

Course Title

Business Ethics

1. Course Credit

This is a .25 credit course for the MBA program

2. Prerequisites

None

3. Course Description

Ethics is a vital part of business today. Ethical decision-making, sustainability, equity, and more. Yet often ethics can also have cultural variations. This course will look at perceptions and behaviors that characterize interactions among individuals from various cultural backgrounds, with emphasis on ethical issues that may arise when business crosses cultural boundaries. We will also examine decision-making models both organizational and individual when faced with an ethical decision.

With the increased demands of transparency and accountability, ethics has never been more prominent in organizational management. The overall performance of an organization depends to a significant extent on the behavior of its management and leadership with respect to ethical issues: failure to attend to such issues can produce very undesirable consequences. This course explores concepts of values and decision-making, conflict of interest, and current ethical issues facing organizations today. You will have an opportunity to explore your own personal values and ethics and how you apply them every day. We will also discuss increased consumer demands on ethical behavior, corporate social responsibility, and ethical investment.

4. Course Rationale

This course will provide you with tools to recognize, analyze and make sound ethical decisions in regard to business. To achieve this objective, you will explore your own values and ethics to understand your own personal drives. We will also have a combination of asynchronous lectures, reading, and discussions on strategies, case studies, and real examples of codes of ethics.

5. Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course students will be able to perform the following:

- 1: Identify and analyze complex business problems from an ethical point of view.
- 2: Recognize and synthesize ethical dilemmas associated with business practices and apply ethical principles to deal effectively with them.
- 3: Interpret relevant ethical decision criteria to evaluate and apply ethical decision-making.
- 4: Recognize and build a clear, rational, and persuasive justification for an ethical choice of action.
- 5: Apply organizational techniques to build a strong ethical culture through leadership.
- 6: Analyze and critique a code of ethics and its components.
- 7: Explore one's own values and how their own biases influence decision-making

6. Materials

Textbook

All reading materials will be posted on Brightspace.

Other Resources

The following books are recommended for students who wish to enhance their understanding of business ethics are encouraged to read the following:

- Arieli, Sharon, Lilach Sagiv, and Sonia Roccas. (2020). "Values at Work: The Impact of Personal Values in Organisations." *Applied Psychology* 69.2: 230–275. Web.
- Brink, A. (2011). *Corporate Governance and Business Ethics* (1st ed. 2011.). Springer Netherlands. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-007-1588-2>
- Cane, A., Matten, D. (2020) *Business Ethics: Managing Corporate Citizenship and Sustainability in the Age of Globalization*, 5th Edition, Oxford University Press, ISBN-13: 978-0199697311 (on reserve in the library)
- Flynn, G. (2008). *Leadership and Business Ethics* (1st ed. 2008.). Springer Netherlands. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4020-8429-4>
- Johnson, Craig E. (2018) *Organizational Ethics, A Practical Approach*. SAGE Publications, Inc, Northampton, MA, ISBN-13: 978-1-5063-5177-3
- Lowe, Richard (2015) *On the Professional Code of Ethics and Business Conduct in the Workplace: Professional Ethics: 10 Tips to Improve Your Professional Life*, Writing King, ISBN-10: 1943517770
- Murry, J (2019) Conflict of Interest; Give me examples, *The Balance of Business* (online)
<https://www.thebalancesmb.com/what-is-a-conflict-of-interest-give-me-some-examples-398192>
- Ros, M. et al. (1999). Basic Individual Values, Work Values, and the Meaning of Work,
http://130.18.86.27/faculty/warkentin/SecurityPapers/Merrill/RosSchwartz1999_APIR48_1_WorkValues.pdf
- Schwartz, S. H. (2012). An overview of the Schwartz theory of basic values. *Online Readings in Psychology and Culture*, 2, 11. <https://doi.org/10.9707/2307-0919.1116>
- Value and Ethics in Business, *Management Study Guide* (online)
<https://www.managementstudyguide.com/values-ethics.htm>

7. Grading and Evaluation

Grade Table

Activity Type	Due End of Week #	Total Points	Percent of Total Grade
Personal Reflections (5 each) 1. Personal Values 2. Conflicting Values 3. Class Reflection	1 4 7	15	15%
Discussions (5 each) 4. Ralph's Ethical Dilemma 5. Parable of the Sadhu 6. Biopal Case	2 5 6	15	15%
Ethical Case Study	7	100	35%
The Good/ Bad and the Ugly Code Analysis	3	100	35%
Total Possible Points			100

sample