BUS 296BHQ Ethics  
Professor Williams  
Fall, 2017

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For email messages, type “Ethics class” in the reference portion  
Office Hours:   Many office hours are scheduled each week – call x2905 for appointments. In addition, Firearms noon – 1:00 (for the duration of the class).  
Texts:                All materials are available online at no cost.

Course description  
This one-unit credit/no credit class explores ethical thinking in the context of business. We explore the roles of perception, bias and values in decisionmaking, Kohlberg’s stages of moral development, the role of rhetoric in developing an ethical analysis, and the “map for argumentative dialog” applying theories of deontology and teleology to develop ethical analysis.

Objectives of the Course  
1. To explore the predominant ethical theories which have affected business in a historical and cultural context;  
2. To gain experience in the critical thinking skills required for ethical analysis and problem solving;  
3. To hone analytical writing skills;  
4. To begin to understand and consider ethical and policy issues which are critical for being an ethical and effective member of the business community.

Grading  
Grading is credit/no credit. You need the equivalent of a grade of “C” to earn credit. There will be an exam worth 80% of the grade and class participation worth 20% of the course grade.

Class participation  
This evaluation will be based on attendance, the quality of preparation, including familiarity with the reading material and cases, quality of performance on the exercises (as a process, not as outcome-driven), and the quality of participation in the feedback and discussion sessions. Your participation in the simulations, the debriefing process and other class discussion is essential to your learning individually and as a class. In sum, this component of the grade will be determined based on how much your presence added to the class.

Course grade consequence for missed classes  
For each missed class, your course grade will be reduced by 0.5 on the university’s 4.0 scale (see CSUN catalog) unless excused before the class. This is separate from and in addition to the class participation portion of your grade. If you encounter unexpected difficulties beyond your control, please let me know.
## Assignments

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Work to be completed before class</th>
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| 9/1  | Introduction  
Perception and bias  
Rhetoric  
Values  
Locus of control | N/A |
| 9/8  | Kohlberg’s stages of moral development  
| 9/15 | Deontology | Read Kay, Notes on Deontology [http://sites.wofford.edu/kaycd/deontology/](http://sites.wofford.edu/kaycd/deontology/) |
| 9/22 | Teleology | Read Kay, Notes on Utilitarianism, [http://sites.wofford.edu/kaycd/utilitarianism/](http://sites.wofford.edu/kaycd/utilitarianism/) |
| 9/29 | Discussion, analysis, review, exam | |
