

Upper Iowa University - Madison Center

BUSINESS 225 – Business Ethics- 3 Credits
Syllabus - Term 2: October 26–December 19, 2009

Course Description: This course seeks to recognize the distinctive set of problems encountered in the work environment, to study contrasting theories currently being used to make ethical decisions, and to apply those theories through examples and case studies.

Term Information: Term 2: Saturday, First class meeting October 31, 2009 and last class meeting, December 1, 2009 8:00am – 1:15pm

Instructor: Cindy West 278-0350 ext. 2204 - work
635-8291- home office phone & FAX
(No later than 10pm)
Both phone numbers have voice mail to leave messages if instructor is unavailable.
Email: cewestx@charter.net or westc@uiu.edu

Please include Upper Iowa in the subject line on e-mail.
The instructor will be available after class and by appointment.

Biography: M.A.E. - Education, College of St. Catherine
M.B.A. - University of Minnesota
B.S. - Retail, North Dakota State University

- Academic Advisor, Upper Iowa University
- Marketing Consultant, West and Associates
- Assistant Vice President, Specialized Industries First National Bank Association
- Manager New Product Development, US West
- National Account Executive, AT&T

Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course, the students should be able to:

1. Differentiate between various theories of ethics.
2. Identify and discuss ethical issues in business situations.
3. Select and defend a mode of action from among possible alternatives.
4. Consider the implications of actions from Human Resources, environmental and financial perspectives.

Textbook:

Shaw, William H., and Barry Vincent.
Moral Issues in Business. 11th Edition. California: Wadsworth 2010
Additional readings may be assigned during the Term.

Attendance:

Learners are strongly encouraged to attend class on a regular basis. Although classroom attendance will not be graded, learners can earn points for in-class exercises. Please note: exam and assignment material may be drawn from classroom lectures and discussions.

Readings:

Each learner is responsible for reading all assigned materials in the required text prior to the scheduled class times. Class meetings will focus on reviewing the material, in-group discussions, case presentations, homework review or scheduled exams. The instructor may assign additional readings from handouts pertinent to the course and topic. Please refer to the Course Outline for a specific breakdown of the weekly readings.

Exams:

There will be one exam during the term. Exam format will consist of short answer, multiple choice and true/false questions. Each exam question will be worth 1 point. (Total exam points – 30 pts)

Assignments:

There will be six written assignments. Each assignment will consist of a reflective paper responding to a chosen reading. This paper must be in APA format and must include the following three components:

1. Evaluate the factual claims in the reading
2. Challenge the moral standard
3. Defend the moral standard

This paper will be typed, double spaced and not exceed three pages.

Students will present one of their reflective paper orally to the class. Students will choose a week of their choice for this presentation. The oral presentation will include the three components listed above and the student will then engage the class in a discussion of their position of the presented moral standard. The presentation will be graded on content, reasoning and class discussion.

Written assignments must be completed on time. Please contact the instructor ahead of the deadline to discuss any special circumstances and arrangements. Late assignments without prior arrangements will result in a reduction in your final grade.

Skills:

A learner who successfully completes this course will meet the degree major

goals as outlined for Upper Iowa University's Finance, Accounting, Management Information Systems, Business Administration, Technology and Information Management, Human Resources Management, Marketing, and Management Majors.

The goal for these majors is to be able to identify and evaluate socially responsible and ethical business practices.

There will be six written assignments will demonstrate an understanding of the components of a reflective paper and provide a format for class discussion of ethical issues. The writing assignments support the writing goals and expectations of the above majors. In addition, students are required to submit a summary writing in their weekly team case studies. Writing in the proper format and style will be emphasized as a major expected outcome of this course.

Grading Criteria: Grades will be assigned as follows:

1. Writing Assignments: 6 reflective papers @ 50 pts each	300 pts
2. Presentation of Reflective Paper/class discussion	100 pts
3. Weekly Group Case Study* 7 cases @ 10 pts	70 pts
4. Final Exam	<u>30 pts</u>

Total Points: 500 pts

*Weekly Group Case Studies may not be made up

Classroom Discussion – Participation is based on critical thinking skills used in classroom presentations and classroom discussions. Participation in class discussions is expected. Research shows active participation reinforces learning.

Final grades will be awarded based on the following scale:

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500 – 470 points	A
469 – 440 points	A-
439 - 410 points	B+
409 – 380 points	B
379 – 350 points	B-
349 - 320 points	C+
319 – 290 points	C
289 – 260 points	C-
259 – 230 points	D+
229 - 200 points	D
199 - 170 points	D-
Below 169 points	F

Missed Assignments and Exams:

It is expected that learners will have sufficient time to prepare and submit assignments.

Missed assignments and make-up exams will only be approved for extraordinary circumstances. Students have the responsibility to notify

and inform the instructor of the circumstances resulting in missing the exam. The instructor will decide whether or not to excuse the absence and determine as to when the exam should be completed. The instructor may utilize a different exam and/or format for excused absences.

Withdrawal from the course:

The last date to drop this course is the fifth week of class. It is the learner's responsibility to complete the withdrawal card in the Administrative office.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

The term cheating means the use of unauthorized books, notes, or other sources in the giving or securing of help in an examination or other course work. Plagiarism means the presentation of another's published or unpublished work as one's own. Because cheating and/or plagiarism are an affront to the University and denial of the offender's own integrity, they will not be tolerated. Detected cheating or plagiarism will result in consequences that may, at the faculty member's discretion, include course failure. In addition, an offender may be reported to the University administration for possible disciplinary action, which may include suspension or dismissal from the University (2009-2010 UIU Catalog)

Citation:

Encyclopedias of any kind, including the very popular Wikipedia, are not primary sources, and should not be cited or used in constructing term papers at the graduate or undergraduate level. They can, however, be useful to help gather some background information, and to point the way to more reliable sources.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS, ASSIGNMENTS & EXAMS
BA 225 Business Ethics

Date	Reading	Assignments/Exercises Exam
10/31/09	<u>Chapter 1</u> – The Nature of Morality <u>Chapter 2</u> –Normative Theories of Ethics	Reflective Paper: pg. 94 “One Philosopher’s Approach to Business Ethics” Group Case: pg. 31 Made in the USA – Dumped.....
11/07/09	<u>Chapter 3</u> – Justice and Economic Distribution <u>Chapter 4</u> –The Nature of Capitalism	<u>Reflective Paper Due</u> Student Presentation Reflective Paper: pg. 203 “Markets and the Role of Ethics in Capitalism” Group Case: pg. 141 Poverty in America
11/14/09	<u>Chapter 5</u> – Corporations <u>Chapter6</u> - Consumers	<u>Reflective Paper Due</u> Student Presentation Reflective Paper: pg 356 “Why Do We Consume So Much?” Group Case: pg. 257 Free Speech or False Advertising?
11/21/09	<u>Chapter 7</u> – The Environment Speaker: Environmentalist	<u>Reflective Paper Due</u> Student Presentation Reflective Paper: Pg. 404 “Business and Environmental Ethics” Group Case: pg. 394 The Fordasaurus
NO CLASS NOVEMBER 28, 2009		
12/05/09	<u>Chapter 8</u> –The Workplace (1) Basic Issues Speaker: TBA	<u>Reflective Paper Due</u> Student Presentation Reflective Paper: pg. 463 “The Meaning and Value of Work” Group Case: pg. 449 Union Discrimination

12/12/09	<u>Chapter 9</u> –The Workplace (2) Today’s Challenges	<u>Reflective Paper Due</u> Student Presentation Reflective Paper: pg. 598 “Some Paradoxes of Whistleblowing”
	<u>Chapter 10</u> – Moral Choices Facing Employees	Group Case: pg. 499 Testing for Honesty
12/19/09	<u>Chapter 11</u> –Job Discrimination Speaker: TBA	<u>Reflective Paper Due</u> Student Presentation Group Case: pg 633 Raising the Ante Final Exam