

**BUSINESS ETHICS - BUSN 360A****Syllabus  
Spring 2019**

Class Location: HH337  
Prof. Sara Edwards, J.D.  
Office Hours: M/F 8-10

Class time: 12:30-1:20 – MWF  
Office: HH 233  
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is an introduction to ethics and its application to current issues in business, with a focus on ethical issues raised by globalization. We will look closely at the concept of moral responsibility and various theories of ethics. We will examine selected contemporary ethical issues in business such as leadership, consumer rights, employee rights, ethics and the environment, deceptive advertising, affirmative action, international trade, and the behavior of multinational corporations.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Upon completion of this course, students should be able to reason ethically by drawing on several major theories of ethics. Students should be able to normatively assess individual, professional and organizational business decisions. Students should also be able to articulate their understanding of the ethical concept of balancing business with consumer health, rights, and justice. Students should be able to reflect on their own ethical decision-making process and actions, and understand what it means to be morally responsible for one's actions in the global community.

**TEXT:** (text will be provided by Shoop) *O.C. Ferrell, John Fraedrich, and Linda Ferrell (2017) Business Ethics: Ethical Decision Making and Cases (11<sup>th</sup> Ed.)*

**GRADED ASSIGNMENTS:** We will have six quizzes (approximately every 2 chapters) throughout the semester. Each quiz will be worth 100 points. We will also have several short essay assignments of 2-3 pages each (50 points), and one research paper worth 150 points. The standard grading scale will be used.

**ELECTRONIC MEDIA:** Laptops, cellphones, tablets and other media have become a natural part of our lives and as a result will naturally be brought into the classroom and even utilized during class time. Studies show that these devices, if used judiciously, can greatly enhance the learning that can take place. However, if these devices are misused, they can also cause significant distractions for both individuals and groups of people and subsequently cause a general reduction in the learning experience. Therefore some rules and guidelines must be observed if these devices are brought into the learning environment. While class is in session, any and all usage of these electronic devices must be for the express purpose of facilitating learning for this course only, like taking notes or looking up references to concepts or



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phenomena mentioned in class. Any other usage of these devices, such as texting, using social media, playing video games, or working on other classes, may result in the student being asked to leave the class.

**ATTENDANCE:** If you need to miss a class, please let me know. If you have more than three unexcused absences during the semester, I reserve the right to lower your grade by one full letter.

**LATE WORK:** Late work will only be accepted with the permission of the instructor.

**DISABILITIES:** Please let me know if you have any disabilities as soon as possible. Arrangements will be made to assist you.

**PLAGIARISM:** Plagiarism is a serious breach of ethics and will not be tolerated.

**DISCLAIMER:** I reserve the right to modify, amend or change the syllabus as the curriculum and/or program requires. Students will be notified with sufficient time to complete their assignments.