



# Lincoln University

## Business Ethics

### BA 109

**Credit:** 3 units (45 lecture hours)

**Instructor:** Alexander Anokhin

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**Lecture Schedule:** Wednesday, 9:00 – 11:45 am

**Office Hours:** By arrangement

**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.

Revised: August 10, 2017

### Catalog Description

The course is an advanced review of 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 management. (3 units)

### Course Overview

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.

### Course Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Provide coherent reasoning using major ethical theories
  - a. *Assessment Activities:* In-class debates, home assignments.
2. Assess ethical strategies employed in the business world
  - a. *Assessment Activities:* In-class assignments, home assignments, course project
3. Analyze cultural variables and their effects on ethical values

- a. *Assessment Activities:* Course project, home assignments
- 4. Identify and employ various tools and techniques of business ethics management.
  - a. *Assessment Activities:* Case studies, home assignments, in-class assignments

### **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.
3. Submissions of home assignments will be conducted via the course website only (TurnItIn). No hard copy or email submissions will be accepted.
4. Registering on the class website is the responsibility of a student.
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 4% points).
6. All quizzes, exams, and class assignments cannot be made up. No extra-credit assignment is available "upon request".
7. No cheating and no plagiarism, please! Detected cheating/plagiarism will result in "F" for the assignment.

## 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

**This syllabus is subject to change. All changes will be announced in the class.**

### Appendix. Program and Institutional Learning Outcomes.

<b>Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs)</b>	
<i>Graduates of the BA program of Lincoln University should be able to:</i>	
<b>1a</b>	Develop the habits and skills necessary for processing information based on intellectual commitment, and using these skills to guide behavior.
<b>2a</b>	Raise important questions and problems, and formulate them clearly and precisely in oral or written communication
<b>3a</b>	Act with dignity and follow the principles concerning the quality of life of all people, recognizing an obligation to protect fundamental human rights and to respect the diversity of all cultures.
<b>4a</b>	Focus on individual and organizational benefits; communicate to co-workers and company's leadership in facilitation of collaborative environment; to be honest and transparent with regard to their work, and to be respectful of the work of others.
<b>5a</b>	Display sincerity and integrity in all their actions, which should be based on reason and moral principles; to inspire others by showing mental and spiritual endurance
<b>6a</b>	Show creativity by thinking of new and better goals, ideas, and solutions to problems; to be resourceful problem solvers.
<b>7a</b>	Define and explain the boundaries, divisions, styles and practices of the field, and define and properly use the principal terms in the field

<b>Program Level Outcomes (PLOs)</b>	
<i>Students graduating our BA program will be able to:</i>	
<b>1</b>	Demonstrate knowledge in the principle areas of general business and specific areas of concentration, which include: general business, management, entrepreneurship, and management information business.
<b>2</b>	Determine the information needed to evaluate a business problem. Apply critical thinking and reasoning skills to recognize credibility and accuracy.
<b>3</b>	Demonstrate the ability to communicate with others using written and oral communication tools.
<b>4</b>	Demonstrate the ability to use analytical skills to understand business problems and make well-informed decisions.
<b>5</b>	Apply and comply with ethical and legal principles and evaluate different ethical perspectives.