

PHIL 4330: Business Ethics

Instructor: Mr. Daniel Adsett
Time: 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Location: Johnston Hall 025
Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Dates: May 23rd – July 2nd
E-Mail: daniel.adsett@marquette.edu

Required Texts:

William Shaw, *Business Ethics* (8th or 9th editions)

Other required readings will be found on D2L

Helpful Resources:

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, plato.stanford.edu

Past Masters, available online through the Marquette library

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 case examples, students will examine moral issues that arise in business and possible responses to these issues. The course will equip students with knowledge of philosophical ethics and critical thinking 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, Take-Home Exam, Class Discussions, Presentations*
- The ability to discuss a number of philosophically informed positions related to these general issues
 - *Assessment: Take-Home Exam, Class Discussions, Presentations*
- 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: Take-Home Exam, Class Discussions*
- The ability to engage in a productive discussion with peers about ethically questionable situations
 - *Assessment: Class Discussions, Presentations*

Grading:

There will be five quizzes, two presentations, and a final take-home exam. Beginning on the twenty-sixth of May, up to two points will be given daily for class participation (arriving with questions about or a response to the shorter article or case study) for a total of 22 points. Students with more than three

excused or unexcused absences before June 17th may be withdrawn from the course. Each individual quiz is worth 10 points for a total of 50 points. There will be two kinds of presentations: a short case study/short article presentation worth 15 points and a more extensive long article presentation worth 30 points. The final take-home exam will contain four questions worth 15 points each for a total of 60 points. 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 177:

Participation:	22
Presentation I:	15
Presentation II:	30
Take-Home Exam:	60
Quizzes:	50
Total:	177

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:

Take-Home Exam Due: June 2nd by 12:00 pm

Last Day to Withdraw: June 17th

Attendance Policy:

As already outlined in the **Grading** section, students with more than three excused or unexcused absences before June 17th may be withdrawn from the course. Beginning on May 26th, up to two points will be given for in-class participation. This includes preparing questions or a response to the assigned case study/short article. Presentations missed for unexcused reasons will not be able to be given at an alternative time unless arrangements are made ahead of time. Quizzes can be completed after the assigned quiz day but with two points deducted per day late. For example, a quiz taken on the Thursday after the day the quiz was initially given will have a maximum grade of 8/10; if taken the following Tuesday, it will have a maximum grade of 6/10. If the take-home exam is handed in late, two points will be deducted for every hour it is late. For example, a take-home exam submitted at 5:00 pm on July 2nd will receive a maximum of 50/60. However, arrangements can be made with the lecturer with respect to any assignments (quizzes, presentations, take-homes) 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.

Policies for Late Work and Extra Credit:

As stated above, 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 lecturer before class on the day it is due. For work towards a bonus marks, students must contact the lecturer before or on June 14th.

Policy on Electronic Devices:

Students must not use electronic devices in class, whether computers or cell-phones, unless a clear reason is given – for translation, a disability, etc.

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

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:

During the summer, the OTT Marquette University Writing Center is located in room 240 of the Raynor Memorial Library. It is open between 9 am and 7 pm Mondays to Thursdays, 10 am to 3 pm on Fridays, and 1 pm to 5 pm on Sundays. Students are strongly encouraged to seek help at the center. 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:

Date	Topic	<i>Business Ethics</i>	Case Study	Article
May 24			<i>Pinto Madness</i>	<i>The Social Responsibility of Business is to Increase its Profits</i>
26	The Nature of Morality	1-42	<i>Values in Tension</i>	<i>East Meets West</i>
31	Normative Theories of Ethics	43-82	<i>How Good a Person Do I Have to Be?</i>	<i>Is Philosophy Relevant to Applied Ethics?</i>
June 2	Justice and Economic Distribution	83-116	<i>Pathbreaker: Isthmus Engineering and Manufacturing</i>	<i>Toward a Unified Conception of Business Ethics</i>
7	The Nature of Capitalism	117-155	<i>Why the Next President Should Raise the Minimum Wage</i>	<i>Dialogue: Toward Superior Stakeholder Theory</i>
9	Corporations	156-196	<i>The Panama Papers: A Torrential Leak</i>	<i>Can Corporations be Citizens?</i>
14	Consumers	197-244	<i>Consumer Protection – Or Overprotection?</i>	<i>Business Unethicality as an Impediment to Consumer Trust</i>
16	The Environment	245-283	<i>Hoaxwagen</i>	<i>W(h)ither Ecology?</i>
21	The Workplace (I)	284-325	<i>Why Broadway is so White</i>	<i>Is Nepotism Good or Bad?</i>
23	The Workplace (II)	326-362	<i>Getting to Know You</i>	<i>Will I Fake It?</i>
28	Moral Choices Facing Employees	363-400	<i>The Dark Side of Whistleblowing</i>	<i>Untangling Employee Loyalty</i>
30	Job Discrimination	401-434	<i>More Companies Say Targets are the Key to Diversity</i>	<i>Diversity Identity Management</i>
June 2	Take-Home Exam Due at 12:00 pm			