

San José State University
College of Humanities and the Arts/Philosophy Dept.
BUS/PHIL 186

Professional and Business Ethics

Section 9

Spring, 2016

Instructor:	Peter Hadreas
Office Location:	232 Faculty Office Bldg.
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Email:	Peter.Hadreas@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Wed. 2:00 to 4:00 and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30 – 11:45
Classroom:	Dudley Moorhead Hall 149B
Prerequisites:	Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C- not accepted), completion of Core General Education and upper division standing are prerequisites to all SJSU studies courses. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W is strongly recommended.
SJSU Studies Category:	Area: S

Catalog Description

Interdisciplinary study of types of ethical problems which arise within the contexts of business occupations and professions. Major ethical theories, critique of economic and criminal justice. Focus is on issues of justice and equality in the U.S. Case studies.

Student Learning Objectives

- 1: Students will be able to describe how identities (i.e. religious, gender, ethnic, racial, class, sexual orientation, disability, and/or age) are shaped by cultural and societal influences within contexts of equality and inequality.
- 2: Students will be able to describe historical, social, political, and economic processes producing diversity, equality, and structured inequalities in the U.S.
- 3: Students will be able to describe social actions which have led to greater equality and social justice in the U.S. (i.e. religious, gender, ethnic, racial, class, sexual orientation, disability, and/or age).

4: Students will be able to recognize and appreciate constructive interactions between people from different cultural, racial, and ethnic groups within the U.S.

Required Texts

1. Trevino L. & Nelson, K, *Managing Business Ethics*, Sixth Edition, 2014. Wiley, ISBN: 978-1-118-58267 paperback.

This book is abbreviated below as **MBE**.

2. Marino, Gordon, *Ethics: The Essential Writings*, Modern Library, 2010, ISBN: 978-0-8129-7778-2; eBook ISBN: 978-1-588-36801-0. This book is abbreviated below as **E**.

Canvas Website:

<https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1183265>

Additional readings can be accessed by clicking the 'Module' tab on the canvas website.

Classroom Protocol:

Turn off cell-phones while in class and refrain from laptop surfing.

Possible Class Cancellation

The California Faculty Association is in the midst of a difficult contract dispute with management. It is possible that the faculty union will call a strike or other work stoppage this term. I will inform the class as soon as possible of any disruption to our class meeting schedule.

ORIENTATION OF THIS CLASS.

Having taught Professional and Business Ethics for nearly thirty years, I, -- Peter Hadreas, your instructor -- have come to believe that oftentimes this will be the only philosophy course that students of Bus/Phil 186 will take at San José State. I profoundly believe that students will benefit reading and discussing some works which are philosophical classics in ethics. This does not mean that, in any way, I want to lessen the highly valuable encounter students should have with ethical issues that occur solely in the workplace. Rather, the preparation for the encounter of ethical issues in the workplace requires a broader philosophical basis from what is often offered in Professional and Business textbooks. So, as you will see from the schedule of readings and discussions for this section, there are several assignments from Gordon Marino's book, *Ethics: The Essential Writings*. In the long-run, and perhaps in the short-run as well, you will find that these readings satisfy your desire for understanding what ethics is about and why it is important not only for success in your careers but, as well, for your own personal development.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING POLICY

1. The five reading quizzes will consist in five true/false and/or multiple-choice questions. The quizzes are given to incentivize students to do the reading and/or attend discussions. The quizzes will not be difficult if students have done the assigned readings.
2. Midterm Exam: The midterm will be made up of multiple-choice questions.
3. There will be two papers, four to five pages long on assigned topics.
4. Final Exam: The final exam will have two parts. One part will be multiple choice. A second part will involve responding to an essay question. Students in advanced general education classes are required to do some in-class writing. The writing section of the final exam will satisfy that requirement.
5. Extra-credit: A student can replace the grade on any quiz or make up for any quiz missed by arranging with the instructor to make a ten to fifteen minute presentation on an ethical problem they have encountered. In the presentation you should refer to some basic ethical theory: Utilitarianism, Kant's duty-based ethics, Aristotle's virtue ethics or Noddings', ethics of care.
6. Amount of Writing: Advanced General Education courses at SJSU require a minimum of 3000 words of writing, including in-class and out-of-class assignments. Since the two papers are each five pages long and the final exam will involve an in-class written essay, we'll satisfy the 3000 word requirement for Advanced G. E. courses.
7. Research: both of the papers need to have at least two outside sources cited (besides the textbooks) in support of your writing. The sources can be published books, national magazines, or newspapers, as consulted online or through a library. Blogs are not acceptable research sources.
8. The Weighting of Assignments in Computing the Course Grade: Five quizzes (4% each) for 20%; two papers, 20% each; midterm, 20% and final exam, 20%.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic integrity

Students are expected to be familiar with the University's Academic Integrity Policy. Please review this at http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct.

