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The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ \_\_\_\_\_

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### Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Dr. James Atkinson		
(b)	Office Hours:	Wednesday 8:50 – 9:20		
(c)	Location:	TBA		
(d)	Phone:	TBA	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	<a href="mailto:atkinsonj@camosun.bc.ca">atkinsonj@camosun.bc.ca</a>		
(f)	Website:			

### Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify and describe ethical problems in business, along with the classical and contemporary responses to these problems.
2. Critically analyze an argument (i.e. identify the premises and conclusion of an argument and assess its strengths and weaknesses).

The content of this course will be to employ philosophical theory and critical thinking in detailed examination of short case studies that exemplify typical ethical problems faced by individuals working in the various aspects of the business world.

The objective of this course is to develop skills that enable you to understand and articulate ethical positions with respect to representative problems.

### Required Materials

- (a) **Texts:** -Moral Issues in Business: *William H. Shaw and Vincent Barry*
- (b) **Other:** -*various handouts and articles on reserve*

### Course Content and Schedule

**Philosophy:** The love of wisdom

**Ethics:** A branch of philosophy that is concerned with concepts such as good and bad, right and wrong, correct and incorrect actions.

**Applied Ethics:** The attempt to apply theoretical ethics to real world problems.

**Business:** Commercial enterprise, profession, or trade operated for the purpose of earning a profit by providing a product or service; also called business enterprise. Entrepreneurs who put money at risk to promote a particular venture for the purpose of a profit create businesses.

**Business (etymology):** O.E. *bisignisse* (Northumbrian) "care, anxiety," from *bisig* "careful, anxious, busy, occupied"

## Philosophy 330: Tentative Reading and Exam Schedule

### January 6<sup>th</sup>

Introduction to philosophy and its method  
Plato – Knowledge and Virtue (handout)  
Chapter 1 (selections)

### January 13<sup>th</sup>

Quiz 1  
Fallacies (Relevance)  
Chapter 1 cont.  
Kant – Duty and Reason (handout)  
Movie Assignment I Handout – *Crimes and Misdemeanors*

### January 20<sup>th</sup>

Quiz 2  
Fallacies cont.  
Mill – The Greatest Happiness Principle (handout)

### January 27<sup>th</sup>

Quiz 3  
Fallacies cont.  
Hobbes – Social Contract Ethics (handout)  
Chapter 2 – Normative Theory of Ethics

### February 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Test 1 – In Class Essay** (Plato, Kant and Mill – Chapters 1 and 2)

Fallacies cont.  
Chapter 3 Justice and Economic Distribution

### February 10<sup>th</sup>

Quiz 4

Fallacies cont. (Presumption)  
Chapter 3 Justice and Economic Distribution

**February 17<sup>th</sup>**

Quiz 5  
Fallacies cont.  
Chapter 3 - cont.

**February 24<sup>th</sup>**

Quiz 6  
Fallacies cont. (Weak Induction)  
Part II  
Chapter 4 Capitalism

**March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Quiz 7  
**Movie Assignment Due and Group Discussion**  
Movie Assignment II Handout - *Enron*  
Fallacies cont.  
Chapter 4 - cont.

**March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Test 2 – Case Study**  
Fallacies cont.  
Chapter 5 Corporations  
*Corporation* - selections

**March 17<sup>th</sup>**

Fallacies, cont.  
Chapter 5 – cont.  
Chapter 10 Consumers

**March 24<sup>th</sup>**

Quiz 9  
Chapter 10 cont.

**March 31<sup>st</sup>**

Article – Critical examination  
Articles - TBA  
**Movie Assignment Due and Group Discussion**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>**

### Test 3 - Article Review: TBA

**N.B.**

\*There will a quiz at the beginning of each class except those days in which there is a test.

\* In addition to the outline above each class will examine will various aspects of logical reasoning, with a special attention to informal fallacies

### Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) Movie Assignments 10% (5% each)

(b) Quizzes 25%

**N.B.**

At the start of each class there will be a short quiz based on the assigned readings. If you miss a quiz there will *not* be an opportunity to write it at a later date. However, the lowest two scores will be disregarded.

(c) Tests 65% (Tests 1 and 2 - 20% each, test 3 - 25%)

(d) Other (e.g., Attendance, Project, Group Work)

### Grading System

#### Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

## Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca) for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3<sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

## Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

### LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca).

### STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED

