



PHIL 329 Lec 01
“Business Ethics”
Winter Term 2020

Course Outline

Lectures: Thursday 1700 – 1945, SA 245
(Online only as of March 16, 2020)

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Course Description

The world of business involves relations between different groups of individuals. This world has shareholders, corporate managers, employees, customers and those in the local community of a corporation. Since the actions of individuals in one group will impact those in other groups, it is open to us to morally evaluate such actions and the regulations governing those actions. For instance, is it permissible for, or perhaps even a duty of, corporate managers to serve only the interests of shareholders? Does a business owner have a duty to promote equal opportunities to those in a community? Do corporations have a duty to refrain from destroying the environment? This course will address such issues.

Course Learning Outcomes

Based on a study of various ethical theories this course aims to develop the capacity to carefully engage in the moral evaluations of certain actions and regulations. As part of this process students will be given the opportunity to develop their ability to produce clear written summaries of positions and arguments proposed by various ethicists and to produce thoughtful assessments of these proposals.

Required/Recommended Texts (including electronic resources):

Readings will be indicated via the D2L site for this class.

Course Assessment

The final grade will be determined by one in class test and two take home tests. **The take home tests will be available on D2L and they will be submitted on D2L using Dropbox. Each test should be a single Word file. Please make sure to take a screenshot of the D2L submitted field when submitting work electronically.** The tests involve writing essays on assigned topics. Missed in class tests and late take home tests will be assigned a grade of zero unless a university approved justification is promptly provided. There is no registrar-scheduled final exam for this course.

Test 1	February 13	35 %
Take Home Test 2	Due: March 26	30 %
Take Home Test 3	Due: April 15	35 %

Letter Grade Conversion Table

96-100 = A+	80-85.9 = B+	67-69.9 = C+	55-59.9 = D+
91-95.9 = A	75-79.9 = B	64-66.9 = C	50-54.9 = D
86-90.9 = A-	70-74.9 = B-	60-63.9 = C-	< 50 = F

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

Absence or Missed Course Assessments

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html

Student Support and Resources

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at ucalgary.ca/Registrar/registration/course-outlines

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Academic Advising

If you are a student in the Faculty of Arts, you can speak to an academic advisor in the Arts Students' Centre about course planning, course selection, registration, program progression and more. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit phil.ucalgary.ca. Further academic guidance is available by contacting David Dick (Undergraduate Program Director dgdick@ucalgary.ca) or Jeremy Fantl (Honours Advisor jfantl@ucalgary.ca). If you have questions regarding registration, please email Rebecca Lesser (Undergraduate Program Administrator phildept@ucalgary.ca).

Writing Assessment and Support

The assessment of all written assignments—and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses—is based in part on writing skills. This includes correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.), as well as general clarity and organization. Research papers must include a thorough and accurate citation of sources. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services for assistance (one-on-one appointments, drop-in support and writing workshops). For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Online Resources and Electronic Devices

Important information and communication about this course may be posted on D2L (Desire2Learn), UCalgary's online learning management system. Visit ucalgary.service-now.com/it for how-to information and technical assistance.

The instructor reserves the right to establish specific course policies regarding the use of electronic devices. If permitted, the use of devices must be exclusively for instructional purposes, and without disruption to the instructor or fellow students. Devices should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

Academic Misconduct/Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which will be an F on the assignment or an F in the course, and possibly a disciplinary sanction such as probation, suspension, or expulsion. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about referencing, please consult your instructor.

University Policies

The Instructor Intellectual Property Policy is available at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip. The instructor (or TA) must return graded assignments *directly* to the student UNLESS written permission to do otherwise has been provided.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html).