

## **PHIL 4330-101: Business Ethics**

Instructor: Mr. Daniel Adsett  
Office: Marquette Hall 441  
Office Hours: Tuesday: 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM  
Wednesday: 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM  
By appointment  
E-Mail: daniel.adsett@marquette.edu  
Class Time: 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM  
Location: Wehr Chemistry 113  
Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays  
Dates: January 17<sup>th</sup> – May 6<sup>th</sup>

### **Required Texts:**

Michael Sandel, *What Money Can't Buy: The Moral Limits of Markets* (New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2013). Abbreviated as *WMCB*.

Robert Skidelsky and Edward Skidelsky, *How Much is Enough?: Money and the Good Life* (New York: Other Press, 2013). Abbreviated as *HME*.

Anna Bernasek, *The Economics of Integrity: From Dairy Farmers to Toyota, How Wealth is Built on Trust and What that Means for Our Future* (New York: HarperBusiness, 2010). Abbreviated as *EI*.

The titles and locations of other readings can be found in the **Articles** document posted on D2L

### **Description:**

This course examines the claim that there is a moral dimension to business decision-making. Through an understanding of traditional approaches to ethical theory, and discussion of historical and contemporary examples, students will examine and criticize moral issues that arise in business. The course will equip students with a knowledge of philosophical ethics and the critical skills necessary to make thoughtful evaluations of business practices.

### **Course Objectives:**

*By the end of the semester, student should have . . .*

- An understanding of the general issues likely to be encountered as a business professional
  - *Assessment: Quizzes, Summaries, Mid-Term Exam, Presentation, Final Paper*
- The ability to discuss a number of philosophically informed positions related to these general issues
  - *Assessment: Summaries, Mid-Term Exam, Presentation, Final Paper*
- The ability to stake a position concerning what to do in a concrete situation and to defend this position with clearly articulated, valid and sound arguments
  - *Assessment: Mid-Term Exam, Final Paper*
- The ability to engage in a productive discussion with peers about ethically questionable situations
  - *Assessment: Summaries, Presentation*

## Grading:

Each student will be graded on (1) attendance, (2) ten quizzes, (3) three summaries, (4) one presentation, (5) one mid-term exam, and (6) one final paper. Beginning **January 24<sup>th</sup>** students will receive one point for each class attended. Each individual summary is worth 10 points for a total of 30 points. Each quiz will be worth 5 points for a total of 50 points. There will be one presentation, to be completed with a partner, worth 30 points. The **March 7<sup>th</sup>** mid-term exam and the final paper will both be graded out of 40. For policies concerning missed quizzes, presentations, or a late take-home exam, see the **Policies for Late Work and Extra Credit** below. In all, each student's final grade will be out of 217:

Attendance:	27
Quizzes:	50
Presentation:	30
Summaries:	30
Mid-Term Exam:	40
Final Paper:	40
Total:	217

## Grading Scale (Letter Grade/Percentage):

A	94-100	C	70-75
AB	88-93	CD	64-69
B	82-87	D	58-63
BC	76-81	F	0-57

## Important Dates:

Last Day to Withdraw: January 25<sup>th</sup>

Mid-Term: March 7<sup>th</sup>

Final Paper Due: 12:00 pm on May 6<sup>th</sup>

## Attendance Policy:

As already outlined in the **Grading** section, beginning on **January 24<sup>th</sup>**, one point will be given for each class attended for a total of 27 possible points. Presentations missed for unexcused reasons will not be able to be given at an alternative time unless arrangements are made ahead of time. Summaries handed in late will lose one point per day late. Arrangements can be made with the instructor concerning any assignments (summaries, presentations, final exams) completed late due to (1) severe health reasons (more than a cold, flu, or bodily ache), (2) jury duty, or (3) university sanctioned activities and related travel. See the section below for more details concerning policies for late work.

## Policies for Late Work and Extra Credit:

If it is impossible, for one reason or another, to attend class the day an assignment is due, students must either (1) submit the assignment early or (2) scan and e-mail the assignment to the instructor before class on the day it is due. Presentations missed for unexcused reasons will not be able to be given at an alternative time unless arrangements are made ahead of time. Summaries handed in late will lose one

point per day late. For example, if the second summary is handed in on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, it will not be able to receive more than 8/10. If the final paper is submitted late, two points will be deducted for every hour it is late. For example, a final paper submitted at 5:00 pm on May 6<sup>th</sup> will receive a maximum of 50/60. For work towards bonus marks, students must contact the instructor before or on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Policy on Electronic Devices:**

Students found using cellphones or computers in class, unless a clear reason is given – for translation, a disability, etc. – will be counted absent for the day.

