

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PHIL-330: Ethics in Business

CLASS SECTION: 002AB

TERM: Winter 2024

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): In-Person

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#)

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Dr. Thomas Doerksen

EMAIL: doerksent@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Y312

HOURS: W/F 12:30–1:30

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Examining ethical issues arising in business settings, the course focuses on understanding ethical systems and concepts and the social/political context in which contemporary business operates. Topics include corporate responsibility, employee rights, discrimination and affirmative action, conflicts of interest, whistle-blowing, and general issues of honesty in business practice.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C in ENGL 151
- C in ENGL 161
- C in ENGL 163
- C in ENGL 164

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Summarize and evaluate central problems in business ethics.
2. Critically examine classical and contemporary solutions to these problems.
3. Make comparisons between various philosophical/ethical positions and have an overall sense of the history of ethics in general.
4. Take a philosophical/ethical position and support that position with good reasons (evidence).
5. Explain the relevance of ethics to everyday problems in business concerning beliefs and values, knowledge and justification.
6. Describe and critically assess specific cases and alternative solutions to contemporary ethical problems in business.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

(a) **Required Text:** Andres, Gregory G. (ed.); Jordan, W. Jim; Stumpf, Andrew; et al. (2021). *With a Clear Conscience: Business Ethics, Decision-Making, and Strategic Thinking*. Oxford University Press Canada.

(b) Other readings are posted or linked on the class D2L webpage.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

Lecture: Tuesdays: 5:30pm – 7:20pm (Y316)
Seminars: Tuesdays: (Section A) 7:30pm – 8:20pm (Y316)
(Section B) 8:30pm – 9:20pm (Y316)

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Lecture #1 Jan 8–14	Introduction: Values & Business L: Introduction and Ch. 1 (p. 1-17) S: Case Study – The Job Interview (D2L)	
Lecture #2 Jan 15–21	Social Context of Business L: Chapter 1: Business Ethics and Ethical Business (p. 18–28) S: Case Study – The Quandary at Pure Drug (D2L)	
Lecture #3 Jan 22–28	Consequentialism & Deontology L: Chapter 2: Thinking in Ethical Terms (p. 29-48; p. 31-36) S: Case Study – Beech-Nut’s Imitation Apple Juice & The Curious Loan Approval (D2L)	
Lecture #4 Jan 29 – Feb 4	Virtue Ethics, Ethics of Care & Feminist Ethics L: Chapter 2: Thinking in Ethical Terms (p. 29-48; p. 36-40)	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
	S: Case Study – The Parable of the Sadhu (D2L)	
Lecture #5 Feb 5–11	Ethical Decision-Making Framework L: Chapter 3: Ethical Decision Making (p. 49-73) S: Case Study – Applying the EDMF to the Video-Game Development Crunch (p. 70-72)	
Lecture #6 Feb 12–18	Confucianism, Indigenous Traditions, Marxism L: Readings on D2L S: Case Study – Pipelines, Dams, and Indigenous Territory (p. 160-162)	CSA #1 DUE (Feb 13)
Feb 19–25	Reading Break	
Feb 26 – March 3	Midterm No Seminar	Midterm (Feb 27)
Lecture #7 March 4–10	Corporate Social Responsibility L: Chapter 4: Corporate Social Responsibility (p. 74-93) S: Case Study – Assessing Walmart’s Commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (p. 82-84)	
Lecture #8 March 11–17	Fairness & Non-Discrimination L: Chapter 5: Fairness and Non-Discrimination (p. 94-118) S: Case Study – The Best Person for the Job? (D2L)	CSA #2 DUE (March 12)
Lecture #9 March 18–24	Social Action Problems L: Chapter 6: Social Action Problems (p. 119-141) S: Case Study – An Auditor’s Dilemma (D2L)	
Lecture #10 March 25–31	Business and the Environment L: Chapter 7: Environment, Ethics, and Business (p. 142–165) S: Case Study – Made in the USA – and Dumped (D2L)	
Lecture #11 April 1–7	Marketing and Advertising L: Chapter 8: The Power of Advertising (p. 166-182) S: Case Study – Toy Wars (D2L)	
Lecture #12 April 8–13	Catch-Up & Final Exam Review	CSA #3 DUE (April 9)
April 15–23	Final Exam (scheduled by college)	

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines scan be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html).

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
(a) Seminar Worksheets	10% Total

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
During each seminar, students will be asked to complete a short assignment based on the lecture's seminar reading. Students will be expected to analyze the case study using an Ethical Decision-Making Framework and apply the various ethical theories studied. These will be turned in at the end of each seminar and graded on a pass/fail basis. No rewrites or deferrals. Further details will be distributed each seminar meeting. Reading the seminar reading assignment is essential preparation!	10 at 1% each
(b) Case Study Analyses Students will be expected to analyze a case study and apply the various ethical theories studied, identify the main ethical issue, and explain which ethical theory they believe is most convincing. No rewrites or deferrals. Further details will be provided in class and on D2L. CSA #1: February 13th CSA #2: March 12th CSA #3: April 9th	30% Total 3 at 10% each
(c) Midterm – February 27th	30%
(d) Final Exam – Scheduled by the college	30%
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

(a) Missing Classes

If you miss a class due to illness or some other reason, it is not necessary to notify me, unless a test is missed. If classes are missed, it is the student's responsibility to find out from another student what was covered or check D2L and the course outline.

(b) Missed Tests

Make up tests will be permitted only in cases of illness or personal crisis. A make up test will not be scheduled until proper medical documentation is provided.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started: <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate

withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.