

**San José State University  
Humanities and the Arts/Department of Philosophy  
Philosophy/Business 186**

**Professional and Business Ethics, Online**

**Fall 2015**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Carlos A. Sanchez
<b>Office location:</b>	Faculty Offices 211
<b>Telephone:</b>	924-7581
<b>Email:</b>	Use Canvas messaging system
<b>Office hours:</b>	Online—message me with any questions; I'll respond as soon as possible.
<b>Class days/time:</b>	Online Course
<b>Classroom:</b>	<a href="http://sjsu.instructure.com">http://sjsu.instructure.com</a>
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Upper Division Standing or Instructor Consent.
<b>GE/SJSU Studies Category, if applicable</b>	Area S, "Self, Society, and Equality in the U.S."

**VERY IMPORTANT NOTE: "Courses to meet Areas R, S, and V of SJSU Studies must be taken from three different departments, or distinct academic units."**

**Course Description and Goals**

This is an online course. The course involves an interdisciplinary study of ethical and moral issues which arise within the contexts and as a result of business and the professions. It involves a study of major ethical theories, critique of economic justice, and decision-making techniques. Our primary focus is on issues of justice and equality in the US facilitated by case studies and group discussion.

## Faculty Web Page

<http://www.sjsu.edu/people/carlos.sanchez/>

### GE Learning Outcomes

Bus/JS/Phil 186 meets SJSU Studies Area S, “Self, Society, and 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:**

- a. Describe 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. Describe historical, social, political, and economic processes producing diversity, equality, and structured inequalities in the U.S.;
- c. Describe 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.; and
- d. Recognize and appreciate constructive interactions between people from different cultural, racial, and ethnic groups in the U.S.

### Required Texts/Readings

**Textbook:** Fritz Allhoff & Anand J. Vaidya (2008). *Business in Ethical Focus: An Anthology*. Broadview Press. ISBN: 978-1-55111-661-7

### Classroom Protocol

It is useful for the instructor to communicate philosophical theories but nothing can replace the learning that takes place when philosophical topics are discussed thoughtfully and intelligently in students-students and student-instructor interchange. Class discussions and topics discussed by students in groups will be the preferred form of classroom activity.

### Dropping and Adding

You are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. found at [http://sa.sjsu.edu/student\\_conduct](http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct). You should be aware of the new deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

## Assignments and Grading Policy

### Grade Distribution:

a) Quizzes (15 quizzes/30 points each)	450 points	45% of grade
b) Response Paper (1 papers)	200	20%
c) Participation (case discussion/web posts)	300	30%
d) Final Exam (short answer)	50	5%
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	1000	100%

- a. The 15 quizzes will consist of 10 questions each; they will be made up of multiple choice, true and false, fill-in and short-answer questions. The quizzes will cover readings (**both those posted online and from the Text**), videos, lectures, and case studies.
- b. Advanced GE courses require a minimum of 3000 words of writing, including in-class (discussion posts) and out-of-class assignments (research paper). In this course, you will **write term 1 paper**. Follow these instructions for the paper:
  - i. **PAPER:**
    1. Choose 5 DIFFERENT CASE STUDIES (these can be those we discuss or those we don't; as long as they are from the TEXT, any cases study will work).
    2. You are to analyze the case studies using ONLY ONE of the following ethical theories: Kantian Deontology, Utilitarianism, Ethics of Care Theory, or Virtue Ethics.
    3. Make sure you provide a paragraph that accurately describes the theory you will be using.
    4. Make sure you describe the case study before you apply the theory.
    5. Provide a general assessment of the paper: What have you learned?
  - ii. Please refer to the Announcements on the Homepage of Canvas for more detailed information about these assignments.
  - iii. This paper should be **no less than 8 full pages and no more than 10**. This papers should be well written, typed, doubled spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman (Or equivalent font). No cover sheet needed. Include proper citation.
  - iv. Submit the paper on the day it is due no later than midnight (Pacific Time) on Canvas or, if that is not possible, to [prof.carlossanchez@gmail.com](mailto:prof.carlossanchez@gmail.com).
  - v. The Due Date is listed below.
  - vi. **It is highly recommended** that students who NEED help with English paper-writing make use of available resources.
- c. Although you will not be graded on attendance, you will be graded on participation: each week (day in summer/winter courses) you are expected to **take a position on that week's case study and post it on the Discussion Board**. By the end of the semester you should have posted 15 times.
  - i. Read the Case Study.

- ii. Read the Chapter in the Text corresponding to the topic for that week.
  - iii. View the Case Study discussion Video posted (some will not have videos).
  - iv. Take an informed position on the Case Study and post that position on the Discussion Board. By “informed” I mean that you should use the language of the Textbook.
  - v. The post should be between 3-10 sentences long, or an average sized paragraph.
  - vi. You can either continue someone else’s post with your own, respond to someone else’s post with your own, or start a new post for yourself.
  - vii. These *will not* be graded; however, each post will count toward your final grade (each is roughly 2% of your overall grade for a total of 30% of the overall grade). I will monitor these carefully, and respond to some when it is necessary.
- d. The Final exam will consist of a case study that you will then analyze, answering three short-answer questions. It is worth 5% of the grade.

## **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](http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct). “Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University’s integrity policy, require 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.”

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. 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 a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, 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 approval of instructors.”

### **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 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

Special accommodations for exams require ample notice to the testing office and must be submitted to the instructor well in advance of the exam date.

## **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the new Academic Success Center located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Student Union. Additional labs are found in the Philosophy Departments Paul Schmidt Philosophy Center. 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 digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, screens and monitors.

