

**San José State University**  
**College of Humanities/Philosophy**

**BUS/PHIL, 186, Business Ethics, Section 02, Fall, 2015**

**Course and Contact Information**

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|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Instructor:</b>      | Tony Nguyen   |
| <b>Office Location:</b> | FACULTY OFFICE 205  |
| <b>Telephone:</b>       | (408) 784-8729  |
| <b>Email:</b>           | Tony.nguyen@SJSU.EDU  |
| <b>Office Hours:</b>    | MW: 10:30 – 11:30 AM  |
| <b>Class Days/Time:</b> | MW: 7:30 – 8:45 AM  |
| <b>Classroom:</b>       | DUDLEY MOOREHEAD 208  |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Passing the Writing Skills Test (WST).</li><li>2. 100W (for all Self, Society, and Equality in the U. S. courses).</li><li>3. Upper division standing (60 units).</li><li>4. Completion of Core General Education.</li></ol> |

**GE/SJSU Studies Category:** Courses to meet Areas R, S, and V of SJSU Studies must be taken from three different departments, or distinct academic units.

**Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas (<https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1162614>).

**Course Description**

The class studies the types of ethical problems that occur within the business and professional context. We will learn and apply major ethical theories, critiques of economic justice, and decision-making techniques to businesses.

**Learning Outcomes and Course Goals**

Bus/Phil 186 meets the SJSU Studies, Area S, Self, Society & Equality in the U. S. The course objectives

for Area S courses will be pursued throughout the course. In keeping with those objectives, upon successfully completing the course, students should be able to describe:

- a. How religious, gender, ethnic, racial class, sexual orientation, disability, and/or age identity are shaped by cultural and social influences in contexts of equality and inequality.
- b. The historical, social, political, and economic processes producing diversity, equality, and structured inequalities in the U. S.
- c. The social actions by religious, gender, ethnic, racial, class, sexual orientation, disability, and/or age groups leading to greater equality and social justice in the U. S.
- d. Recognize and appreciate constructive interactions between people from different cultural, racial, and ethnic groups in the U. S.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

1. Shaw W., *Moral Issues in Business*, 13<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2013. Cengage L, ISBN: 978-1-111-83742-6.
2. One Daily Newspapers (Aldaily.com, Mercurynews.com, Sacbee.com, Nytimes.com, Washingtonpost.com, wsj.com)

### Other Readings

1. What is the Purpose of Money in Our Lives? ([http://www.finishrich.com/pdf/scfr\\_chapter.pdf](http://www.finishrich.com/pdf/scfr_chapter.pdf)).
2. The Story of Stuff (<http://www.storyofstuff.com/>)
3. Tedtalk: Hans Rosling: “Global Growth Box by Box”
  - a. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTznEIZRkLg>
4. Food Forward “The US of Agriculture” <http://video.pbs.org/video/2365301555/>
5. The Reality of Peak Oil: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zT2NV8PUQPg>
6. Ted Talk: Charles Moore: Sea of Plastic <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7K-nq0xkWY>
7. Water: Cadillac Desert. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MpaC4R6cU1o>

## Course Requirements, Assignments & Grading Policy

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

- |   |                 |     |
|---|-----------------|-----|
| 1. Very Short paper   | (900 – 1000 wd) | 10% |
| 2. Two 2 term papers  | (1100 – 1200)   | 50% |
| 3. Final paper  | (1400 – 1500)   | 35% |
| 4. Participation  |                 | 5%  |
| 5. -10% for late work. Late work = papers not turned in on time <i>in class</i> , when I collect them. Do not submit the papers electronically. They create a lot of extra work for me and will get lost. |                 |     |
| 6. Extra credit. +1 % for each event. +5% max.  |                 |     |

Speakers will talk informatively on professional and business ethics at San Jose State. Should such events

occur, students who attend the events and write a 1 page report on the speaker's talk may receive extra-credit.

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

*For upper division courses (R, S, V) include the following paragraph:*

*“Students are strongly encouraged to take courses to satisfy GE Areas R, S, and V from departments other than their major department. Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C not accepted), and completion of Core General Education are prerequisite to all SJSU Studies courses. Completion of, or co--registration in, 100W is strongly recommended. A minimum aggregate GPA of 2.0 in GE Areas R, S, & V shall be required of all students.” See [University Policy S14-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-5.pdf>.*

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

## **Classroom Protocol**

1. Read and prepare for discussion and debate challenging ideas.
2. Be open minded, but be able to stand for something.
3. Turn off Cell-phones, Facebook, IM and other distractions. This *really* bothers me.
4. Ask plenty of questions.

