

PHILOSOPHY 245B BUSINESS ETHICS

FALL 97 SECTION 52 T&Th 6-7:15pm
MONTROYA CAMPUS WILEY HALL 205

INSTRUCTOR: Stephen Scholz

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Ethical problems associated with the business community will be examined. Moral issues such as the environment, insider trading, corporate social responsibility, employee rights and others will be evaluated from a moral perspective. Classical and contemporary ethical theories will be discussed and students will be encouraged to examine their own ethical decision-making procedures.

TEXT: *Ethical Theory and Business*, by Beauchamp and Bowie (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1997).

COURSE OBJECTIVES- Students will:

- a. study classical and contemporary ethical theories
- b. Acquire the skills of argument analysis and construction
- c. Examine the moral dilemmas that arise in the context of the professional business community
- d. Clarify and understand individual moral positions
- e. Construct a formal research paper concerning a moral issue in business

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- a. Regular class attendance and participation is expected. Reading assignments are to be completed **PRIOR** to class.
- b. There will be a mid-term exam and a final exam, both essay in nature. Each exam will count for 20% of the final grade. Mid-term; 10/23. Final; 12/16.
- c. The research paper will be 7-10 pages in length, and will count for 35% of the grade. I will provide a more detailed handout on this assignment by the 3rd week of class. **DUE NO LATER THAN THE BEGINNING OF CLASS, 11/18**
- d. Students will be required to lead class discussions on the assigned readings. This will count for 20% of your grade (case studies 5%), and we will have a sign-up for these the second class meeting.
- e. Any student with excessive absences (15% of total class hours) may be dropped from the course. All assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade. A & S policy requires that a final evaluation be given.

Schedule

Week	Pages	Topic
9/2, 4	1-19	Intro to Ethics
9/9, 11	19-49	Ethical Theory
9/16, 18	50-116	Corporate Social Responsibility
9/23, 25	117-190	Regulation of Business
9/30, 10/2	191-267	Acceptable Risk
10/7, 10/9	268-360	Rights & Obligations
10/14, 10/16	361-442	Hiring, Firing, etc.
10/21, 10/23	review	mid-term exam
10/28, 10/30	video	
11/4, 11/6	443-490	Gathering & Concealing Info
11/11, 11/13	491-513	Gathering..... continued
11/18, 11/20	no reading;	paper discussions
11/25	514-608	International Business
12/2, 12/4	609-642	Social & Economic Justice
12/9, 12/11	643-659	Social & Economic Justice
12/16	review	FINAL EXAM