

**BUS306-Day
Business Ethics****Fall Term 2023****Class Room: ED 621**Office Hours: by appointment
(Available before and after class by appointment)

Exam 1: Oct 24th

Exam 2: Nov 28th

Professor: Maggie Austring
Section: 001/002
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URCourses: <https://urcourses.uregina.ca/login/index.php>

Need for Accommodation (updated)

The Centre for Student Accessibility upholds the University's commitment to a diverse and inclusive learning environment by providing services and supports for students based on disability, religion, family status, and gender identity. Students who require these services are encouraged to contact the Centre for Student Accessibility to discuss the possibility of academic accommodations and other supports as early as possible. For further information, please email accessibility@uregina.ca.

Course Description

This is an overview course to demonstrate the importance of ethical considerations in the administrative of organizations. This course is designed to give undergraduate students a conceptual and practical knowledge of business ethics. This course will provide students with expectations of the professional world while exploring the personal basis for ethical decision making. This class will consist of lectures, class discussions, videos, group debates, and guest lectures.

Assignments: Readings and Exercises

You will be working primarily from a textbook. Concepts and how they apply in organizations may appear simple on the surface, but typically, they are more subtle, complex and difficult to apply. To understand the material covered in this course, it is crucial that you read the material (text and case) before class sessions so that you can contribute thoughtfully to the class discussions and exercises. It is also essential that applications assignments be prepared prior to class meetings in the manner indicated by the syllabus. It is your responsibility to note these assignments ahead of time. During the semester, we will have guest speakers and you will get an advance notice concerning forthcoming conferences.

Required Texts

Sexty, R. 2020. *Canadian Business and Society: Ethics & Responsibilities* (5th Edition) Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson. ISBN-13: 9781260065916
(The 4th edition is not recommended)

Supplemental Readings

Other relevant readings are posted on the UR Courses site and/or referenced in class. These will be helpful for a fuller understanding of the subject matter and in-class discussions.



Ground Rules & Important Information To Know

This is a business course. Accordingly, an appropriate level of professionalism is expected:

- ABSOLUTELY No texting, emailing, instant messaging, and phone calls during class
- All students are required to have a name card displayed during EACH class
- You are expected to attend every class and to arrive to class prior to the start time.
- **If you miss more than 4 classes for any reasons (including missing the first class), you will not pass the course, no exceptions.** According to University Policy, an instructor may refuse to allow a student to write the final exam if he/she has not maintained reasonable attendance.
- **Family/winter vacation is not a valid reason for missing exams, group presentation, or any classes.**
- Participation is important for this course – 15% course mark
- Participation marks for each class range from 0.5-1.5% of your grade. (look at course outline for complete detail)

Please note:

- Coming to class late will affect your attendance/participation mark. E.g. 1-15 mins = 1/4 class, 16-30 mins late = missing 1/2 class ...etc
- If you miss classes for any reasons, you will miss participation marks
- **No makeup exams (Oct 24th & Nov 28)**
- I don't do favouritism. We need to hold a high ethical ground especially in a business ethics class. I will treat everyone fairly with the marks that they earn, not based on their needs regarding scholarship GPA requirement or to change their poor peer evaluation because they didn't contribute much to their group project.
- Email me only at maggie.austring@uregina.ca , NOT on URCourses please
- Take notes during class, video discussions, and group debates – you will see them in exams.
- Read the textbook chapters thoroughly for both exams
- Want to talk to me? I am usually available after class.

Grading

Business Ethics in Current Event	10%
Class participation	15%
Group Debate Presentation	25%
Exam 1 (Oct 24th)	25%
Exam 2 (Nov 28th)	25%



2 Persons Presentation - Business Ethics in Current Events (10%)

Two students will be paired in a group to conduct research for this presentation. The objective is to discover a “current event” (within 12 months) that is relevant to the lecture on the same day as your presentation), not any general ethical subjects that are not related to the course such as abortion. The current events can occur in SK, Canada or internationally. At the beginning of each class, students will be given 5 minutes each to discuss a current event of a given subject. On your presentation date, you are required to submit a Power Point file with the following requirements to (maggie.austring@uregina.ca) **latest by 3pm a day before the presentation:**

PowerPoint Presentation (minimum 15 slides of content, excluding cover page, references, and term list):

1. Cover page
 - It needs to clearly title the “Presenting Subject” that is related to the same day’s lecture. E.g. March 1st: “Ethics and Responsibility in the marketplace”.
2. Provide a BRIEF background – Max 1 min
3. **Content (minimum 15 pages)- Important:**
 - Study the ppt lecture and textbook chapter
 - MUST use terms and theories learned in this course in the analysis
 - Provide real examples
 - The goal is to help the class further understand BEYOND what’s provided in the lecture that day.
 - Pls do not copy my lecture content. We will not be learning any new otherwise
 - “Bold” each course term you used throughout the PowerPoint file
4. **Term list (minimum 20 Business Ethics terms/theories):**

At the end of the Power Point file, number all terms you have used with their definitions. I will ask you to explain what some of the terms mean to the class after your 5 mins presentation. Pls note that only Business Ethics Terms will be considered, not general business terms.

