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BUSINESS ETHICS

Syllabus

BOK 1.6

BET-431

Quarter/Year: Fall/2024

ECTS Credits: 6

Instructor: Dr. Halyna Bevzo, Ph.D.

US Credits: 3

Contact information: halyna.bevzo@uacu.edu.ua

Prerequisites: none

Course Description

The study of Business Ethics addresses moral dilemmas and ethical challenges encountered within the realm of business, examining how ethical principles and standards should be defensibly applied to business practices. Ethics, at its core, concerns the distinctions between good and bad as well as the pursuit of meaningful lives, and these foundational questions remain central to any discourse on business ethics. This course is designed to cultivate and enhance students' understanding of moral obligations to one another, the significance of moral character in the business context, and the societal value that business endeavors can ideally contribute.

This business ethics curriculum introduces students to essential concepts of values, morality, and the influence of cultural beliefs and upbringing across all areas of business, ranging from consumer rights to corporate social responsibility.

The course involves the identification of action-guiding principles pertinent to business ethics, including truthfulness and fairness, which serve as the basis for responsible decision-making that upholds moral obligations. Additionally, it examines the role of virtue and integrity as critical to business success, alongside the challenges in fostering moral character within the business landscape. Key topics addressed include the centrality of trust, the role of honesty, self-control, fairness, and loyalty, as well as the complex relationship between business practices and ethical life.

Course Outcomes

PH1. Responsibly treat professional self-improvement, realizing the need for lifelong learning, show tolerance and readiness for innovative changes.

PH4. Systematize and streamline the information received on the processes and phenomena in the world economy; evaluate and explain the influence of endogenous and exogenous factors on them; formulate conclusions and develop recommendations, considering the peculiarities of the national and international environment.

PH5. Possess the skills of introspection (self-control), be understandable for representatives of other business cultures and professional groups of different levels (with specialists from other fields of knowledge / activities) on the basis of appreciating diversity, multiculturalism, tolerance and respect for them.

PH6. Plan, organize, motivate, evaluate and increase the effectiveness of teamwork, conduct research in a group under the leadership of a leader, taking into account today's requirements and features in a limited time.

PH8. Understand, highlight and describe new phenomena, processes and trends of global development, mechanisms and tools for the implementation of economic policy and world integration / disintegration processes, including Euro-Atlantic integration.

PH9. Understand and be able to apply, in accordance with other requirements of the educational program, modern theories and methods of solving specialized complex problems and practical problems in the field of international trade in goods and services, international capital flow, international monetary and financial relations, mobility of human resources, international technology transfer.

PH15. Determine the functional features, nature, level and degree of interconnections between subjects of international economic relations of different levels and establish communications between them.

PH16. Demonstrate knowledge about the state of research in international economic relations and the world economy in an interdisciplinary combination with political, legal, natural sciences.

PH17. Determine the reasons, types and nature of international conflicts and disputes, justify and apply economic, legal and diplomatic methods and means of their solution at the international level, defending the national interests of Ukraine.

PH21. Understand and have the skills to maintain business protocol and business etiquette in the field of international economic relations, taking into account the peculiarities of intercultural communication at the professional and social levels, both state and foreign languages.

PH22. Apply appropriate methods, rules and principles of functioning of international economic relations for the development of foreign economic activity of Ukraine.

PH24. Substantiate the choice and apply information and analytical tools, economic and statistical calculation methods, complex analysis techniques and methods of monitoring world markets.

Competencies

3K1. Ability to realize their rights and responsibilities as a member of society, to understand the values of civil (free democratic) society and the need for its sustainable development, the rule of law, human and civil rights and freedoms in Ukraine.

3K 2. Ability to preserve and multiply moral, cultural, scientific values and achievements of society based on understanding the history and patterns of development of the subject area, its place in the general system of knowledge about nature and society and in the development of society, technology, use different types and forms of motor activities for active recreation and a healthy lifestyle.

3K 10. Ability to communicate with representatives of other professional groups at different levels (with experts from other fields of knowledge / types of economic activity).

3K 11. Ability to work in a team.

CK10. Ability to justify the use of legal, economic and diplomatic methods (instruments) for resolving conflict situations at the international level.

CK 14. Ability to communicate at the professional and social levels using professional terminology, including oral and written communication in state and foreign languages.

Internationality: The international aspect of the course includes studying in English; aspects connected with foreign countries' experiences; International cultural aspects.

Communications

For individual issues, students should contact the professor ONLY by given e-mail or by Moodle. In the Subject line they should put: UACUFirstNameLastName. E-mail messages will normally be answered within 24 hours.

Note! Only emails sent from the student's corporate email address will be answered.

Attention! Official and only language used for assessment activities is English. Official and only languages used for communication within the University are Ukrainian and English.

Student Responsibilities

Time Commitment

The study of technical courses is cumulative (i.e., an understanding of earlier material is necessary to grasp concepts covered later). Past experience has shown a high correlation between procrastination and low grades. Students must be committed to completing tasks on time.

