



Lincoln University

Business Ethics

BA 109

Credit: 3 units (45 lecture hours)

Instructor: Alexander Anokhin

Email: aanokhin@lincolnuca.edu

Required textbook: Business Ethics: Managing Corporate Citizenship and Sustainability in the Age of Globalization, 3/E, Andrew Crane, Dirk Matten, Oxford University Press, USA, 2010; ISBN-10: 9780199564330; ISBN-13: 978-0199564330.

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Catalog Description

The course is an introduction to basic ethical theories and value systems. Topics include moral issues, codes of ethics, conflict of interest, social and fiduciary responsibilities, the work ethics, and other situations which arise within business environment.(3 units)

Course Objectives

This course is designed to equip students with skills and knowledge needed to navigate complex ethical issues of the modern business world. Urgent questions raised by globalization, financial crises, and environmental challenges will be examined using various ethical theories, philosophies and systems of values. Students are expected to develop leadership skills needed to implement solutions to ethical problems in the business environment.

Upon the completion of the course students will be able to:

- 1) Provide coherent reasoning using major ethical theories;
- 2) Assess ethical strategies employed in the business world;
- 3) Analyze cultural variables and their effects on ethical values;
- 4) Identify and employ various tools and techniques of business ethics management.

Procedures and methodology

Core concepts identified from the textbook will be augmented through supplementary sources (made available to students on the class website) and applied to the real life situations through case studies, essays, and other assignments.

The coursework will include required reading followed by various assignments. The course consists of 3 modules. At the end of each module students have to submit all assignments for a given module as well as pass a written examination. At the end of the course students must submit an individual/group research project.

All communication between students and instructor (including assignments submissions) has to be conducted through the course website.

Class Rules

1. Class attendance is required. Attendance will be taken each class at a time chosen by the instructor.
2. Students are required to arrive to class on time. Showing up late disturbs the natural flow of the lecture and affects everyone's experience.
3. Note, that the only email that students are allowed to use is the one provided by the Lincoln University. Once you receive an invitation to the course website, make sure to set up your profile in such a way that it would be possible for the instructor to identify you - use your name (as it is in the Lincoln University records) as your primary ID and your Lincoln University email as you secondary ID as well as a profile photo.
4. Submissions of home assignments will be conducted via the course website only (Canvas Instructure). Absolutely no hard copy or email submissions will be accepted! The acceptable format for assignment submission is .txt, .doc, .docx, and .pdf.
5. All quizzes, exams, assignments and projects must be completed and handed in on time. Late submissions will result in lower grade (each day of delay costs 5% points). Since all assignments are available on the website and outlined in the present syllabus with due dates clearly visible, the fact that you haven't been in class when the assignment was given cannot be used as an excuse to submit it later.
6. All quizzes, exams, and class assignments cannot be made up.
7. No cheating and no plagiarism, please! Detected cheating/plagiarism will result in "F" for the assignment. (This rule is very strictly enforced, no exceptions!).

8. All grades will be made available to students through the course website. It is a responsibility of a student to make sure that all assignments are uploaded on Canvas.

Exams

The exams will consist of questions based on assigned chapters and supplementary reading.

Course Project

Every student must complete a research paper for graded submission at the end of the course. In this research paper students are expected to conduct a case study of a real-world company, which has been accused of unethical conduct. The paper should study the effect such accusation had on the business, measures taken by the management to solve the problem at hand as well as the result of such measures.

Research paper must be formatted according to APA style guidelines. Research projects must comply with the Lincoln University requirements.

Assessment Criteria

All assignments, projects and exams are evaluated using the indicated system:

94-100	A	73-76	C
90-93	A-	70-72	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	60-66	D
80-82	B-	0-59	F
77-79	C+		

Tentative Weights

Project	30%
Class Activity (in-class discussion, assignments)	30%
Exams	40%

Course Outline:

Module 1

1. Introduction
2. Corporate responsibility, stakeholders and citizenship
3. Normative ethical theories
4. Descriptive ethical theories
5. Exam I

Module 2

6. Tools and techniques of business ethics management
7. Shareholders and business ethics
8. Employees and business ethics
9. Exam II

Module 3

10. Consumers and business ethics
11. Suppliers, competitors and business ethics
12. Government regulation and business ethics
13. Civil society organization and business ethics
14. Project Presentations
15. Final Exam