SJSU professors are required to prosecute cases of academic dishonesty. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in disciplinary action, likely in a failing grade and/or sanctions by the University.

Students need to be especially careful about copying texts from the Internet. Material from the Internet needs to be cited just as much as hard copy materials from books, articles or journals.

All assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires the approval of the instructor.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Students with disabilities need to register with San Jose State University Accessible Education Center (AEC), formerly known as the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The Center is located in ADMIN 110, Telephone 408-924-6000; email aec-info@sjsu.edu

Special accommodations for exams generally require ample notice -- at least a week -- to the testing office and should be submitted to the instructor well in advance before the exam date.

U. S. Department of Education Policy

U. S. Department of Education document GEN-11-06 published on October 29, 2010 requires that the following language describing time spent outside of class be included in the syllabus:

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each hour of class time, a minimum of two hours on preparation, studying or other course related activity. Internships, labs and online courses will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers.

BUS/PHIL 186 Course Schedule

(Note: subject to change with fair notice.)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/28	Introduction to This Course
2	2/2-4	<p style="text-align: center;">Definition of Ethics and How Does Ethics Differ From Law?</p> <p>Readings: MBE, Chapter 1, pp. 2 -18 and E pp. 357-377. Thursday, 2/4, there will be reading quiz #1 on E pp. 357-377, "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." The quiz will be taken approximately ten minutes before class ends.</p>
3	2/9-11	<p style="text-align: center;">Why Be Ethical? Three Answers.</p> <p>Readings: in E pp. 24-37, <i>The Crito</i>. Read in E pp. 441-444 from "Caring a Feminine Approach to Ethics and Moral Education," and read selections from Confucius which you can also find on the canvas website.</p> <p>Thursday, 2/11 there will be a short quiz reading quiz (#2) on the assigned readings approximately ten minutes before class ends.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2/11: Paper topics for first 4-5 page paper handed out.</p>
4	2/16-18	<p style="text-align: center;">Main Ethical Theories</p> <p>Readings: in MBE Chapter 2 and in E pp. 228 -234 from Mill's <i>Utilitarianism</i> and in E pp. 217-224 from Kant's <i>Fundamental Principles of the Metaphysics of Morals</i>. Thursday, 2/18 there will be a short reading quiz (#3) on the assigned readings approximately ten minutes before class ends.</p>

5	2/23-25	<p>Readings: From E, pp. 71-80 beginning with third paragraph on p. 71. Further information on Aristotle's virtue ethics will be presented in class.</p> <p>2/25: History and Pros and Cons of Capitalism</p>
6	3/1-3	History and Pros and Cons of capitalism continued
7	3/8-10	<p>Readings: MBE: Chapter 3, and in E pp. 334 to 349, "From Cruelty to Goodness."</p> <p>Thursday, 3/8 there will be a short quiz reading quiz (#4) on MBE, pp. 76-83 and E, pp. 334-349, "From Cruelty to Goodness."</p>
8	3/15-17	<p>Readings: MBE: Chapter 4 to page 126: Individuals' Common Ethical Problems Discrimination and Conflict of Interest. Read "What is Glass- Steagall?" which is available on the course canvas website.</p> <p>Review questions for midterm handed out</p>
9	3/22-24	<p>3/22: Preparation in class for midterm exam 3/24: Midterm exam</p>
		March 28 to April 1: Spring Recess
10	4/5-7	<p>April 5, First four to five page paper due. Readings: MBE: Chapter 4 to pages 126-148. Read "Death of Corporate Reputation" available on canvas website.</p>
11	4/12-14	<p>Readings: MBE chapter 5. Read in E, pp. 351-355, "The Disparity Between Intellect and Character."</p> <p>Paper topics for second paper handed out</p>
12	4/19-21	<p>Readings: MBE chapter 10. 4/21: View Video in class ""A Dangerous Business Revisited." About McWane, Inc.</p>
13	4/26-28	Readings: MBE: Chapter 11: Read E pp. 310-320, "Anthropology and the Abnormal"
14	5/3-5	<p>Readings: MBE Chapter 11 continued. Read E, pp. 322-327, "Trying out one's new Sword"</p> <p>May 5, second 4 to 5 page paper due.</p>

15	5/10-12	<p>5/10 Review questions for final example passed out and discussed.</p> <p>5/10 short reading quiz (#5) on E, pp. 322-327 “Trying out one’s new Sword”</p> <p>5/12 practice final exam taken in class.</p>
		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Final Exam Time:</u> <u>Tuesday, May 14, 9:45-12:00</u></p>