

# 1102B210

## Business Ethics

**Instructor:** TBA

**Time:** Monday through Friday (June 20, 2022-July 22, 2022)

**Office Hours:** 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

**Contact Hours:** 60 (50 minutes each)

**Credits:** 4

**Location:** Huiquan Building

**Office:** Huiquan Building 518

**E-mail:** TBA

### Course Description

This course explores a wide range of ethical issues in all areas of business to which employees are exposed and focuses on moral reasoning in business, moral issues within the corporation, and ethics in international business. The course also gives students a comprehensive review of ethics and the knowledge to recognize ethical dilemmas and resolve them through active deliberation and sound decision making in the new millennium.

### Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

This course seeks to introduce students to ethical issues facing business and business managers. The course will be divided into four components: business ethics, role of business in society, perceptions and views of business in the media, and contemporary business issues. The class will be conducted with the latest ILO (Institutional Learning Outcomes) in mind. A key focus for the course, in addition to learning about contemporary business issues, will be to equip students with the ability to research, analyze and communicate findings on current developing issues.

### Required Textbook(s)

Text: Andrew W. Ghillyer. Business Ethics Now. 6th Ed., (2021). McGraw Hill.

ISBN: 9781260575736(Prints); ISBN: 9781260579284(VitalSource Ebook)

## **Prerequisites**

No prerequisites

## **Course Hours**

The course has 25 sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Friday.

## **Course Schedule**

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts of this course. Modifications might be made to this calendar as needed to aid the student's learning and development.

### ***Week 1***

Monday-Tuesday, Chapter 1 – Understanding Ethics

- *Define ethics.*
- *Explain the role of values in ethical decision-making.*
- *Understand opposing ethical theories and their limitations.*
- *Discuss ethical relativism.*
- *Explain an ethical dilemma, and apply a process to resolve it.*

Wednesday-Thursday, Chapter 2 – Defining Business Ethics

- *Define the term business ethics.*
- *Identify an organization's stakeholders.*
- *Discuss the position that business ethics is an oxymoron.*
- *Summarize the history of business ethics.*
- *Identify and propose a resolution for an ethical dilemma in your work environment.*
- *Explain how executives and employees seek to justify unethical behavior.*

Friday, Review

Assessment instructions will also be explained to students in Week 1.

### ***Week 2***

Monday-Tuesday, Chapter 3 – Organizational Ethics

- *Define organizational ethics.*
- *Explain the respective ethical challenges facing the functional departments of an organization.*
- *Discuss the position that a human resource (HR) department should be at the center*

*of any corporate code of ethics.*

- *Explain the potential ethical challenges presented by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).*
- *Determine potential conflicts of interest within any organizational function.*

Wednesday -Thursday, Chapter 4 – Corporate Social Responsibility

- *Describe and explain corporate social responsibility (CSR).*
- *Distinguish between instrumental and social contract approaches to CSR.*
- *Explain the business argument for “doing well by doing good.”*
- *Summarize the five driving forces behind CSR.*
- *Explain the triple bottom-line approach to corporate performance measurement.*
- *Discuss the relative merits of carbon-offset trading.*

Friday, Review and Individual Essay (20%) due

### ***Week 3***

Monday -Tuesday, Chapter 5 – Corporate Governance

- *Explain the term corporate governance.*
- *Understand the responsibilities of the board of directors and the major governance committees.*
- *Explain the significance of the “King I” and “King II” reports.*
- *Explain the differences between the following two governance methodologies: “comply or explain” and “comply or else.”*
- *Identify an appropriate corporate governance model for an organization.*

Wednesday -Thursday, Chapter 6 – The Role of Government

- *Identify the five key pieces of U.S. legislation designed to discourage, if not prevent, illegal conduct within organizations.*
- *Understand the purpose and significance of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).*
- *Calculate monetary fines under the three-step process of the U.S. Federal Sentencing Guidelines for Organizations (FSGO).*
- *Compare and contrast the relative advantages and disadvantages of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX).*
- *Explain the key provisions of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.*

Friday, Review and Mid-Exam I(20%) due

### ***Week 4***

Monday – Tuesday, Chapter 7 – Blowing the Whistle

- *Explain the term whistle-blower, and distinguish between internal and external whistle-blowing.*
- *Understand the different motivations of a whistle-blower.*

- *Evaluate the possible consequences of ignoring the concerns of a whistle-blower.*
- *Recommend how to build internal policies to address the needs of whistle-blowers.*
- *Analyze the possible risks involved in becoming a whistle-blower.*

Wednesday – Thursday, Chapter 8 – Ethics and Technology

- *Evaluate the ethical ramifications of recent technological advances.*
- *Explain the opposing employer and employee views of privacy at work.*
- *Distinguish between thin and thick consent.*
- *Evaluate the concept of vicarious liability.*
- *Analyze an organization's employee-surveillance capabilities.*

Friday, Review and Presentations (20%) due

### ***Week 5***

Monday-Tuesday, Chapter 9 – Ethics and Globalization

- *Understand the ethical issues arising in global business.*
- *Explain the issue of ethical relativism in a global environment.*
- *Explain the challenges in developing a global code of ethics.*
- *Analyze the ramifications of the UN Global Compact.*
- *Explain the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.*

Wednesday, Chapter 10 – Making It Stick: Doing What's Right in a Competitive Market

- *Develop the key components of an ethics policy.*
- *Analyze the ramifications of becoming a transparent organization.*
- *Understand the difference between reactive and proactive ethical policies.*
- *Discuss the challenges of commitment to organizational integrity.*

Thursday: Final Exam (30%) due

Friday, Review.

### **Course Requirements**

1. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class.
2. Students are expected to read the required chapters and other prescribed readings prior to the class sessions.
3. Class Conduct:
  - \* Arrive on time, prepared and keen to learn.
  - \* Cell phones are expected to be either muted or turned off when class begins.
  - \* Carry on proactive and respectful discussions, verbal and/or physical abuse are not allowed. Keep an open mind and agree to disagree on controversial ethical matters.

4. I will respond to emails within 24 hours. Please send a polite follow-up email if you do not hear back from me after 24 hours. You can also come to speak to me in person during designated office hour.
5. It is your responsibility to manage your readings and assessment deadlines. If you need to ask for leave, please follow the school's procedure and allow sufficient time for the application to be processed.
6. Please check your email regularly for instructions and readings.

## Grading Policy

Individual Essay	20%	Due Week 2, Friday
Mid-Exam I	20%	Due Week 3, Friday
Presentations	20%	Due Week 4, Friday
Final Exam	30%	Due Week 5, Thursday
Attendance and Participation	10%	Record at the beginning of each session
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

## Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

<b>Definition</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Score</b>
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

## Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in the class. It would be recorded each class and forms part of students' participation record. Students should inform the instructor at the earliest opportunity if they need to ask for a leave. All absences may have negative effect on students' final grades. Any students with more than three unexcused absences will automatically fail the course.

## **Academic Integrity**

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting any work done by another as one's own work; submitting the same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors, however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.