

PELLISSIPPI STATE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS

ETHICAL THEORY & ITS BUSINESS APPLICATIONS
PHL 2420

Class Hours: 3.0

Credit Hours: 3.0

Laboratory Hours: 0.0

**Date Revised: Fall
2001**

Catalog Course Description:

An introduction to moral philosophy and a consideration of moral issues related to business, including corporate responsibility, employee rights, discrimination, investment, and advertising.

Entry Level Standards:

Students must be able to read and write at a college level and must also be responsible enough to prepare for and attend class regularly.

Prerequisites:

None

Textbook(s) and Other Reference Materials Basic to the Course:

De George, Richard. *Business Ethics*, most recent edition. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, Inc.

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

Week	Topic
1	Introduction
2	Moral Reasoning in Business
3	Corporate Responsibility
4	The Regulation of Business
5	Protecting Consumers, Workers, & Environment
6	Protecting Consumers, Workers, & Environment
7	Rights & Obligations of Employers & Employees
8	Discrimination & Employment Practices
9	Discrimination & Employment Practices
10	Advertising & Disclosing Information

- 11 Accounting, Finance, & Investment
- 12 Accounting, Finance, & Investment
- 13 Theories of Economic Justice
- 14 Theories of Economic Justice
- 15 Review
- 16 Final Exam Period

II. Course Objectives*:

- A. Better understand philosophy. I, II, IV
- B. Better understand moral philosophy. I, II, IV
- C. Exhibit knowledge of several moral theories. I, II, IV
- D. Be aware of business related moral issues of our time. I, II, IV
- E. Exhibit an enhanced ability to critically judge the theories and issues considered in the course. I, II, IV
- F. Exhibit an enhanced ability to make and articulate philosophical judgements in regard to other issues. I, II, IV
- G. Exhibit an enhanced potential to live a life which is a manifestation of values selected autonomously and/or critically. I, II, IV

*Roman numerals after course objectives reference goals of the university parallel program.

III. Instructional Processes*:

Students will:

1. Read and study the chapters assigned. *Communication Outcome, Problem Solving and Decision Making Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome*
2. Attend lectures about the material in the relevant chapters. *Communication Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome*
3. Participate in classroom discussions of the relevant material. *Communication Outcome, Personal Development Outcome, Problem Solving and Decision Making Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome, Active Learning Strategy*
4. Write essays articulating their own ideas about the material studied and discussed. *Communication Outcome, Personal Development Outcome, Problem Solving and Decision Making Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome, Information Literacy Outcome, Transitional Strategy*
5. Search for ways in which these ideas are relevant in their lives. *Personal Development Outcome, Transitional Strategy*
6. Internalize the work ethic by regularly attending class, being punctual, being dependable, contributing to class discussions, cooperating with the teacher and classmates, and acting in

a professional manner while in class. *Personal Development Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome, Transitional Strategy*

*Strategies and outcomes listed after instructional processes reference Pellissippi State's goals for strengthening general education knowledge and skills, connecting coursework to experiences beyond the classroom, and encouraging students to take active and responsible roles in the educational process.

IV. Expectations for Student Performance*:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Define philosophy. A
2. Define moral philosophy. A, B
3. Distinguish between "morality" and moral philosophy. B,F,G
4. Distinguish between what is moral and what's prudent. B,F,G
5. Distinguish moral/immoral and legal/illegal. B,F,G
6. Explain the role of argumentation in philosophy/moral philosophy. A,G
7. Define/understand several basic logical terms. A-G
8. Define individual and cultural relativism. B,F,G
9. State arguments against individual and cultural relativism. B,E,F,G
10. Define psychological and ethical egoism. B,E,F,G
11. Explain why psychological egoism is necessarily true. B,E,F,G
12. Present arguments against ethical egoism. B,E,F,G
13. Explain the difference between moral theories that are teleological and deontological. B,C,E,F,G
14. Explain Mill's utilitarianism. B,C,E,F,G
15. Discuss major criticisms of utilitarian moral theories. B,C,E,F,G
16. Explain the moral philosophy of Kant. B,C,E,F,G
17. Discuss major criticisms of Kant's moral philosophy. B,C,E,F,G
18. Explain the moral philosophy of Ross. B,C,E,F,G
19. Explain various theories of distributive justice. B,C,E,F,G
20. Explain the two major theories of corporate responsibility. D,E,F,G
21. Define/discuss the so-called common good. A-G
22. Discuss problems associated with action intended to result in the common good. A-G

23. Discuss problems associated with business self-regulation. D,E,F,G
24. Discuss problems associated with government regulation of business. D, E, F, G
25. Discuss issues related to protection of consumers, workers, and the environment. D,E,F,G
26. Discuss the American ideology in regard to work and the common good. A-G
27. Define EAW and discuss the related moral issues. D,E,F,G
28. Discuss the complex relationship between work and self-respect. D,E,F,G
29. Discuss the right to work and other work related rights. D,E,F,G
30. Define affirmative action. D,E,F,G
31. Distinguish between strong and weak affirmative action. D,E,F,G
32. Give/evaluate arguments for and against strong affirmative action. D, E, F, G
33. Discuss moral issues/problems related to advertising. D,E,F,G
34. Distinguish between moral and immoral advertisements. D,E,F,G
35. Explain rival theories of justice. A-G
36. Discuss various philosophical accounts of freedom. A-G
37. Articulate their view of freedom. A-G
38. Articulate their view of work. A-G
39. Articulate their view of business and/or the proper role of business in society. A-G
40. Articulate their view in regard to what America ought to be/become. A-G

*Letters after performance expectations reference the course objectives listed above.

V. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures: 100% of grade

There will be a Mid-Term Exam and a Final Exam. Each exam will count as 25% of the course grade. In addition, there will be a number of quizzes. (Some of the quizzes may be unannounced.) The quizzes, together with attendance, will count for the other 50% of the course grade. Dishonesty of any kind can result in an "F" for the course.

B. Laboratory Expectations:

N/A

C. Field Work:

N/A

D. Other Evaluation Methods:

N/A

E. Grading Scale:

100-93 = A

92-88 = B+

87-83 = B

82-78 = C+

77-70 = C

69-62 = D

61-00 = F

VI. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State Technical Community College expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Dishonesty of any kind may result in an "F" for the course.