

# School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT PHIL 330 Ethics in Business Fall 2017

## **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:   | Dr. Frank Jankunis   |
|-----|---------------|--|
| (h) | Office Hours: | Interurban: Tues. and Thurs. 11:30 to 12:20, Wed. 4:30-5:20, |
| (b) | Office Hours. | Lansdowne: Mon. 4:30-5:20, Thurs. 4:30-5:20                  |
| (c) | Location:     | Interurban: LACC 118A  |
|     |               | Lansdowne: Y 320   |
| (d) | Phone:        | Lansdowne only: 250 370-3398                                 |
| (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.
- 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) As indicated below, other readings are posted on the class D2L page, linked on this outline, or available through the library homepage.

# 4. Course Content and Schedule

Lectures: Wed. 6:00-7:50. Seminar: Wed. 8:00-8:50.

NB: this is a tentative indication of content and schedule.

| Week   | Topics and Due<br>Dates               | Readings and Special Instructions   |
|--------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1      | Introduction to the course.           | Prepare for this class by:  |
| Sept 6 | Introduction to philosophy and ethics | <ul> <li>◊ reading this outline completely</li> <li>◊ noting all deadlines on your calendar</li> <li>◊ procuring a textbook (or access to one)</li> <li>◊ reading next week's material</li> </ul> |

| Sept 13      | Ethical<br>Relativism<br>Introduction to<br>arguments | "Relativism." (D2L)  "A Brief Introduction to Arguments." (D2L)  "Plato on the Danger of Believing Bad Arguments." (p. 331)  Seminar: None.  |  |
|--------------|---|--|--|
|              | ŭ   |  |  |
| 3<br>Sept 20 | Utilitarianism  | Audi. "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations." (p. xxv-xxvii) "John Stuart Mill on the Greatest Good and Expediency." (p. 29) Epicurus. "On Pleasure." (p. 97-98) "A happiness box." (p. 117)                                 |  |
|              |   | Seminar: http://equitablegrowth.org/equitablog/pitfalls-just-time-scheduling/  |  |
| 4<br>Sept 27 | Deontology  | Audi. "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations." (p. xxviii) Bowie. "Respecting the Humanity in the Person." (p. 4-6) Hochshild. "Exploring the Managed Heart." (p. 7-11) "W.D. Ross on Prima Facie Duties" (p. 6-7)            |  |
|              |   | Seminar: Battin and Mower. "The Columbia Shuttle Disaster: Should we Have Told the Astronauts the Truth?" (p. 82-83) White. "Beech-Nut's Imitation Apple Juice." (p. 284)  |  |
| 5<br>Oct 4   | Virtue Ethics   | Audi. "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations." (p. xxviii-xxix) Aristotle. "On the Good Life." (p. 89-91) Schimmel. "Greed." (p. 103-104) McFall. "Integrity." (p. 110-112)   |  |
|              |   | Seminar:  http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/591/get-your-moneys-worth (first 5 minutes)  Machiavelli. "Is It Better to be Loved than Feared?" (p. 545-547)  |  |
| 6            | Corporate   | Friedman. "The Social Responsibility of Business is to Increase Its Profits."  |  |
| Oct 11       | Social<br>Responsibility                              | (p. 249-253)<br>Stone. "Why Shouldn't Corporations be Socially Responsible?" (p. 254-257)<br>Freeman. "A Stakeholder Theory of the Modern Corporation." (p. 263-269)   |  |
|              |   | Seminar: Review for Midterm  |  |
| 7            | Midterm   | Midterm Oct. 18  |  |
| Oct 18       |   | Seminar: TBA   |  |
| 8<br>Oct 25  | Product safety<br>and consumer<br>protection          | "Moral Responsibility and Blame." (D2L) Velasquez. "The Ethics of Consumer Protection" (D2L) Dowie. "Pinto Madness" (p. 384-387) Frederick and Hoffman. "The Individual Investor in Securities Markets: An Ethical Analysis." (p. 141-145) |  |
|              |   | Seminar: <a href="http://www.nationalgeographic.com/adventure/activities/aerial-sports/why-are-so-many-base-jumpers-dying/">http://www.nationalgeographic.com/adventure/activities/aerial-sports/why-are-so-many-base-jumpers-dying/</a>   |  |
| 9            | Trust,  | Carr. "Is Business Bluffing Ethical?" (p. 43-47)   |  |
| Nov 1        | authenticity, and<br>honesty in<br>business           | Bowie. "Does it Pay to Bluff in Business?" (p. 48-50)<br>Loomis. "Lies, Damned Lies, and Managed Earnings." (p. 132-139)<br>Solomon and Flores. "Building Trust." (68-71)  |  |
|              | Case Study #1<br>due by class<br>time on Nov 1.       | Seminar:<br>https://www.inc.com/john-brandon/heres-what-honesty-in-business-really-means.html  |  |
|              |   | Bhide and Stevenson. "Why be Honest if Honesty Doesn't Pay?" Harvard Business Review 68.5: 121-129. (Library)  |  |
| 10<br>Nov 8  | Persuasion and information                            | Goldman. "The Justification of Advertising in a Market Economy." (337-341) Savan. "The Bribed Soul." (p. 342-347) Shell and Moussa. "Woo With Integrity." (p. 358-359)   |  |
|              |   | Seminar: http://www.cbc.ca/radio/the180/political-perks-gmo-labels-minumum-wage-1.3025555/an-argument-against-labelling-gmo-foods-   |  |
|              |   |  |  |