## **Learning Assistance Resource Center**

The Learning Assistance Resource Center is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The Learning Assistance Resource Center is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center.

## **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.

## Phil/Bus 186 Course Schedule

*(Note: It is extremely important that you continue checking this schedule as you go!)*

Date	Topics	Activities (to be completed every week; see Section 6, a through b, above)
August 20-23	Unit 1: Moral Reasoning and Business Ethics, Introduction to Course	Read: Text, <b>Pages 11-21</b> (Remember: the Quiz <i>may</i> contain questions from the Text) View/Read: Lecture I Read Case Study: "Hacking into Harvard" (online PDF) Participate: In-class case study discussion. Evaluation: Quiz 1 by SUNDAY 23 <sup>RD</sup> @ Midnight
Aug. 24-30	Unit 2: Causes and Cures of Personal Misconduct <b>**The PAPER is due on November 1st at midnight.</b>	Read: Text, none View/Read: Lecture 2 Read Case Study: "Parable of the Sadhu" (online PDF). View: video modeling case study discussions. Participate: In-class case study discussion. Evaluation: Quiz 2
Aug. 31-Setp. 6	Unit 3: Utilitarianism	Read: Text, p. 53-62. View/Read: Lecture 3 View: video modeling case study discussion. Read Case Study 9: "Nestle and Advertising," pg. 640. Participate: In-class case study discussion. Evaluation: Quiz 3
Sept. 7-13	Unit 4: Kant	Read: Text, pages 29-34 View/Read: Lecture 4 View: Case Study

		<p>Read: “Challenger” case study (PDF) in Canvas.</p> <p>Participate: online discussion</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 4</p>
Sept. 14-20	Unit 5: Rawls	<p>Read: Text, pages 498-512</p> <p>View/Read: Lecture 5</p> <p>View: Model case study discussion</p> <p>Read: Case study 4, “Email and Privacy”, page: 318</p> <p>Participate: In-class case study discussion.</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 5</p>
Sept. 21-27	Unit 6: Virtue Ethics	<p>Read: Text, pages 46-52</p> <p>View/Read: Lecture 6</p> <p>View: Model case study discussion</p> <p>Read: “Enron” case study PDF in Canvas</p> <p>Participate: online discussion</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 6</p>
Sept. 28- Oct. 4	Unit 7: Care Ethics	<p>Read: Text, 35-41</p> <p>View/Read: Lecture 7</p> <p>View: Case Study</p> <p>Read: “Housing Allowance” case study in Shaw, 10.4.</p> <p>Participate: online discussion</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 7</p>
Oct. 5-11	Unit 8: Theories of Justice	<p>Read: Text, 513-532</p> <p>View: Lecture 8</p> <p>View: Case Study</p> <p>Read: “One Nation Under Walmart,” Shaw, 4.3.</p> <p>Participate: online discussion</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 8</p>
Oct. 12-18	Unit 9: Capitalism	<p>Read: Text, 539-549</p>

		<p>View/Read: Lecture 9</p> <p>View: Case Study</p> <p>Read: “Blood for Sale,” Shaw, 2.3.</p> <p>Participate: In-class case study discussion.</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 9</p>
Oct. 19-25	Unit 10: Corporate Social Responsibility	<p>Read: Text, pages 65-78</p> <p>View/Read: Lecture 10</p> <p>View: Case Study: “Shipbreakers”</p> <p>Read: “Shipbreakers” Case Study in Canvas.</p> <p>Participate: In-class case study discussion.</p> <p>Respond: online discussion</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 10</p>
Oct. 26- Nov. 1	Unit 11: Global Issues in Business	<p>Read: Text, pp. 131-188.</p> <p>View/Read: Lecture 11</p> <p>*There is no Video Discussion for this Case Study</p> <p>Read: Case Study, “Intellectual Property Across National Borders,” p. 577.</p> <p>Participate: online discussion</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 11</p>
Nov. 2-8	Unit 12: Consumers	<p>Read: Text, pp. 583-626</p> <p>View/Read: Lecture 12</p> <p>Read: “Face transplant” Case study PDF on Canvas.</p> <p>View: Case Study Discussion</p> <p>Participate: In-class case study discussion.</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 12</p>
Nov. 9-15	Unit 13: Employment at Will	<p>Read: Text, pp. 255-266.</p> <p>View: Lecture 13</p> <p>View: *There is no video discussion</p>

		<p>for this week.</p> <p>Read: “Lifestyle and Your Neighborhood,” Case Study in Text, p. 316.</p> <p>Participate: Discussion board questions/posts</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 13</p>
Nov. 16-22	Unit 14: Discrimination	<p>Read: Text, p. 326-336</p> <p>View: Lecture 14</p> <p>View: Case Study Discussion Vid</p> <p>Read: Case Study in Text, “Sexual Harassment in the Workplace,” p. 458.</p> <p>Participate: Discussion board questions/posts</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 14</p>
Nov 23-Dec. 6	Unit 15: Professional Responsibility	<p>Read: No Text Readings</p> <p>View: Lecture 15</p> <p>View: Case Study Discussion</p> <p>Read: “VT Professor” Case Study in Canvas (PDF).</p> <p>Participate: Discussion board questions/posts</p> <p>Evaluation: Quiz 15</p>
<b>December 11</b>	<b>Final Exam—I will open the exam on December 10 @ 5 a.m. and close it on December 11 at 11:59 p.m. You will have to write your responses and submit them on Canvas through turnitin.com. Good luck.</b>	Evaluation: Final Exam.