Tips on how to do well in presentation:

- I will time each presentation to 5 minutes. Prepare the speech and practice/time yourself accordingly. Practice. Practice.
- You will present in Zoom (both students will present equally). Please learn how to “SHARE” a Power Point File using Zoom on your own.
- **No makeup presentations for students who miss their scheduled presentations.** Students that do not present or miss their presentations will not get the 10 %. (e.g. you did the research but did not present)



Students will be given a grade from 0-10%, depending on how well they fulfil the following requirements:

BUS306 Current Event Presentation

Students have maximized the 5 mins allowed (but not over 5 mins) on the subject matter	0.5	1	1.5	2	
Important: Students have thoroughly demonstrated/applied proper knowledge covered in the course	1	2	3	4	
Students have “quoted” proper business ethic Theories/logics/terms covered in this course (min 20) (general business terms will NOT be considered) Number of Terms applied: _____	1	2	3	4	
					TOTAL
					/10



Group Debates (25%)

Students (about 4-5 students in each group) will be assigned with a debate topic and debate position (affirmative or opposition) during the first class. **Due date/time: latest by 3pm a day before the presentation.**

IMPORTANT: Debates must focus on BUSINESS ethics, Not ethics in general.

Tips: You will want to start your research early in the semester to ensure the level of knowledge required to obtain a good grade. Your understanding on the debate subject should be clear, concise and well thought out. It is normal to think through it a few times before turning into a sound argument.

Diligent research is important to any debate. Although you don't have to submit a hand-written paper, you must submit a list of APA references to demonstrate the extent of the research conducted for your debate. APA Reference Deadline: Hand it in before you start your debate on your presentation date, hard copy only.

25% will be allocated to your debate project. The grade given by the instructor will be calculated again based on the peer evaluation made by your fellow group member.

Example 1 – your group contribution is the same as the rest of the team:

- Your debate group mark is 80%. If your peer evaluation score is 100% which means your team have evaluated your contribution equally theirs, you final debate mark is 80% ($80\% \times 100\% = 80\%$).

Example 2 – your group contribution is less than the rest of the team:

- Your debate group mark is 80%. If your peer evaluation score is 70% which means your team expressed that you have not been contributed nearly as much as the rest of the team, you final debate mark is 56% ($80\% \times 70\% = 56\%$).

Example 3 – your group contribution is greater than the rest of the team:

- Your debate group mark is 80%. If your peer evaluation score is 110% which means your team expressed that you have not been contributed nearly as much as the rest of the team, you final debate mark is 88% ($80\% \times 110\% = 88\%$). The cap is 110% maximum.

Why do we have this evaluation system? No one likes free loaders. This system promotes a positive work ethics right in the business ethics class! **Please do not to be selfish and mean, but to be honest and fair!** An evaluation grid for presentations is attached below:



BUS306
Evaluation of Group Debate Presentations

Date: _____

Subject: _____

Names of Presenter: _____

Using a scale of 1 to 5 (5= excellent 1= poor), rate the group as a whole for the following items by circling the appropriate number:

Students demonstrated good business ethics knowledge and applied proper ethical theories and logic that they have learned from this course
 Numbers of terms applied: _____

2 4 6 8 10

Students demonstrated dynamic research and analysis on the subject matter

1 2 3 4 5

Important:
 Students presented with a logical and sound argument for the debate subject based on their debate position

2 4 6 8 10

TOTAL /25



BUS 306 - Peer Evaluation Form

(Each group member has to submit this form in person before your Presentation, **Hard copy only.**)

Business Debate Topic: _____

Debate Position (circle one): Affirmative or Opposition

Your Name: _____

This peer evaluation should rate each member's contributions to the project. To complete the form, you are asked to estimate the percentage contribution of each group member to the completion of each presentation. You are asked to estimate the percentage contribution of each group member.

Group member names (including yourself)	Time/Effort/Contribution (%)
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
Be sure this sums to 100%	

IMPORTANT: If there are any major discrepancies in the table above: You must explain your reasons for making any significantly uneven allocations in the space below.

Explanation of discrepancies and/or additional individual comments (Please feel free to provide further comment on a separate page):



Class Attendance and Participation (15%)

Because this course relies heavily on applications and discussions of materials, 15% of your final grade will be determined from class contribution.

1. Participation is very important in this class and I take it seriously.
2. The participation mark for each class ranges from 0.5-1.5% of your grade. Attending and participating each lecture is 0.5%. Debate classes and research classes add extra 1% – I encourage you to learn from each group and ask good questions.
3. Your participation mark comes in 2 parts: attendance & participation for EACH CLASS (50/50).