|                |                                   | 1.3025574  |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 11             | Whistleblowing                    | Bok. "Whistleblowing and Professional Responsibility." (p. 412-417) Davis. "Some Paradoxes of Whistleblowing." (p. 417-423)      |
| Nov 15         | Paper due by class time on        | Duska. "Whistleblowing and Employee Loyalty." (p. 423-425)   |
|                | Nov. 15                           | Seminar: http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/canada-revenue-kpmg-secret-amnesty-1.3479594  |
| 12             | Animals and                       | Baxter. "People or Penguins." (p. 510-514)   |
| Nov 22         | environment                       | Singer. "The Place of Nonhumans in Environmental Issues." (p. 521-526, including boxes)  |
|                |                                   | Leopold. "The Land Ethic." (p. 501-503)  |
|                |                                   | Box: "Who Owns the Earth?" (p. 518)  |
|                |                                   | Seminar: http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/alberta-beef-earls-   |
|                |                                   | mistake-reverse-source-humane-supply-cattle-1.3565780  |
| 13             | Flex                              | ТВА  |
| Nov 29         | Case Study #2                     |  |
|                | due by class<br>time on Nov. 29   |  |
| 14             | The limits and future of the free | Satz. "The Moral Limits of Markets: The Case of Human Kidneys."  Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society 108: 269-288. (Library) |
| Dec 6          | market                            | Joy. "Why the Future Doesn't Need Us." (316-320)   |
|                |                                   | Seminar: Review for final.   |
| Exam<br>period | Final Exam                        | N/A  |

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

(a) Seminar assignments 10% of final grade (1 weekly, averaged). Completing any assigned seminar reading is essential preparation for seminar assignments. Other preparation or follow-up activities may be required as well. Further details will be distributed each week. To account for unpredictable and/or unavoidable absences, each student's lowest seminar assignment mark will be dropped with no questions asked. No rewrites, deferrals, or extra credits allowed.

(b) Case study analyses 30% of final grade (2 at 15% each). Details will be posted to D2L.

(c) Paper 15% of final grade. Details will be posted to D2L.

(d) Midterm 20% of final grade. Oct. 18

(e) Final Exam 25% of final grade. Scheduled by the college.

#### Late Policy

Case Study Analyses and the paper can be accepted late at a penalty of 3% per day unless there are exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances should be communicated as soon as possible. Supporting documentation may be required. Written work handed in late must be in hardcopy and will be graded without comments.

Tests can be written at an alternate date and time only in exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances should be communicated as soon as possible. Documentation may be required to support a claim.

No assignments or tests can be accepted after the final exam without formal arrangements.

#### 6. Grading System

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<br>Grade | Description   |
|--------------------|---|
| 1                  | 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.