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### PHIL 323.01: Business and Ethics

Albert Borgmann

*University of Montana-Missoula*, [albert.borgmann@umontana.edu](mailto:albert.borgmann@umontana.edu)

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## **Business and Ethics**

### **I. Goals**

The course has four goals:

- (1) Students develop a sense for the major moral problems in business.
- (2) Students get a firm grasp of the major ethical theories.
- (3) Students learn to what extent ethical theories illuminate moral problems in business.
- (4) Students understand that moral excellence in business must be rooted in the culture and the practices of the business.

### **II. Readings**

Donaldson, Werhane, and Cordig, Ethical Issues in Business.

We will read the following selections from the five parts of the book and spend two to three weeks on each Part.

#### Part One

Bowie and Lenway  
Friedman  
Kelly  
Kant

#### Part Two

Zimmerer  
Wolf  
Locke  
Smith  
Marx  
Carnegie  
Ciulla  
Rawls  
Nozick  
Walzer

#### Part Three

Business Enterprise Trust  
Sen  
Vandivier  
Epstein

#### Part Four

Severance et. Al.  
Rachels  
UN Declaration

#### Part Five

Schwartz  
Crisp

Newburry and Gladwin  
Simon  
Reed

There will be readings on current issues on conventional and electronic reserve in the Mansfield Library

We will begin with two readings from Part Three because of their timeliness:

- (1) American Institute of CPA's
- (2) Jackall

### **Part III. Requirements**

(A) Classroom Participation (30% of course grade)

It will be your obligation to show through participation in the classroom discussions that you are keeping up with the readings and are in command of the material presented in class. For background, every student will research a topic and make a fifteen minute presentation to the class.

It will be my obligation to make everyone feel welcome and encouraged to participate.

(B) Three In-Class Examinations (each counting for 10% of the course grade)

- (1) October 3
- (2) November 7
- (3) December 19, 10:10 a.m. (final week)

(C) Term Paper (40% of course grade)

#### **1. Intent**

The major tasks are three. (1) You have to take on a limited but significant issue of business ethics. (2) You have to bring some of the important points and perspectives developed in class to bear on the issue. (3) You have to forge (1) and (2) into an argument that bears the imprint of your convictions.

Beyond these three requirements you are free to draw on any material whatever. But be careful not to do so to the detriment of the basic threefold intent.

#### **2. Technical Details**

The paper must be typed and paper-clipped. Follow some standard format. The deadline is December 3. You are required to submit an outline before you begin detailed work on the paper. The outline is due November 7 at the LATEST. The length should be 2500 words (10 pages).

#### **NOTE:**

September 23 is the last day to add and drop classes by Dial Bear.

October 14 is the last day to drop classes or change the grading option.

Office Hours: MWF 9:10-10:00 and by appointment in LA 149.

Phone and messages: 243-2792

If you have a disability, please let me know so we can provide accommodation.