



**SILBERMAN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
BUSINESS ETHICS FORUM - BUSI 1160
SPRING 2008 SYLLABUS**

CLASS

Course number: BUSI 1160.24
Time: Mon/Wed @ 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Room: Room 134
Website:

INSTRUCTOR

Name: Masud Chand
Office:
Office Hours: Mon/Wed @ 11:30am -12:30 pm
Office Phone: 604.682-8112
E-mail Address: chand@fdu.edu
Website:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Business Ethics Forum is an introductory course to achieve three objectives for every student in the College of Business Administration. The first objective is to raise the student's awareness of the ethical implications of business activities. The second objective is to teach moral reasoning skills for their application throughout each course in the curriculum. The third objective is to acquaint the student with current corporate ethics programs.

PREREQUISITE

BUSI 1100

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course students should:

1. Understand the importance of ethics in business corporations
2. Be able to identify and analyze business ethical dilemmas
3. Learn how to apply ethical reasoning in other courses in the curriculum and in practice.
4. Develop analytical and critical thinking abilities, interpersonal skills, written communication skills, oral communication skills, global perspectives of present and future business enterprises, and computer research skills.

COURSE TOPICS:

Ethics and Business
Corporate Social Responsibility
Whistle Blowing
Deontology
Utilitarianism
Just Distribution of Wealth

Corporate Ethics Programs
Marketing and Product Liability
International Business Ethics
Discrimination
Conflict of Interest
Employment at Will

TEXTBOOK:

Ethics and the Conduct of Business, 5th edition, by John Boatright, Publisher: Prentice Hall

ADDITIONAL READING MATERIALS:

From time to time, I will assign extra reading materials which might be from other textbooks, magazines, newspapers or websites. You will be given advance warning of at least a week before these readings are due in class.

Grading Items:

Learning Log*	10%
Case studies, class participation and attendance**	25%
Mid-term exam	20%
Field Trip Paper	10%
Group Presentation	15%
Final exam	20%

*A Learning Log is a written record that includes what you have learned from each class; it is also a way for you to communicate with me. There is a form in Microsoft Word format for recording your Learning Logs on Webcampus for this course under "Course Documents". A more detailed explanation of how we will use learning logs is given on Webcampus.

Some class sessions will require that you prepare a written analysis of one or more case studies taken from your textbook or other sources. We will also discuss these cases in class. Excuses for non-attendance or late assignments must be accompanied by a physician's written medical excuse. Expect your grade to be affected if you miss more than two classes with unexcused absences. There is no make-up for missed case study assignments. **All written material except exams must be submitted through Webcampus.

Group Presentations: Students, in groups of 3, will be expected to make a 15-20 minute presentation about a contemporary ethical issue in business. The presentation should explain the issue(s) at hand, the parties that are affected, the degree of responsibility and possible solutions. Discuss your topic of interest with the instructor before you begin work on it.

All grading items must be completed in order to receive a grade in the course.

The mid-term and final exams will consist of short-answer-essay, fill-in-the-blank, multiple-choice or true/false questions. There will be no make-up exams unless you contact me **before** the assigned examination dates. If English is not your native language, you may use a paper translation dictionary during the exams. **Electronic dictionaries or other such aids are not permitted.**

OPPORTUNITIES TO ENCOURAGE STUDENT LEARNING:

Extra credit: You may bring an article to each class session for discussion. Be prepared to state the key ethical issue of the article in 25 words or less. You must turn in a copy of the article and your brief description for credit. Suggested sources are the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, The Economist and Business Week.

No makeup exams will be given.

FINAL GRADES WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE FOLLOWING

A +	=	95 – 100	=	4.00
A	=	90 – 94	=	4.00
A-	=	87 – 89	=	3.67
B+	=	84 – 86	=	3.33
B	=	80 – 83	=	3.00
B-	=	77 – 79	=	2.67
C+	=	74 – 76	=	2.33
C	=	71 – 73	=	2.00
C-	=	68 – 70	=	1.67
D	=	61 – 67	=	1.00
F	=	0 – 60	=	0.00
Incomplete (I) can be awarded in special cases. University policy must be followed.				

IMPORTANT DATES:

SPRING SEMESTER 2008 (Second Semester)

New Year's Day Holiday (Tuesday) (US & Canada)	Jan. 1
New Student Orientation (Thursday-Friday)	Jan. 3-4
Classes Begin, 8:00 AM (Monday)	Jan. 7
Final Day Drop/Add Changes	Jan. 18
Last Day for Student Withdrawal from Classes	Mar. 7
Good Friday Holiday (US & Canada)	Mar. 21
Easter Monday Holiday (Canada)	Mar. 24
Last Day of Classes, Spring Semester (Wednesday)	Apr. 16
Final Examinations (Thursday-Wednesday)	Apr. 17-23
Semester Ends, 11:00 PM (Thursday)	Apr. 24

COURSE SCHEDULE *

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading Material and Assignments
1	Jan 7 Jan 9	Case 1.1	Information about this course; Lecture: Ethics and Business
2	Jan 14 Jan 16	Cases 2.2, 2.3	Chapter 2: Welfare, Rights and Justice and
3	Jan 21 Jan 23	Cases 3.1, 3.2	Chapter 3: Equality, Liberty and Virtue
4	Jan 28 Jan 30	Case 13.2, 13.3	Corporate Ethics Programs, Codes of Ethics – pages 389-398
5	Feb 4 Feb 6	Research your field trip company	Field Trip visits to selected corporations – no class meeting this week
6	Feb 11 Feb 13	Case 13.1, TBA	Corporate Social Responsibility 364-388
7	Feb 18 Feb 20	Contemporary examples	Mid-term Examination (Feb 20)
8	Feb 25 Feb 27	Case 6.2, 6.3	Chapter 6: Privacy
9	Mar 3 Mar 5	Case 4.1, 4.3	Chapter 4: Whistle Blowing
10	Mar 10 Mar 12	Cases 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3	Chapter 5: Lecture on Trade Secrets and Conflict of Interest
11	Mar 17 Mar 19	Cases 10.1, 10.3	Chapter 10 : Marketing and Product Safety

12	Mar 24* Mar 26	Case 7.1, 8.1	Discrimination, Sexual Harassment and Affirmative Action pages 176-183, pages 189-201; pages 209-225
13	Mar 31 Apr 2	Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 14.1, 14.3	Chapter 14: International Business Ethics
14	Apr 7 Apr 9	Completed group presentation in PowerPoint	Group Presentations
15	Apr 14 Apr 16	Case 9.1, Review	Chapter 9: Unjust Dismissal
16	April 17-23	FINAL EXAM WEEK	Final Exam

* This syllabus is subject to change. Changes will be made based on our class experiences. You will be informed sufficiently in advance about any relevant changes.

WITHDRAWALS

In the event you choose to withdraw from our course, the burden of following through with the withdrawal process is your responsibility. You may or may not be dropped for excessive absences. However, failure to attend does not guarantee being dropped. Please understand that if you do not officially **withdraw before the end of the 9th week of the semester (March 7, 2008)**, you must be assigned a grade based upon what you have earned. This may be anything from A (unlikely) to F. Please refer to the College Catalogue for more detail. If you believe you **MUST** withdraw, for any reason, **PLEASE** consult with me first! Perhaps we can find a way to help you complete our course successfully.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: chand@fdu.edu

Email is one of the best ways to communicate with me. However, when you email me, you must put BUS1160.24 in the subject line of the email. Failure to do this probably may result in your email being classified as spam by my email program and ignored. Also, please remember to include your name in each email.