

PRE-REQUISITE(S)

No pre-requisite is required

CREDIT HOURS

4

SYNOPSIS

This module is the foundation for business sustainability. It is critical to foster students' understanding of the ethical influences on economic, financial, managerial and environmental aspects of business. Students should develop the ability to critically analyze ethical issues in business and its connectivity with corporate governance.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Critically assess the theoretical and practical implications of modern and social economic systems on ethics with a view to improve moral judgments in decision making.
- Examine the corporate governance aspects, economic viability and social and environmental impacts in problem solving using critical thinking and analytical skills.
- Develop effective leadership and communication skills to promote a healthier corporate environment.
- Develop a good practice of continues learning in respond to changing socio economic and ethical landscape.

TOPICS

Topic 1 Introduction

- What is Ethics?
- Moral vs. Non-moral Standards
- Religion and Morality
- Ethical Relativism
- Moral Principles & Limits of Conscience
- Morality and Personal Values / Individual Integrity and Responsibility
- Moral and Critical Reasoning

Topic 2 Normative Theories of Ethics

- Consequentialist v. Non-consequentialist Theories
- Psychological and Ethical Egoism
- Utilitarianism
- Kantian Ethics

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesized Moral Decision Making
Topic 3	<p>Economic Justice and Distribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nature of Justice • The Utilitarian View • The Libertarian Approach • John Rawls' Theory of Justice • Synthesized Moral Decision Making
Topic 4	<p>The Modern Company</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Limited-Liability Company • Corporate Moral Agency and Responsibility • Institutionalizing Ethics within the Company • Corporate Governance of the Modern Company • The Right Way to run a business • The Relationship Between Business Ethics and Corporate Governance • Define business ethics in the context of corporate governance • Ethical decision-making process and relevant models
Topic 5	<p>A Proposed Ethical Framework for Business Decision-Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moral philosophy and Ethical Reasoning: Resource for Decision Making • A framework for ethical decision-making in business and workplace • Using ethical decision-making to improve ethical decisions
Topic 6	<p>Modern Challenges in the Workplace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational Influence in Private Life • Information Retrieval • Working Conditions • Redesigning Work • Personal value vs organization value • Conflict resolution
Topic 7	<p>Employee's Ethical Outlook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obligations to the Company • Abuse of Official Position • Bribes and Kickbacks – how to handle difficult situations • Obligations to Third Parties • Self-Interest – how to resolve the issues • Obligation to your profession – value consideration • Professional Code of Ethics • Ethical dilemma – conflict resolution and problem solving
Topic 8	<p>Environmental Ethics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business and Ecology • Environmental Protection • Governance and Social Responsibility

- Prioritising ESG Consideration
- Leadership and Ethical Considerations
- Business ethics, corporate governance and strategic management – interactive perspective
- Impact of business ethics on governance and strategic leadership
- The Role of Corporate Culture in Business Ethics
- Whistleblowing – Relevant Consideration and proper problem-solving strategies

Topic 9 Laws and regulations governing businesses

- Limited Companies
- Public Companies
- Corporate Governance and Ethics Management in Professional Service Firms
- Ethical Issues in Financial Services
- Overview of business issues and the legal implications
- Consideration of liability and conformity in the business environment
- Develop good practices in response to market demand and new regulations
- To improve ethical landscape by incorporating the environmental and social aspects
- Set the right tune at the top – improve internal and external communication with all stakeholders

Consultation

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Continuous Assessment	%
Presentation of Short Synthesis Assignment	30
Metacognitive Discussion on Written Assessment work	20
Final Assessment	%
Open Book Exam	20
Written Assessment Report	20
Closed Book Exam	10

PRESCRIBED TEXT

Main:

Linda K. Trevino and Katherine A. Nelson, Managing Business Ethics, 7th Ed., (2018) Wiley Custom

Frank B. Cross, Legal Environment of Business, 19th Ed., (2018) South-Western Publishing Co.

William H. Shaw, Moral Issues in Business, 13th Ed., (2016) Cengage Learning

Ferrell, O.C., Business Ethics: Ethical Decision Making and Cases, 11th ED., (2017) Cengage Learning

Supplementary Readings:

Steiner, G.A. & Steiner, J.F., (2002), *Business, Government and Society – A Managerial Perspective*, 10th edn., McGraw Hill

L.K. Trevino, K.A. Managing Business Ethics – Straight Talk About How To Do It Right, 6th edition, (2014) Wiley

Ferrell O.C., *Business Ethics*, 10th Ed., Cengage Learning

Russ Shafer-Landau, *The Fundamentals of Ethics*, (2017), Oxford University Press Inc.

De George, R.T., (1999), *Business Ethics*, 5th edn., Macmillan

Velasquez, M.G., (2001), *Business Ethics*, 5th edn., Prentice-Hall

Shaw, W.H., (2001), *Social and Personal Ethics*, 4th edn. Wadsworth Publishing

Arthur, J., ed., (2001), *Morality and Moral Controversies*, 6th edn. Prentice-Hall

Pojman, L.P., (2001), *Ethical Theory: Classical and Contemporary Readings*, 4th edn. Wadsworth Publishing

Rachels, J., (2002), *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*, 4th edn. McGraw-Hill

Current articles on business ethics.