Technical Aspects

The student is obliged to provide himself/herself with all the necessary technical equipment for the educational process (laptop or computer, webcam, headsets or headphones and microphone), as well as access to the Internet.

Only students signed-in with their own first and last name are allowed into [video](#) lectures in Zoom.

Grading Policy

The course is based on mastery of course outcomes. Student grades for this course will be calculated based on performance.

Note: the minimal grade to pass a subject is 60% (70% for Master courses).

Graduate Grading Guidelines

The assignment of a letter grade for a course is an indication of the student's overall success in achieving the learning outcomes for the course. The course letter grade may be viewed as a summary statement of the student's achievement in individual assessments (assignments & activities). These assessments are intended to identify for students their strengths as well as those areas in need of improvement. Student work is assessed according to the guidelines below.

Course-level Grading guidelines:

Bachelor

| Grade | ECTS Grade | International Grade |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 90% - 100% | A | 5 (Excellent) |
| 83% - 89% | B | 4 (Very Good) |

| | | |
|-----------|----|---|
| 75% - 82% | C | 4 (Good) |
| 70% - 74% | D | 3 (Good) |
| 60% - 69% | E | 3 (Acceptable) |
| 35% - 59% | FX | Not acceptable, possible repetition of course |

Master

| Grade | ECTS Grade | International Grade |
|------------|------------|---|
| 90% - 100% | A | 5 (Excellent) |
| 83% - 89% | B | 4 (Very Good) |
| 75% - 82% | C | 4 (Good) |
| 70% - 74% | D | 3 (Good) |
| 35% - 69% | FX | Not acceptable, possible repetition of course |

Criteria for grading:

| ECTS grade | Requirements for the student |
|------------|---|
| A | The student demonstrated a comprehensive systemic and in-depth knowledge of program material; processed basic and additional literature; obtained a solid grasp of the conceptual apparatus, methods, techniques and tools provided by the program; found creative abilities in the presentation of the educational program material both on this issue and on related modules of the course and related courses, or the student had a current control of 90-100 points |
| B | The student demonstrated good knowledge of program material; processed the basic literature, mastered the conceptual apparatus, methods, techniques and tools provided by the program, but with some inaccuracies |
| C | |
| D | The student showed mediocre knowledge of the core program material; learned information mainly from a lecture course or just one textbook; mastered only certain methods, techniques and tools provided by the program |
| E | |
| FX | The student has significant gaps in knowledge of the main program material; fragmentary mastered the basic concepts, techniques and tools; significant mistakes are made when using them |

Maximum total possible points – 200 points incl. (Midterm and [Final](#) exam are 50% of overall evaluation, where Midterm – 20% and [Final](#) – 30%)

Test / Assignment / Project – 100 points (35-40% of the total for the course are tasks taken or presented exceptionally during the class)

Midterm exam – 40 points

Final exam – 60 points

Student Workload

It is assumed that for each out of 17 class sessions a student spends about 10.5 academic hours of work. This includes 3.5 academic hours of lectures with the instructor and 7 academic hours of personal work. Personal work includes learning additional material. Please pay attention that 1 academic hour equals to 40 minutes.

Assignment Format

- All work should be shown in time. If the student misses the deadline – the task is failed.
- Midterm covered topics from previous lectures (weeks 1-7). It included multiple choice questions and cases (essays) and took about 1.5 hours.
- The Final exam covered all course material and included multiple choice questions and cases (essays). It lasts for 1.5 hours. Admission to the Final exam is possible only if all the tasks of the curriculum are covered.
- After the Midterm and Final is graded a student has access to the grade only. Access to the attempt, corrects answers and information whether the answer is correct cannot be granted.

Academic dishonesty

Academic integrity is submitting one's own work and properly acknowledging the contributions of others. Forms of academic dishonesty include:

1. Plagiarism – submitting all or part of another's work as one's own in an academic exercise such as an examination, a computer program, or written assignment.
2. Cheating – using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on an examination or assignment, such as using unauthorized texts or notes or improperly obtaining (or attempting to obtain) copies of an examination or answers to an examination. Including the use of artificial intelligence and pre-prepared answers to the questions of tasks is prohibited (unless otherwise specified in the task itself or allowed by the instructor).
3. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty – helping another commit an act of dishonesty, such as substituting for an examination or completing an assignment for someone else.
4. Fabrication – altering or transmitting, without authorization, academic information or records.

Any violation of these rules constitutes academic dishonesty and is liable to result in a failing grade and disciplinary action. In case of any academic dishonesty a student is not allowed to continue or retake the assessment activity and for the Final the unsatisfactory grade (“0”) is assigned for the course total. Cases of the academic dishonesty are not considered by the Academic Council.

Midterm and Final are valid only if they are taken on-campus (room defined by the dean's office) and on UACU's computer/laptop or online on the student's computer/laptop using Zoom and other conditions defined by the dean's office to avoid the cases of academic dishonesty. Students who will not meet this requirement will be expelled from the course with grade “0”.

