



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

**PHIL-330-D01 & D02**  
**Ethics in Business**  
**Winter 2021**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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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.

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**1. Instructor Information**

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| (a) Instructor   | Brandon De Jong, M.A., J.D.  |
| (b) Office hours | Tuesdays: 4:00-5:20pm (see 'Group Office Hours', below for details); or by appointment |
| (c) Location     | Online, via Blackboard Collaborate Ultra   |
| (d) Phone        | Alternative: _____   |
| (e) E-mail       | DeJongB@camosun.bc.ca  |
| (f) Website      | _____  |

**2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

*(If any changes are made to this part, then the Approved Course Description must also be changed and sent through the approval process.)*

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 Textbook:** Ciulla, J., Martin, C., and Solomon, R. (2018). *Honest Work: A Business Ethics Reader (4th Edition)*. New York: Oxford University Press. [Available for online order at the Camosun Bookstore]

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

## 4. Course Content and Schedule

### METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

#### A. Recorded Lecture Videos

Examinable course content will primarily be delivered via pre-recorded lecture videos, which shall be posted to D2L in advance of each scheduled 'group office hours' (see below). Students are expected to watch each video, read the required readings, and complete the Weekly Quiz (see Student Evaluation, below) on a weekly basis.

#### B. Group Office Hours *Tuesdays, 4:00pm-5:20pm, via Blackboard Collaborate Ultra*

Scheduled office hours will be used to solidify and enhance students' understanding of content covered in the readings and recorded lectures, rather than to introduce new content. During this time, I will be available, live, to answer student questions, re-explain material from the readings or lectures students may have found difficult, explain and debrief assignments, quizzes, and exams, and/or host supplemental group discussion. Students are free to attend and make use of these office hours as suits them – attendance is *optional*. If a student is unable to make these scheduled office hours, or otherwise wishes to speak with me one-on-one, they are welcome to make an appointment for individual office hours, by sending me an email.

### CLASS SCHEDULE / READING LIST

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

**(Textbook)** = *Honest Work: A Business Ethics Reader*

**(D2L)** = Available on D2L

#### Week 1 (Jan 11-15) – Welcome / Course Overview

- **(D2L)** Read the Course Outline
- **(D2L)** Pojman & Vaughn, "What is Ethics?"
- **(D2L)** Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy – "Business Ethics"
  - READ SECTIONS: 0. Introduction, 1. Varieties of Business Ethics

#### Week 2 (Jan 18-22) – Consequentialism

- **(D2L)** Pojman, "Utilitarianism"
  - READ: p. 103-113

#### Week 3 (Jan 25-29) – Consequentialism / Deontology

- **(D2L)** Pojman, "Utilitarianism"
  - READ: p. 113-126

**CSA1 Due: Jan. 29**

Week 4 (Feb 1-5) – Deontology

CSA2 Due: Feb. 5

- **(Textbook)** Audi, "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations" – Kantian Ethics (p. xxv)
- **(D2L)** Luper, "Kantianism" (p.141-156)
- **(Textbook)** Bowie, "Respecting the Humanity in the Person" (p. 4-6)

Week 5 (Feb 8-12) – Virtue Ethics

CSA3 Due: Feb. 12

- **(Textbook)** Audi, "Some Approaches to Determining Ethical Obligations" – Virtue Ethics (p. xxv-xxvi)
- **(D2L)** Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy – "Virtue Ethics"
  - REQUIRED: 0. Introduction, 1. Preliminaries, 1.1 Virtue, 1.2 Practical Wisdom, 2. Forms of Virtue Ethics, 2.1 Eudaimonist Virtue Ethics.
  - OPTIONAL: 3. Objections to Virtue Ethics.

Week 6 (Feb 15-19) – READING BREAK – no class or weekly quiz

Week 7 (Feb 22-26) – Midterm Week – no class or weekly quiz

Midterm Due: Feb. 26

Week 8 (Mar 1-5) – Economic Justice

- **(D2L)** Singer, "Rich and Poor" (p.214-216)
- **(Textbook)** Rawls, "Justice as Fairness" (p.145-146)

Week 9 (Mar 8-12) – Land & Property

CSA4 Due: Mar. 12

- **(D2L)** Nozick, "Anarchy, State, and Utopia" (p.203-214)
- **(Textbook)** Box: "Locke on Property" (p. 212-213)

Week 10 (Mar 15-19) – Employment & Exchange

CSA5 Due: Mar. 19

- **(Textbook)** Adam Smith, "On Human Exchange and Human Differences" (p. 140-142)
- **(Textbook)** Ciulla, "Exploitation of Need" (p. 142-144)
- **(Textbook)** Box: "Marx on Alienated Labor" (p. 142)

