

Business, Society and Ethics

Business Administration 303

Section: D200

Term: 2006 Spring

Instructor: Dr. G. Havers

Office: WMX 4355

Phone: 291-3472

e-mail: ghavers@sfu.ca

Discussion Topics: Course Description:

This course reviews and synthesizes the literature on moral issues in the field of business and society. The course has 4 themes:

- a) The difference between 'virtue ethics' and other 'ethics'
- b) Business ethics in the various stages of capitalism
- c) Teaching and evaluating ethical practice in a challenging workplace
- d) The direction of business ethics in an age of democracy & globalization

As we discuss various models of business ethics and their application to the current corporate environment, we shall also undertake a critical (or "Socratic") assessment of each model's practicality and moral implications.

Course Coverage:

This outline is subject to change with advance notice

Week 1 Introduction: The Meaning and Status of Business Ethics

Week 2 The Origin of the Current Crisis in Business Ethics

Week 3 The Meaning of Citizenship

Week 4 Corporate Social Responsibility, pro and con

Business, Society and Ethics

Week 5 Corporate Social Responsibility in Practice; Case 1 Due (10%)

Week 6 In class Midterm Exam (40%)

Week 7 Organizational Ethics

Week 8 Organizational Leadership, or the lack thereof

Week 9 Breakdown in the Firm

Week 10 Nature and Ethics

Week 11 Virtue, Image and Diversity

Week 12 Leadership in an age of Technological Change; Case 2 Due (10%)

Week 13 Review: the role of virtuous leadership

Grading: Please note all work is due on the week specified

20% 2 Cases (10% each)

40% Midterm Exam

40% Final Exam

100%

Required Texts: Leo Strauss, *Xenophon's Socratic Discourse*, St. Augustine's Press, 2004.
ISBN 1587319667

Mark Wexler, *Confronting Moral Worlds: Understanding Business Ethics* 1st ed., Prentice-Hall:
1999/2000. ISBN 0130801429

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: Prerequisites:

60 credit hours.

Notes: There are no tutorials during the first week of classes.

This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU

Business, Society and Ethics

Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in 2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.