In case of missed Midterm or Final exam (for a valid reason like sickness or an emergency) a request to repeat the exam is possible. Permit to repeat a midterm or final exam is done through a letter to the dean's office with request and approval of subject lecturer.

Submission or retaking of any assessment activities after deadlines are forbidden.

Submission & Return Policy

Assignments must be submitted to the professor on or before the due date indicated in the Course Schedule. The assignments submitted after the due dates receive zero points.

**** NO MAKE –UP QUIZZES AND EXAMS ****

Schedule

| Week # | TOPICS | Assignments | Points |
|------------|--|---------------------|--------|
| Lecture 1 | Introduction to Business Ethics | Assignment 1 | 5 |
| Lecture 2 | Being an Ethical Business in a Corrupt Environment | Assignment 2 | 5 |
| Lecture 3 | Diversity and Discrimination | Assignment 3 | 5 |
| Lecture 4 | Harassment and bullying in the workplace | Assignment 4 | 5 |
| Lecture 5 | Health and Safety in the Workplace | Assignment 5 | 5 |
| Lecture 6 | Social media use and business ethics | Assignment 6 | 5 |
| Lecture 7 | <u>Individual Project</u> Presentation | Project | 15 |
| | Midterm (7th class) 20% out of total amount of points for the course | <u>Midterm Test</u> | 40 |
| Lecture 9 | What makes a problem an ethical problem and how to solve it | Assignment 8 | 5 |
| Lecture 10 | Unavoidable Ethical Dilemmas. Making Ethical Decisions. | Assignment 9 | 5 |
| Lecture 11 | Roles and Ethics | Assignment 10 | 5 |
| Lecture 12 | Ethical Leadership | Assignment 11 | 5 |
| Lecture 13 | Corporate Social Responsibility | Assignment 12 | 5 |
| Lecture 14 | Ethical Issues in the era of IT acceleration | Assignment 13 | 5 |
| Lecture 15 | Ethics in Marketing | Assignment 14 | 5 |
| Lecture 16 | <u>Individual Project</u> | Project | 20 |
| | <u>Final</u> (17th class) 30% out of total amount of points for the course | <u>Final Test</u> | 60 |

Recommended Materials

1. Bashir, H., Gray, P. W., & Masad, E. (2013). *Co-existing in a globalized world: Key themes in inter-professional ethics*. Lexington Books.
2. Bhattacharya, C. B., Sen, S., & Korschun, D. (2011). *Leveraging corporate responsibility: The stakeholder route to maximizing business and social value*. Cambridge University Press.
3. Brown, B., Roberts, V., & Jacobsen, M. (2020). *Ethical use of technology in digital learning environments: Graduate student perspectives*. University of Calgary.

4. Carroll, A. B., Lipartito, K., Post, J. E., Werhane, P. H., & Goodpaster, K. E. (2012). *Corporate responsibility: The American experience*. Cambridge University Press.
5. Elliott, D., & Spence, E. (2018). *Ethics for a digital era* (Blackwell Public Philosophy). Wiley Blackwell.
6. Gentile, M. C. (2010). *Giving voice to values: How to speak your mind when you know what's right*. Yale University Press.
7. Hoskinson, S., & Kuratko, D. F. (2015). *The challenges of ethics and entrepreneurship in the global environment* (Advances in the Study of Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Economic Growth; Vol. 25). Emerald.
8. Macleod, C., Marx, J., Mnyaka, P., & Treharne, G. J. (2018). *The Palgrave handbook of ethics in critical research*. Palgrave Macmillan.
9. Newton, L. *Business ethics in the social context: Law, profits, and the evolving moral practice of business* (SpringerBriefs in Ethics). Springer.
10. Rubin, J. R., & Carmichael, B. (2018). *Reset: Business and society in the new social landscape*. Columbia University Press.
11. Schwartz, M. S. (2017). *Business ethics: An ethical decision-making approach* (Foundations of Business Ethics; Vol. 10). Wiley Blackwell.
12. Vaduva, S., Alistar, V. T., Thomas, A. R., Lupițu, C. D., & Neagoie, D. S. (2016). *Moral leadership in business: Towards a business culture of integrity* (SpringerBriefs in Business). Springer.
13. Vaduva, S., Alistar, V. T., Thomas, A. R., Lupițu, C. D., & Neagoie, D. S. (2016). *Moral leadership in business: Towards a business culture of integrity* (SpringerBriefs in Business). Springer.
14. Zoja, L. (2007). *Ethics & analysis: Philosophical perspectives and their application in therapy* (Carolyn and Ernest Fay Series in Analytical Psychology; No. 13). Texas A&M University Press.

* *The above schedule and procedures are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.*

Протокол засідання кафедр № 4 від 27.08.2024 року

Проректор з навчально-методичної роботи



Л.І.Кондратенко

Зав.кафедри



Г.А.Бевзо

Викладач



Г.А.Бевзо