

Syllabus

Business/Philosophy/Administration of Justice 186: Business and Professional Ethics

Dr. David R. Simon

Office: MH 522

Spring, 2001

Hours: M 4:15-5:30; W 4:15-6:30

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Required Texts

Joel Henderson & David R. Simon, Crimes of the Criminal Justice System (Anderson, 1994), hereafter CCJS

Michael Brasswell et al (Eds.) Crime, Justice, & Ethics 3rd Ed (Anderson, 1999), hereafter CJE

David R. Simon & Frank Hagan, White-Collar Deviance (Allyn & Bacon, 1999), hereafter WCD

David R. Simon, Social Problems & The Sociological Imagination (McGraw-Hill, 1995), hereafter SPSI

Description & Objectives

This course provides insights in to both the causes of unethical behavior in business and the professions and into decision-making processes that are a vital part of professional life. Students will learn:

- *Current philosophical conceptions and definitions of ethics
- *A sociological paradigm for the analysis of unethical behavior
- *The nature and scope of unethical behavior in business, political life, and in the criminal justice system
- *Apply the concepts learned in business and professional contexts
- *Appreciate the cultural diversity in global business, government, and criminal justice
- *To critically examine their own ethical and ideological systems of thought.

Prerequisites

This is a general education course open only to upper-division students. Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) and completion of the Core GE courses are also required.

Suggested Readings

John Richardson, Ed, Annual Editions Business Ethics

David R. Simon, Elite Deviance 6th Ed (Allyn & Bacon, 1999)

Grading Criteria:

Research Project _____ 33%

Students will complete a research project in ideological content analysis related to course areas. Directions are attached.

Midterm & Final Examinations 33% each

_____ These will be based on textual readings and class meetings. Tests will be short answer and essay in nature.

Written Ethics Exercises --Extra Credit

These are a series of four written homework assignments designed to examine and resolve ethical problems in specific situations.

Grading Scale

The grading scale for exams and papers is as follows:

96-100: A+

93-95: A

90-92: A-

86-89: B+

83-85: B

80-82: B-

75-79: C+

65-74: C
60-65: C-
56-59: D+
53-55: D
50-52: D-
Below 50: F

Tentative Course Outline

Week # Topic Assignments

Part I: The Study of Ethics

Week 1	Introduction to Ethics	CJE, Ch. 1; SPSI, Ch. 1

Week 2	Consequentialist, Deontological, & Humanist Ethics	CJE, Chs. 2 & 3

Week 3	An Ethical Paradigm	CCJS, Chs. 1& 2 SPSI, Ch. 4

Week 4	Causes of Unethical Behavior	WCD, Ch. 1&2

Part II: Unethical Dimensions in Business & The Professions

Week 5	Corporate Deviance	SPSI, Chs. 2 & 3

Week 6	Occupational & Professional Deviance	WCD, Ch. 4 & 5

Week 7	Organized White-Collar Deviance	WCD, Ch. 6; CCJS, Ch. 4

Part III: Unethical Dimensions of Political Governmental Behavior

Week 8 Modern Scandal	CJE, Ch. 7; SPSI, Ch. 4
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Week 9 Police Deviance	CJE, Chs. 4 & 6
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Week 10 Ethics & The Courts	CJE, Chs. 9 & 12
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Week 11 Ethical Issues in Corrections	CJE, Chs. 14 & 15; CCJS, Ch. 3
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Week 12 Ethical Issues in Policy	CJE, CJE, Ch. 19 & 21; SPSI, CH. 6
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Week 13 Ethical Issues In Research	SPSI, Ch. 5; CJE, Chs. 17 & 18
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Week 14 Dealing With Ethical Crises	CJE, Ch. 21; SPSI, Ch. 6; WCD, Chs. 7
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Week 15 Ethics in the 21st Century	CJE, Ch. 22; WCD, Ch. 8; CCJS, Ch. 7
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Week 16 Final Examination	