How to get a good attendance mark:

- If you attend half of a class, you will only get half of the attendance mark for that class

How to get good participation mark:

1. Read the suggested chapters and PowerPoint files listed in the class syllabus for each class – it will help you to answer my questions during the class.
2. Pulling your own weight on group projects and participating enthusiastically in classroom activities: Being an active participant in class and group discussions.
3. Making observations that integrate concepts and discussions.
4. Citing relevant personal examples.
5. Please post all your questions in URCourses and I also encourage you to answer other classmates' questions. Please DO NOT email me in URCourses. If you participate well (both in class and on URCourses), you get full participation mark (every class counts separately).
6. I would love to give you the full 15%, but it is really up to you what you are going to get.



Exam 1 (25 Marks)

Exam 2 (25 Marks)

Each exam can be a combination of multiple-choice and short-answer formats, and will be worth 25 percent of the course mark.

Exam 1 date/time: Oct 24th

Exam 2 date/time: Nov 28th

If you miss the exams, no make up exam will be provided, no exceptions.

Plagiarism

The Faculty of Business Administration of the University of Regina may punish offending students in any manner that they deem fit. The University regards this form of cheating as a serious offence. Please consider yourself warned.

University policy on plagiarism: http://www.uregina.ca/gradstudies/calendar/policy_univ.shtml



BUS 306 Day - CLASS SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

IMPORTANT: If you miss more than 4 classes (including late registration & missing the first class), you will not be allowed to pass the course, no exceptions.

No make up midterm or final exam

WEEK	DATE	TOPICS	PARTICIPATION Mark 15%	PPT	Chapter
1	Aug 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Introduction Project Grouping Draw for group debate order Draw for current event presentation order 		Intro	
2	Sept 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship Between Business and Society Ethics of Business: The Theoretical Basis 	/0.5	1 5	1 5
	Sept 7	<p>IMPORTANT CLASS</p> <p>Debate Practice Workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to debate for your project 	/0.5		
3	Sept 12 (Sept 13 th - Last day dropping a class)	<p>Class Debate Practice</p> <p>Topic: Is Capitalism good business ethics?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live debate with your real project opponents Using debate rules, research for evidence and applying at least 4 course theories 	/0.5		
	Sept 14	<p>Demo Debate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is Capitalism good business ethics? 	/0.5		
4	Sept 19	<p>1. Current Events presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethics of Business: The Theoretical Basis 	/0.5	5	5
	Sept 21	<p>2. Current Events presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethics and Capitalism 	/0.5	2	2
5	Sept 26	<p>Group Debate 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many non-profit org. executives make six figure wages. Is it right or wrong? 	/0.5 /1		



	Sept 28	3. Current Events presentation 4. Current Events presentation • Identifying stakeholders & issues	/0.5	3	3
6	Oct 3	Group Debate 2 • Is 'factory farming' ethical to consumers?	/1		
	Oct 5	5. Current Events presentation 6. Current Events presentation • Ethics of Business: Management and Leadership	/0.5	6	6
7	Oct 9-13	No Class			
8	Oct 17	7. Current Events presentation 8. Current Events presentation • Corporate Social Responsibility: The concept	/0.5	7	7
	Oct 19	9. Current Events presentation 10. Current Events presentation • Regulating Business (chapter 10- business lobbying)	/0.5	10	10
9	Oct 24	MID TERM EXAM 25% chapter 1,2,3,5,6,7,10			
	Oct 26	• Ethics and Responsibility in the Workplace (Important Class for Next Debate)	/0.5	12	12
10	Oct 31	Group Debate 3 • Should employers find individual's information on social media for making hiring/firing/promotion decisions?	/1		
	Nov 2	11. Current Events presentation • Ownership and Governance of Corporation	/0.5	11	11
11	Nov 7	12. Current Events presentation • Ethics and Responsibility in the Marketplace • <u>Video</u> (false advertising): Marketplace video: Lousy Labels - Part 1 & 2	/0.5	12	12



	Nov 9	13. Current Events presentation 14. Current Events presentation • Globalization and Business responsibilities	/0.5	15	15
12	Nov 14	Group Debate 4 • Is International Outsourcing Ethical?	/1		
	Nov 16	15. Current Events presentation 16. Current Events presentation • The Environment and Business Responsibilities	/0.5	14	14
13	Nov 21	• Class Discussion & Research (The Environment and Business Responsibilities)	/1		
	Nov 23	Group Debate 5 • Is it the business's responsibility to protect the environment?	/0.5		
14	Nov 28	EXAM 2 - 25% (NOT open book) Chapter 1,2,3,5,6,7,10,11,12,14,15			
	Nov 30	• Class Discussion & Research (Why do we need Business Ethics? Why do we need Profits? How should we choose between them?)	/0.5		
15	Dec 5	Group Debate 6 • Are Business Ethics or Profits more important?	/1		