



Course BA 4V94, Section 001, Ethical Issues in Business
Professor Dr. Diane S. McNulty
Term Fall 2009
Meetings 2:30-3:45 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday

Professor's Contact Information

Office Phone 972-883-2741
Office Location School of Management Building, 4.619
E-Mail dmcnulty@utdallas.edu
Office Hours BY APPOINTMENT
Other Information Prefer e-mail communication
Other Contact Marilyn Bechtol, Asst. to Dr. McNulty, SOM 4.618
mbechtol@utdallas.edu

General Course Information

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, & other restrictions None.

Course Description

- This course will examine ethical concepts as they relate to the business environment, domestically and globally. A study of ethics must begin by exploring the historical and philosophical basis for values in American business. Multinational cultural diversity as it relates to corporate America business ethics will be the framework of the issues explored. Global ethical business issues and cases will be discussed.
- Class will center around lectures, group case discussions, guest lecturers, videos, and in-class exercises. A mid-term exam and an individual issue paper are required, and several group in-class case presentations may be required. Group members will be graded by fellow group members, based on preparation and participation, and as a group by the instructor.

Learning Outcomes

- Be knowledgeable of values and cultural impact on business - both globally and domestically;
- Be familiar with laws and the regulatory process within which businesses must work;
- Be familiar with formal/informal ethical business guidelines;
- Increase awareness of the multitude of issues and dilemmas facing business daily;
- Increase awareness of how business responds to challenges and the difficulties faced;
- Be able to form strategies to deal with ethical issues.

**Required Texts &
Materials**

‘Ethical Issues in Business’, McGraw Hill/Primis,
ISBN 978-0-390-95093-2 – customized version

Assignments & Academic Calendar

(Due to possible guest lecturer(s)’ schedules some material and lecture topics may move back or forward a week. Mid-term exam date will remain the same.)

Week 1 **Lecture:**
August 20 Introduction to Course
‘Introduction’

Week 2 **Lecture:**
August 25 & 27 Values Cycle
‘Corporation and Historical Perspective
Stakeholders’ Corporate Stakeholder Theory
 Social Responsibility/Socially Responsive Management
In Class:
Video – Dateline: MILL OWNER
Readings:
Text – Chapters 1 & 3

Week 3 **Lecture:**
September 1 & 3 Socially Responsive Management (continued); Issues Management
‘Corporate **Readings:**
Accountability/Social Text – Chapters 2 & 8
Responsibility’

Week 4 **Lecture:**
September 8 & 10 Global Corporate Citizenship
‘Ethics Defined’ Introduction & Definition of Ethics
 Does Ethics Really Matter?
 Ethical Dilemmas in Business
Reading:
Text – Chapters 4 & 5

Week 5 **Lecture:**
September 15 & 17 Global Issues of Human Rights, Etc. (continued)
‘Global Challenges to Understanding Cross-Cultural Roles/Ethical Systems
Ethics’ **Reading:**
Text – Chapter 5 (continued)

Week 6
September 22 & 24
'Ethical Leadership'

Lecture:

Ethical Reasoning & Corporate Programs; The Law
Ethical Decision Making/Ethical Leadership
Are there ethics in multinational business transactions?

Reading:

Text – Chapter 6

Week 7
September 29 &
October 1
'Global Ethical
Dilemmas'

Lecture:

Global Aspects of Business; Global Ethics
Conflict Between Trade and Ethics

Reading:

Text – Chapter 7

Week 8
October 6 & 8

October 6-Lecture:

Wrap-Up of Weeks 1-7

October 8-MID-TERM EXAM

Week 9
October 13 & 15
'Community
Responsibility'

Lecture:

The Community & The Corporation
Issue: Community Responsibility
Ethics of Plant Closures/Layoffs/Mergers & Acquisitions

Readings:

Text – Chapter 17

Week 10
October 20 & 22
'Governance and
Ethics'

Lecture:

Employees & the Corporation

Reading:

Text – Chapter 18

Week 11
October 27 & 29
'Business &
Government
Relationships'

Lecture:

Corporate Governance & Stockholder Rights

Readings:

Text – Chapter 15

Week 12
November 3 & 5
'Technology &
Ethics'

Lecture:

