



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
**School of Arts & Science**  
**Department of Humanities**

**PHIL-330-002**  
**Ethics in Business**  
**Fall 2019**

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

---

The course description is available on the web @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/phil.html>

Ω Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

---

### **1. Instructor Information**

(a) Instructor	Dr. Philip Puszczalowski
(b) Office hours	Mondays 4:30pm – 5:20pm
(c) Location	Lansdowne: Young 320
(d) Phone	(250)370-3398 <b>Alternative:</b>
(e) E-mail	puszczalowski@camosun.bc.ca
(f) Website	

### **2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

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.

### **3. Required Materials**

(a) **Required Text:** Ciulla, J., Martin, C., and Solomon, R. 2014. *Honest Work: A Business Ethics Reader, 3rd Edition*. Oxford University Press.

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

### **4. Course Content and Schedule**

All Lectures and seminars are in Young 300.

**Lectures: Monday – 5:30pm-7:20pm**

**Seminars: Monday – 7:30pm-8:20pm**

**Note:** This is a tentative indication of content and schedule.

**Sept 9: Introduction**

"Introduction: Getting to Work" (p. xxiii-xxv)  
Ethical Decision Making Framework (p. 136)  
"The Impossibility of the Separation Thesis" (D2L – Optional)  
*Seminar:* Icebreaker

**Sept 16: Utilitarianism**

Audi, "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations" - Utilitarianism (p. xxv-xxvii)  
Jeremy Bentham, *An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation* – Chapter I, IV (D2L)  
John Stuart Mill, Selections from *Utilitarianism* (D2L)  
*Seminar:* White, "Beech-Nut's Imitation Apple Juice" (p.284)

**Sept 23: Kantian Ethics/Deontology**

Audi, "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations" – Kantian Ethics (p. xxviii)  
Bowie, "Respecting the Humanity in the Person" (p.4-6)  
Box: "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)

**Sept 30: Virtue Ethics**

Audi, "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations" – Virtue Ethics (p. xxviii-xxix)  
Aristotle, "On the Good Life" (p.89-93)  
Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy – "Virtue Ethics: 1. Preliminaries, 1.1 Virtue, 1.2 Practical Wisdom; 2. Forms of Virtue Ethics, 2.1 Eudaimonist Virtue Ethics; 3. Objections to Virtue Ethics." (D2L)  
*Seminar:* McCoy, "The Parable of the Sadhu" (p.116-118)

**Oct 7: Ethical Relativism & Ethical Absolutism**

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy – "Moral Relativism: 1. Historical Background, 2. Forms and Arguments" (D2L)  
Wikipedia – "Moral Absolutism" (D2L)  
*Seminar:* Marquiss and Ciulla, "The Quandary at PureDrug" (p.484-485)

**Oct 14: Thanksgiving – NO CLASS**

**Oct 21: MIDTERM**

**Oct 28: Corporate Social Responsibility**

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)  
*Seminar:* MacDougall, Beauchamp, Cuddihy, "The NYSEG Corporate Responsibility Case" (p.282-283)

**Nov 4: Product Safety and Consumer Protection**

Huber, "Liability" (p.366-371)  
Dowie, "Pinto Madness" (p.384-387)  
Werhane, "The Pinto Case and the Rashomon Effect" (p.387-390)  
*Seminar:* Shaw and Barry, "Living and Dying with Asbestos" (p.403-405)

**Nov 11 – Remembrance Day Holiday – NO CLASS**

**Nov 18: Marketing and Advertising**

Goldman, "The Justification of Advertising in a Market Economy" (p.337-342)  
Savan, "The Bribed Soul" (p.342-347)  
*Seminar:* Velasquez, "Toy Wars" (p.354-357)

## Nov 25: Business and the Environment

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

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

Seminar: Arnold, "Texaco in the Ecuadorean Amazon" (p.532-533)

## Dec 2: Whistleblowing

Bok, "Whistleblowing and Professional Responsibility" (p.412-417)

Duska, "Whistleblowing and Employee Loyalty" (p.423-425)

Davis, "Some Paradoxes of Whistleblowing" (p.417-423)

Seminar: Desjardins and McCall, "Whistleblowing at the Phone Company" (p.447-448)

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

### (a) Seminar Worksheets (10%, 10 at 1% each)

During each semester, students will be asked to complete a short assignment based on the week's seminar reading. Students will be expected to analyze the case study (i.e. The CPA Way) 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. 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. Students will be expected to analyze the case study (i.e. The CPA Way) and apply the various ethical theories studied.

CSA #1: **DUE November 4th**

CSA #2: **DUE November 18th**

CSA #3: **DUE November 25th**

CSA #4: **DUE December 2nd**

No rewrites or deferrals. Further details will be provided on D2L.

### (c) Midterm (35%) **October 21st.**

### (d) Final (35%) Scheduled by the college.

## 6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

## 7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

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: [www.camosun.ca](http://www.camosun.ca)

## 8. College Supports, Services and Policies



### Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @

<http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

## College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

## College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

### A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

#### 1. 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		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

#### 2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

### B. 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 at

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> 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 are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
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.

**Policy on 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.

**Cell phones:** students are not permitted to use cell phones in class. **Remember to TURN OFF your cell phone for class.**

**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.