion threads, video lecture presentations, online research. The instructor will hold voluntary occasional class meetings to review learning materials. The discussion boards are voluntary, but students are encouraged to communicate with each other about the learning objectives.

IX. Grading Methods and Procedures

Each of six learning modules includes an exam worth 10 total points and must be completed by the due date and time listed in the syllabus. Each of six video lecture summaries is worth 5 points. The exams can be accessed on BlackBoard, under tests and assignments. The final exam is cumulative and there will be a review prior to the exam. The final exam is worth 10 points.

THE GRADING SYSTEM

Seven exams (including the midterm and final): 10 points each (70).

Six summaries: 5 points each (30).

Rounding policy: A grade that is equal to or exceeds x.5 is rounded to the next numeral. For example, a 79.5 is rounded to 80. But a 79.49 is not rounded up to 79.5. Grades will be posted to Bb.

Midterm Grade = The average of the first four exams.

X. Bibliography

Contemporary

- Arnold, Denis (2011). *Ethics of Global Business*. Blackwell.
- Beauchamp, T. L., Bowie, N. E. and Arnold, D. G. (2013). *Ethical theory and business*, ninth edition. NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Boatright, John (2008). *Ethics and the conduct of business*. Fifth Ed. NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Brannigan, M. C. (2005). *Ethics Across Cultures*. Kansas City: McGraw Hill
- Collins, Denis (2018). *Business Ethics: Best Practices for Designing and Managing Ethical Organizations Second Edition*. Sage Publications.
- Cahn, Steven M. and Kasachkoff, T. (2003). *Business Ethics: Decision Making for Personal Integrity and Social Responsibility*.
- Deshardins, J. R. and Hartman, L. P. (2011). *An Introduction to Business Ethics*, 4th Edition. McGraw-Hill.
- Ferrill, O. C. and Fraedrich, J., and Ferrill, L. (2019). *Business Ethics: Ethical Decision Making & Cases 12th Edition*. Cengage Learning.
- Gini, A. and Marcoux, A. (2011). *Case studies in business ethics*, sixth edition. NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Hartman, L. and DesJardins, j. (2020). *Business Ethics: Decision Making for Personal Integrity & Social Responsibility*, 5th edition. McGraw-Hill Education.
- Pierce, Jessica. (2010) *Morality Play: Case Studies in Ethics*. Boston: McGraw Hill.
- Shaw, W. H. (2015). *Moral Issues in Business*. Belmont, 13th Edition. CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company.
- Strike, K. A. and Moss, P. A. (2008). *Ethics and College Student Life*. NJ: Pearson Education, Ind.
- Wood, N. B. (2004). *Business ethics in uncertain times*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall

Selected classical works in ethical theory

- Aristototele. *Nochomachean ethics*.
- Baier, Kurt. *The moral point of view*.
- Charlesworth, Max. *Bioethics in a liberal society*.
- Edwards, Jonathan. *Freedom of the will*.
- Erikson, Erik. *Childhood and society*.
- Frankena, W. K. *Ethics*.
- Kant, Immanuel. *Groundwork of the metaphysics of morals*.
- May, Larry and Sharratt, Shari Collins. *Applied ethics: A multicultural perspective*.
- Mill, J. S. *Utilitarianism*.
- Moore, G. E. *Principia Ethica*.

Nietzsche, Friedrich. Beyond good and evil.
Plato. The Republic.
Russel, Bertrand. Why I am not a Christian and other essays.
Singer, Peter. Practical Ethics.
Williams, Bernard. Morality: An introduction to ethics.

XI. Important Announcements:

Students who have a disability or think that they need special accommodations should report immediately to Disability Support Services (DSS), located in Suite 082 (Room 8212) in the Thurgood Marshall Library, or call Dr. Michael S. Hughes, DSS Coordinator at 301-860-4067. Go to the following website for more information:

***<https://www.bowiestate.edu/academics/support-services/disability-support-services/>
Bowie State University shall not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, age, ancestry or national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, marital status, or veteran status (ADA and Nondiscrimination Policy).***