Technology As A Social Force
Technology & Ethics

Reading:

Text – Chapter 14

Case:

Johnson & Johnson and the Human Life International Shareholder

Week 13 **Lecture:**
November 10 & 12 Environmental Issues/Sustainability
‘Environmental **Readings:**
Ethical Issues’ Text – Chapters 11 & 12
Case:
 Shell Oil in Nigeria

Week 14 **Case Discussion:**
November 17 & 19 **Case:**
‘Economic Ethical Kimpton Hotels’ EarthCare Program
Issues’

Week 15 **Case Discussion:**
November 24 **Case:**
(No Class November GlaxoSmithKline & AIDS Drugs
26 – Holiday)
‘Recent Ethical
Dilemmas-
Healthcare’

Week 16 **Case Discussion:**
December 1 & 3 **Case:**
‘Future-Potential The Collapse of Enron
Ethical Issues’

Week 17 **Lecture:**
December 8 & 10 The Future & Leadership
‘Ethical
Dilemmas/The
Future’

Exam Date & Mid-Term, Thursday, October 8, 2:30-3:45
Time

Individual Issues Due Thursday, December 10, 2009
Paper

Course Policies

Grading (credit) Criteria	<u>Final Grade Calculated, as follows:</u> Mid-Term Exam (short answer, essay) – 40% of grade Individual Issue Paper – 40% of grade Class attendance and class participation in case presentations – 20% of grade While (+)(-) may be used on mid-term exam, semester paper, and group exercises, <u>NO final grades will be calculated with a (+)(-).</u>
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Late Work	Group work is not made up due to absence.
Make-up Exams & Extra Credit	n/a
Individual Issue Paper	A research paper (Individual Issue Paper) on a specific topic of international business ethics is required. Each student must choose a topic. The final issue paper should be approximately 10-12 pages long and is due by Thursday, December 10, 2009. See paper outline below.
Special Assignments	<p style="text-align: center;">PAPER OUTLINE <u>Paper Due On Thursday, December 10, 2009</u></p> <p>TOPIC Statement of ethical issue or topic to be developed.* If you are developing an issue, then develop the current status of the issue. The paper should include a ‘business’ dimension; an ‘international’ dimension; and an ‘ethical’ dimension. It will be evaluated according to the following criteria.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Choice of topic B. Problem addressed C. Clear concepts: issues of ethical significance D. Consistent structure: business, ethical, and international dimension E. Personal or corporate view and/or experience, if applicable* (see note below) F. Reference to periodicals, literature, etc. G. Reasoning H. Conclusion I. Bibliography** (see note on following page) <p>*Most issues have some relevance to business or industry. Students can use one or more companies to demonstrate how that company responded to an issue.</p> <p>**References to information, whether electronic or not, must be cited either by a text reference or a footnote and cited in the Bibliography. Failure to do so <u>and</u> to include a Bibliography will automatically lower paper grade to <u>C</u>.</p>
Class Attendance & Participation	Class attendance and active class participation is strongly encouraged. Participation contributes to a better understanding of the readings. Part of this experience is learning from other class participants and applying this understanding to the research paper and class discussions. This will represent 20% of your grade. Group grades are given by fellow group members.
Student Conduct and Discipline	

	<p>The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, <i>A to Z Guide</i>, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.</p> <p>The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the <i>Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3</i>, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's <i>Handbook of Operating Procedures</i>. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).</p> <p>A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.</p>
<p>Academic Integrity</p>	<p>The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.</p> <p>Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.</p> <p>Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.</p>
<p>Email Use</p>	<p>The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.</p>
<p>Withdrawal from Class</p>	

	<p>The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Student Grievance Procedures</p>	<p>Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's <i>Handbook of Operating Procedures</i>.</p> <p>In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties. (Continued on next page)</p> <p>Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Incomplete Grades</p>	<p>As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Disability Services</p>	<p>The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is: The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22 PO Box 830688 Richardson, Texas 75083-0688 (972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)</p> <p>Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students</p>

	<p>with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.</p> <p>It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.</p>
<p>Religious Holy Days</p>	<p>The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.</p> <p>The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.</p> <p>If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.</p>
<p>Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities</p>	<p>Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean.</p>

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.