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

The college of Arts and Sciences and department policies on academic dishonesty will be enforced.

Students can find the University Honor Code and Academic Integrity Policy here:

<http://bulletin.marquette.edu/undergrad/academicregulations/>

Acts of academic misconduct include but are not limited to:

#### ***Cheating***

1. Copying from others for an assignment and/or during an examination, test or quiz
2. Obtaining, or attempting to obtain, an assignment, examination, test, quiz, or answer key without authorization
3. Using unauthorized electronic devices or materials for an assignment, during an examination, test or quiz
4. Communicating answers or providing unauthorized assistance for an assignment, examination, test or quiz
5. Using unauthorized answers or assistance for an assignment, examination, test or quiz
6. Offering one's own work to another person, or presenting another person's work as one's own
7. Completing an assignment and/or taking an examination, test or quiz for another student, or having someone complete an assignment, take an examination, test or quiz for oneself
8. Tampering with an assignment, examination, test or quiz after it has been graded, and then returning it for additional credit
9. Outsourcing assignments, papers, examinations, tests, quizzes to fellow students or third parties

#### ***Plagiarism***

1. Using the ideas, creations, or thoughts of another without properly acknowledging the source
2. Paraphrasing or directly quoting a source without credit

#### ***Academic Fraud***

1. Submitting substantial portions of the same work for credit in more than one course, or from previous institutions, without receiving permission from all instructors involved
2. Using purchased answers or selling answers to assignments, examinations, quizzes or papers

### **Writing Center:**

The OTT Marquette University Writing Center is located in room 240 of the Raynor Memorial Library. It is open between 9 am and 9 pm Mondays to Thursdays, 9 am to 4 pm on Fridays, and 12 pm to 5 pm on Sundays. The satellite location in McCormick Residence Hall is open on Sundays to Thursdays from 7 to 9 pm. Students are strongly encouraged to seek help at the center by either scheduling an appointment or walking in. More information is available at <http://www.marquette.edu/writing-center/>

**Disability/Special Needs:**

Anyone with a confirmed disability or special need should contact me promptly so that appropriate accommodations, if needed, can be provided. The website for the Office of Disability Services is <http://www.marquette.edu/disability-services/> and the office phone number is 414-288-1645.

**Schedule:**

Dates		Topics	Readings	Presentations	Summaries and Quizzes
January	17	The Nature of Morality	NA		
	19		HME 3-14		
	24	Normative Ethics	HME 15-33		Summary I
	26		HME 33-42	Presentation I	
	31		HME 43-70		Quiz I
February	2	Economic Distribution	HME 71-86	Presentation II	
	7	Capitalism	HME 86-95		Quiz II
	9		HME 96-107	Presentation III	
	14	Corporations	HME 107-123		Quiz III
	16		HME 124-144	Presentation IV	
	21	Consumers	HME 145-167		Summary II
	23		HME 167-179	Presentation V	
	28		HME 180-202		Quiz IV
	March	2	The Environment	HME 202-218	Presentation VI
7		<b>Mid-Term</b>			
9		The Environment Continued	WMCB 3-15	Presentation VII	
14		<b>Spring Break</b>			
16		<b>Spring Break</b>			
21		The Workplace (I)	WMCB 17-91		Quiz V
23			WMCB 93-113	Presentation VIII	
28		The Workplace (II)	WMCB 113-130		Summary III
30			WMCB 131-149	Presentation IX	
April		4	Moral Choices of Employees	WMCB 149-162	
	6	WMCB 163-184		Presentation X	
	11	<i>Writing Advice</i>	WMCB 184-203		Quiz VII
	13	<b>Easter Break</b>			
	18	Job Discrimination	EI 1-37		Quiz VIII
	20		EI 38-76	Presentation XI	
	25	Alternative Business Structures	EI 77-111	Presentation XII	Quiz IX
	27		EI 112-145	Presentation XIII	
May	2	Review	EI 146-186	Presentation XIV	Quiz X
	4		NA	Presentation XV	