

PHIL 2628 - Business Ethics

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 41536,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Dylan Dunn

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Instructor

Instructor Professional Qualifications:

M.A., Applied Philosophy and Ethics, Texas State University, 2025

B.A., Psychology, Texas State University, 2023

Course Description

2628. Business Ethics. Examines ethical problems in business, ethical responsibilities of business professional, and business as a global institution. Topics include the corporation, at-will employment, unions, technology, privacy, advertising, whistle-blowing, globalization, environmental impact, human rights, just distribution, affirmative action and cultural diversity. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Business Ethics: The Big Picture, ed.	Broadview Press	978-1554814305
	Mark C. Vopat and Alan Tomhave		
Required	Additional Readings on Various Topics (provided in Blackboard)		

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Review syllabus Content Exploration Ensure access to all content Class Introduction (Discussion Board)	Course Intro	All work due: 08/30
8/31	(Video): What is Morality? (Reading): Textbook: 6. On the Disconnect Between Business and Professional Ethics QUIZ 1 Discussion 1	What is Morality?	All work due: 09/06
9/7	(Video): The Challenge of Cultural Relativism (Video): Subjectivism + Video Lecture: Notes on the Debate (Video): Morality and Religion? QUIZ 2 Discussion 2	Module 2 Moral Relativism Morality and Religion	All work due: 09/13



9/14	Textbook: Chapters 1–3 +(Video Lecture): Introduction to Moral Theory (Video): Social Contract Theory (Video): Utilitarianism (Video): Kantian Moral Theory/Kantianism QUIZ 3 Discussion 3	Module 3 Introduction to Moral Theory	All work due: 09/27
9/21	Module 3 Assignments (Contd.)	Module 3 (Contd.)	All work due: 09/27
9/28	Textbook: 8. Marx: The Communist Manifesto (+Video Lecture) Textbook: 9. Friedman: “The Responsibility of Business” (+Video Lecture) (Reading): Textbook: 10. Duska: “The Why’s of Business” (+Video Lecture) QUIZ 4 Discussion 4	Module 4 Getting Down to Business	All work due: 10/11
10/5	Module 4 Assignments (Contd.)	Module 4 (Contd.)	All work due: 10/11
10/12	Textbook: 13. Carr, “Is Business Bluffing Ethical” Textbook: 14. Gillespie, “Business of Ethics” QUIZ 5 Discussion 5	Module 5 Truthfulness in Business	All work due: 10/18
10/19	Textbook: 10. French, “Corporate Moral Agency” Textbook: 16. Danly, “Corporate Moral Agency: The Case for Anthropological Bigotry” Video Lecture: Corporate Moral Agency QUIZ 6 Discussion 6	Module 6 Corporate Moral Agency	All work due: 10/25
10/26	Case Study Presentation	Case Study	Due: 11/01
11/2	Textbook: 17. Orlando, “The Ethics of Corporate Downsizing” Textbook: 18. Cascio, “Decency Means More than ‘Always Low Prices’: A Comparison of Costco to Wal-Mart’s Sam’s Club” Video Lecture (Summative)	Module 7 The Aims of Business	All work due: 11/15
11/9	Module 7 Assignments (Contd.)	Module 7 (Contd.)	All work due: 11/15
11/16	Textbook: 22. Arrow, “Social Responsibility and Economic Efficiency” Textbook: 12. Satz, “Noxious Markets” Video Lecture (Summative) Discussion 8	Module 8 Responsible Markets	All work due: 11/22



11/23	Structured Debate Paper One of the Following: Textbook: 5. "On the Harmony of Feminist Ethics and Business Ethics," Borgerson Textbook: 11. "The Profit Motive," Flew Blackboard: "Whistleblowing and Employee Loyalty," Larmer Textbook: 21. "Managing for Stakeholders," Freeman Textbook: 20. "Beer and Free Lunches," Ariely Textbook: 23. "Business and Environmental Ethics," Hoffman [11/25–11/29: Holiday: Thanksgiving Break]	Module 9	Due: 12/07
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11/30	Structured Debate Paper (Contd.)	Module 9 (Contd.)	Due: 12/07
12/7	Structured Debate Paper (Contd.)		All work due: 12/07

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.