

# School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT PHIL 330

## **Ethics in Business**

Fall 2016

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

The course description is online @ http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/phil.html

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records. You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

#### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Frank Jankunis		
(b)	Office Hours:	Interurban campus: W 3:30-5:20, F 12:30-1:20 and by mutually agreed appointment.  Lansdowne campus: M 4-5:50		
(c)	Location:	LACC 118A		
(d)	Phone:	250 370-3398 (Lans campus only)		
(e)	Email:	JankunisF@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

#### 2. 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.

## 3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts: Ciulla, J., Martin, C., and Solomon, R. 2014. Honest Work: A Business Ethics Reader. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Oxford UP.
- (b) Other readings are posted or linked on the class D2L page.

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

Lectures: W 5:30-7:20; Seminar W 7:30-8:20

NB: this is a tentative indication of content and schedule which may need to be adjusted as we go along.

Sept 7: Introduction and ethical relativism

"Introduction: Getting to Work" (p. xxiii-xxv)

Seminar: icebreaker

Sept 14: Utilitarianism

Audi "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations (p. xxv-xxvii)

Epicurus "On Pleasure" (p. 97-98)

Van Buren III "Boundaryless Careers and Employability Obligations" (p. 20-24)

McCoy "The Parable of the Sadhu" (p. 116-118)

 $Seminar\ reading: \underline{http://equitablegrowth.org/pitfalls-just-time-scheduling/}$ 

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Sept 21: Deontology/Kantian Ethics
         Audi "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations (p. xxviii)
         Bowie "Respecting the Humanity in the Person" (p. 4-6)
         Box: "W.D. Ross on Prima Facie Duties" (p. 6-7)
         Hochshild "Exploring the Managed Heart" (p. 7-11)
         Seminar reading: White's "Beech-Nut's Imitation Apple Juice" (p. 284)
Sept 28: Virtue Ethics/The good life
         Audi "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations (p. xxviii-xxix)
         Aristotle "On the Good Life" (p. 89-91)
         Schimmel "Greed" (p. 103-104)
         Miller "A life badly lived" (p. 119-120)
         Seminar readings: http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2012/06/15/rajat-gupta-convicted-of-insider-
trading/? r=0
         http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/591/aet-your-monevs-worth (first 5 minutes)
Oct 5: Justice
         Rawls "Justice as Fairness" (p. 201-202)
         Nozick "Anarchy, State, and Utopia (p. 203-213)
         Singer "Rich and Poor" (p. 214-216)
         Harvard Law Review "Facial Discrimination" (p. 25-29)
         Seminar readings: http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-commentary/heres-the-
downside-to-the-sharing-economy/article30408140/
         https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2015/jul/28/uber-lawlessness-sharing-economy-corporates-
airbnb-google?CMP=share btn fb
Oct 12 The social responsibility of business
         Friedman "The Social Responsibility of Business is to Increase Its Profits" (p. 249-253)
         Stone "Why Shouldn't Corporations be Socially Responsible?" (p. 254-257)
         Freeman "A Stakeholder Theory of the Modern Corporation" (p. 263-269)
         French "Corporate Moral Agency" (p. 258-263)
         Seminar readings: http://business.financialpost.com/fp-comment/lawrence-solomon-fair-trade-coffee-
producers-often-end-up-poorer
         Grow, Hamm, and Lee "The Debate over Doing Good" (p. 286-288)
Oct 19: Product safety and consumer protection & review for Midterm
         Velasquez "The Ethics of Consumer Protection" (D2L)
         Dowie "Pinto Madness" (p. 384-387)
         Werhane "The Pinto Case and the Rashomon Effect" (p. 387-390)
         Desjardins and McCall "Children and Reasonably Safe Products" (p. 402-403)
         Seminar reading: http://www.nationalgeographic.com/adventure/activities/aerial-sports/why-are-so-
many-base-jumpers-dying/
Oct 26: Midterm - No lecture or seminar
Nov 2: Advertising, marketing, and sales
         Frankfurt "On Bullshit" (p. 60-61)
         Goldman "The Justification of Advertising in a Market Economy" (p. 337-342)
         Savan "The Bribed Soul" (p. 342-347)
         Velasquez "Toy Wars" (p. 354-357)
         Desjardins and McCall "Advertising's Image of Women" (p. 358-359)
         Seminar reading: http://www.cbc.ca/radio/the180/political-perks-gmo-labels-minumum-wage-
1.3025555/an-argument-against-labelling-amo-foods-1.3025574
Nov 9: Accounting, finance, and investment
         Loomis "Lies, Damned Lies, and Managed Earnings" (p. 132-139)
         Cohen "Arthur Andersen Refugees Reflect on What Went Wrong" (p. 139-141)
         Frederick and Hoffman "The Individual Investor in Securities Markets: An Ethical Analysis" (p. 141-
145)
         Boatright "Finance Ethics" (p. 146-152, including "The Wake-Up Call")
         Buffett "Advice to Outside Auditors" (p. 621)
         Seminar reading: <a href="http://www.economist.com/news/briefing/21635978-some-13-years-after-enron-">http://www.economist.com/news/briefing/21635978-some-13-years-after-enron-</a>
auditors-still-cant-stop-managers-cooking-books-time-some
Nov 16: Whistleblowing
         Bok "Whistleblowing and Professional Responsibility" (p. 412-417)
         Davis "Some Paradoxes of Whistleblowing" (p. 417-423)
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Duska "Whistleblowing and Employee Loyalty" (p. 423-425)

