PELLISSIPPI STATE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS

ETHICAL THEORY & ITS BUSINESS APPLICATIONS
PHIL 2420

Class Hours: 3.0  Credit Hours: 3.0
Laboratory Hours: 0.0  Revised: Spring 05

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. A previous or concurrent course in basic economics, though not required, is recommended.

Prerequisites:
None

Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials:

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ethics in Business</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Ethical Theory and Reasoning</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Application of Ethical Principles</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Models of Corporate Responsibility</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Meaning of Work</td>
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<td>Value of Work</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Employee Rights</td>
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<td>Employee Responsibilities</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Product Safety</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Product Placement and Pricing</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Workplace Diversity</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Invidious Discrimination</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>The Environment</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Globalization</td>
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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 judgments 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 TBR's general education goals.

III. Instructional Processes*:

Students will:

1. Read and study the chapters assigned. Communication Outcome, Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome, Social/Behavioral Sciences Outcome, History Outcome, Active Learning Strategies
2. Attend lectures about the material in the relevant chapters. Communication Outcome, Active Learning Strategies
3. Participate in classroom discussions of the relevant material. Communication Outcome, Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome, Active Learning Strategies
4. Write essays articulating their own ideas about the material studied and discussed. Communication Outcome, Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome, Active Learning Strategies
5. Search for ways in which these ideas are relevant in their lives. Social/Behavioral Sciences Outcome, Transitional Strategies, Active Learning Strategies
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. Communication Outcome, Transitional Strategies, Active Learning Strategies

*Strategies and outcomes listed after instructional processes reference TBR’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 good/bad, right/wrong, legal/illegal, ethical/unethical, and moral/immoral. 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 for and against individual ethical relativism and cultural ethical relativism. B,E,F,G
10. Define psychological and ethical egoism. B,E,F,G
11. Explain the task of the moral philosopher if psychological egoism were true. B,E,F,G
12. Present arguments against ethical egoism. B,E,F,G
13. Explain the difference between teleological and deontological moral theories. 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 principle of autonomy and demonstrate its use in an application. B,C,E,F,G
19. Explain the moral principle of nonmaleficence and demonstrate its use in an application. B,C,E,F,G
20. Explain the moral principle of beneficence and demonstrate its use in an application. B,C,E,F,G
21. Explain the moral principle of justice and demonstrate its use in an application. B,C,E,F,G
22. Explain the two major theories of corporate responsibility. D,E,F,G
23. Discuss the nature of work in terms of human nature and human needs. A-G
24. Discuss the meaning of work in terms of human nature and human needs. A-G
25. Discuss the complex relationship between work and self-respect. D,E,F
26. Discuss the right to work. D,E,F
27. Discuss specific employee rights and the moral foundation underlying them. A-G
28. Discuss employee obligations and the moral foundation underlying them. A-G
29. Discuss the possible approaches to handling responsibility for unsafe or defective products. B,D,E,F
30. Discuss moral arguments for and against the strict products liability doctrine. B,C,D,E,F
31. Discuss moral issues raised by target marketing. B,C,D,E,F,G
32. Discuss moral issues/probels related to advertising. B,C,D,E,F,G
33. Define passive non-discrimination. D,E,F,G
34. Define affirmative action. D,E,F,G
35. Distinguish between affirmative action and preferential treatment. D,E,F,G
36. Give/evaluate arguments for and against preferential treatment. D, E, F, G
37. Discuss the moral standing of environmental entities. B,C,D,E,F,G
38. Compare the circular flow model with the biosphere subsystem model in terms of business sustainability. D,E,F,G
39. Define globalization. D,E,F,G
40. Discuss the moral issues raised by international business and globalization. B,C,D,E,F,G

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

V. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures:

The grade will be based upon short-answer examinations, critical journal/essays, and participation in classroom discussions. The journal/essays will be expected to total at least 5000 words.

B. Laboratory Expectations:

N/A

C. Field Work:

N/A

D. Other Evaluation Methods:

N/A

E. Grading Scale:

100-90 = A
89-85 = B+
84-80 = B
79-75 = C+
74-70 = C
69-60 = D
59-00 = 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.

C. Accommodations for disabilities:
If you need accommodation because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform the instructor immediately. Privately after class or in the instructor's office. To request accommodations students must register with Services for Students with Disabilities: Goins 127 or 131, Phone: (865) 539-7153 or (865) 694-6751 Voice/TDD.