## **University Policies**

### **General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student**

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See [University Policy S90-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbggen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbggen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### **Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “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.”
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

### **Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

### **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. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

### **Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to

make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

## Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

## SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

## SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to



scan this code.)

## **SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

## Course Number / Title, Semester, Course Schedule

The schedule is subject to change with fair notice using canvas.

### Course Schedule

| Week | Date  | Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines  |
|------|-------|---|
| 1    | 8/24  | Syllabus, Website and adds at the end of class.<br>Watch - The Story of Stuff ( <a href="http://www.storyofstuff.com/">http://www.storyofstuff.com/</a> )   |
| 1    | 8/26  | What is Business Ethics? What is the Meaning of Life?<br>Read: What is the Purpose of Money in Our Lives?<br>( <a href="http://www.finishrich.com/pdf/scfr_chapter.pdf">http://www.finishrich.com/pdf/scfr_chapter.pdf</a> ). Start Paper #1. |
| 2    | 8/31  | Chp 1: Nature of Morality   |
| 2    | 9/2   | Chp 1: Nature of Morality<br><b>Paper #1 Due</b><br>9/1 last day to drop w/o entry on student's permanent record.   |
| 3    | 9/7   | Chp 1: Nature of Morality   |
| 3    | 9/9   | Chapter 2: Normative Theories of Ethics<br>Last Day to Add  |
| 4    | 9/14  | Chapter 2: Normative Theories of Ethics   |
| 4    | 9/16  | Chapter 2: Normative Theories of Ethics   |
| 5    | 9/21  | Chapter 3: Justice and Economic Distribution.   |
| 5    | 9/23  | Chapter 3: Justice and Economic Distribution.   |
| 6    | 9/28  | Chapter 3: Justice and Economic Distribution.   |
| 6    | 9/30  | Chapter 4: The Nature of Capitalism   |
| 7    | 10/5  | Chapter 4: The Nature of Capitalism   |
| 7    | 10/7  | Chapter 4: The Nature of Capitalism.<br>Discuss Paper#2 Topics  |
| 8    | 10/12 | Chapter 5: Corporations   |
| 8    | 10/14 | Chapter 5: Corporations<br>Paper#2 Due  |
| 9    | 10/19 | Chapter 6: The Consumers & Consumerism  |
| 9    | 10/21 | Chapter 6: The Consumers & Consumerism  |
| 10   | 10/26 | Chapter 6: The Consumers & Consumerism  |

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|-------------|-------|---|
| 10          | 10/28 | <p>What are the Top 5 Environmental Problems facing us?</p> <p>1. Population: Tedtalk: Hans Rosling: “Global Growth Box by Box”.<br/> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTznEIZRkLg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTznEIZRkLg</a>.</p> <p>2. Water: Cadillac Desert. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MpaC4R6cU1o">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MpaC4R6cU1o</a></p>  |
| 11          | 11/2  | <p>What are the Top 5 Environmental Problems facing us?</p> <p>3. Food: Food Forward “The US of Agriculture”<br/> <a href="http://video.pbs.org/video/2365301555/">http://video.pbs.org/video/2365301555/</a></p> <p>4. Energy: The Reality of Peak Oil:<br/> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zT2NV8PUQPg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zT2NV8PUQPg</a></p> <p>5. Pollution: Ted Talk: Charles Moore: Sea of Plastic<br/> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7K-nq0xkWY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7K-nq0xkWY</a></p> |
| 11          | 11/4  | Chp 7: Environment  |
| 12          | 11/9  | Chapter 8: Workplace Issues Part I. Discuss Paper#3   |
| 12          | 11/11 | Veterans Day No Class   |
| 13          | 11/16 | Chapter 8: Workplace Issues Part I.   |
| 13          | 11/18 | Chapter 9: Workplace Issues Part II.<br>Paper #3 Due.   |
| 14          | 11/23 | Chapter 9: Workplace Issues Part II.  |
| 14          | 11/25 | Chapter 10: Moral Issues Facing Employees   |
| 15          | 11/30 | Chapter 10: Moral Issues Facing Employees   |
| 15          | 12/2  | Chapter 11: Job Discrimination.   |
| 16          | 12/7  | Chapter 11: Job Discrimination.   |
| Final Paper | 12/14 | <b>Final Papers due on Weds 12/14 by 1pm in my mailbox @ FO 201</b>   |