Seminar reading: http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/canada-revenue-kpmq-secret-amnesty-1.3479594

Nov 23: The environment

Baxter "People or Penguins" (p. 510-514)

Singer "The Place of Nonhumans in Environmental Issues" (p. 521-526 including boxes)

Leopold "The Land Ethic" (p. 501-503)

Sagoff "At the Shrine of our Lady Fatima *or* Why Political Questions are not all Economic" (p. 503-510 including all boxes)

Seminar reading: <a href="http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/alberta-beef-earls-mistake-reverse-source-humane-supply-cattle-1.3565780">http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/alberta-beef-earls-mistake-reverse-source-humane-supply-cattle-1.3565780</a>

Nov 30: The environment

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Seminar reading: <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/mar/08/how-will-everything-change-under-climate-change">https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/mar/08/how-will-everything-change-under-climate-change</a>

Dec 7: The future of the free market/Review for final

Keynes "Economic Possibilities for our Grandchildren (1930)" (p. 648-653)

Reich "Supercapitalism" (p. 665-673)

Kuttner "Everything for Sale" (p. 675-678)

Seminar reading: <a href="http://time.com/4370834/sharing-economy-gig-capitalism/">http://time.com/4370834/sharing-economy-gig-capitalism/</a>

### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- (a) Seminar worksheets 10% During each seminar students will be asked to complete a short assignment based on the week's seminar reading. These will be turned in at the end of each seminar and graded on a pass/fail basis. The best 10 will form the grade for this portion of the course. No rewrites or deferrals. Further details will be distributed each seminar meeting. Reading the seminar reading assignment is essential preparation.
- (b) Case study analyses 20% (4 at 5% each) One assignment/interval on a case study drawn from the selection of cases in the chapters we are studying during the interval. First Interval: Oct 12 & 19; Second Interval: Nov 2 and 9; Third Interval Nov 16 & 23; Fourth interval Nov 30 & Dec 7. No rewrites or deferrals. Further details on D2L.
- (c) Midterm 35% October 26
- (d) Final 35% Scheduled by the college.

#### 6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

#### Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		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
ı	Incomplete: 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	In progress: 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 <sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
cw	Compulsory Withdrawal: 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.

# 7. 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 <a href="mailto:camosun.ca">camosun.ca</a>.

#### 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 the College web site in the Policy Section.