

	<p>School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT</p> <p>PHIL 330- 01 Ethics in Business Winter 2011</p>
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COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ _____

Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Dr. James Atkinson		
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday 4:20 – 5:00		
(c)	Location:	CC 119		
(d)	Phone:	4462	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	atkinsonj@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

Intended Learning Outcomes

Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the 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.

Objectives

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. To this end one will learn to critically

analyze an argument (i.e. identify the premises and conclusion of an argument and assess its strengths and weaknesses).

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

Week 1

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

Week 2

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

Week 3

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

Week 4

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

Week 5

Quiz 3 (Monday)
In Class Essay 1 (Wednesday) - (Plato, Kant, Mill and Hobbes – Chapters 1 and 2)

Fallacies cont.
Chapter 3 Justice and Economic Distribution

Week 6

Quiz 4
Fallacies cont. (Presumption)
Chapter 3 Justice and Economic Distribution

Week 7

Quiz 5
Fallacies cont.
Chapter 3 - cont.

Week 8

Quiz 6
Fallacies cont. (Weak Induction)
Movie Assignment Due and Group Discussion (Monday)

Chapter 4 Capitalism

Week 9

Quiz 7
In Class Essay 2 – Case Study (Wednesday)

Movie Assignment II Handout - *Enron*
Fallacies cont.
Chapter 4 - cont.

Week 10

Quiz 8
Fallacies cont.
Chapter 5 Corporations
Corporation - selections

Week 11

Quiz 9
Chapter 5 – cont.
Article – Critical examination - Articles - TBA

Week 12

Article – Critical examination cont.

Week 13

Review (Monday)
In class Essay 3 - Article Review (Wednesday)

N.B.

*There will a quiz at the beginning of each Monday class.

* 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 30%

N.B.

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 60% (20% each)

(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 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. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
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

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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.

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