Week 11 (Mar 22-26) – Corporate Social Responsibility

- **(Textbook)** Friedman, "The Social Responsibility of Business is to Increase Its Profits" (p.174-178)

Week 12 (Mar 29-Apr 2) – Corporate Social Responsibility (cont'd)

Analytic Essay Due: Apr. 2

- **(Textbook)** Stone, "Why Shouldn't Corporations be Socially Responsible?" (p. 179-182)
- **(D2L)** Freeman, "A Stakeholder Theory of the Modern Corporation" (p.263-269)

Week 13 (Apr 5-9) – TBA / Catch-up

CSA6 Due: Apr. 9

- Readings & Topic TBA

Week 14 (Apr 12-16) – Wrap-up & Review

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) Weekly Quizzes (20%)      | – Due every Tuesday by 4pm    |
| (b) Take-home Midterm (30%)   | – Due Feb. 26                 |
| (c) Case Study Analyses (15%) | – Due throughout the semester |
| (d) Analytic Essay (35%)      | – Due Apr. 2                  |

All quizzes, midterms, essays, and case study analyses must be submitted electronically through D2L and are **due at 4:00pm**.

**Weekly Quizzes:** Every week (excluding Weeks 6 and 7), students will write a short quiz, based on the readings and lecture material for that week. Quizzes will consist of 2-3 questions (usually multiple choice) and are designed to test whether students have a) READ the required readings; b) WATCHED the recorded lecture; and c) UNDERSTOOD the major ideas or themes explored that week. Quizzes will be administered through D2L and students will have at least a 24-hour window (beginning Monday at 4pm, and ending Tuesday at 4pm) to write. Once a quiz is 'begun' (i.e. opened on D2L), each student will have exactly 10 minutes to complete it, as well as only one attempt. It is therefore imperative that students DO NOT begin each quiz before they are ready to write it. Late submissions, rewrites, and deferrals will not be accepted. There will be approximately 12 quizzes across the course and each student's final grade will be based on their **10 highest quiz marks**.

**Take-home Midterm:** In late February, students will have a period of several days to write a take-home midterm exam. All content included in lectures and required readings is examinable. Further details will be provided on D2L, as the exam date approaches.

**Case Study Analyses ('CSA'):** Over the semester, students will submit a number of case study analyses. While the nature of each CSA assignment will vary, students will generally be required to analyze a real or fictional case study, using philosophical ideas, theories, and concepts studied in this course. The purpose of these short written exercises is to give students the opportunity to practice, in a low-stakes setting, skills that will be useful for their subsequent midterm and analytic essay. Each CSA will be graded on a **pass/fail** basis, determined by whether the student has a) made a good faith effort to complete all parts of the assignment; and b) submitted on-time. There will be 6 CSA assignments across the course – of which, students will be graded on their **top 5 submissions** (each successfully completed CSA is worth 3% of a student's overall grade). CSA due dates are as follows:

- CSA1: Jan. 29
- CSA2: Feb. 5
- CSA3: Feb. 12
- CSA4: Mar. 12
- CSA5: Mar. 19
- CSA6: Apr. 9

**Analytic Essay:** Near the end of the semester, students will submit a final essay assignment, which will assess their ability to understand, summarize, critically evaluate, and apply philosophical and ethical ideas, theories, and concepts studied in this course. Further details will be posted on D2L, as the term progresses.

## Late Policy

Late Analytic Essays are subject to a penalty of one letter grade deduction (ex. B+ → B) per \*day\* that they are late, unless an extension has been acquired in advance (for clarity, a \*day\* is considered to begin at 4:01pm) Extensions may only be given in cases of medical illness, family emergency, or other extraordinary circumstances. Students seeking an extension for such reasons should contact the instructor as soon as possible. Barring extraordinary circumstances, no extensions will be granted after the original deadline has passed.

Midterms are subject to a -10% grade deduction for the first day they are late. Barring truly extraordinary circumstances, **NO MIDTERMS WILL BE ACCEPTED** more than 24 hours past the original deadline.

Late weekly quizzes and CSA assignments will not normally be accepted. Students will have 12 opportunities throughout the semester to score their best 10 quizzes, as well as 6 opportunities to score their best 5 CSAs, meaning students can effectively miss two quizzes and one CSA without direct penalty.

## 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, Student Ancillary Fees, Academic Integrity, Grade Review & Appeals, Student Misconduct and Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities 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. |