



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

## PHIL 329 Lec 01 – “Business Ethics”

Fall Term 2013

### Course Outline

**Lectures:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:15 in SS 113

**Instructor:** David G. Dick

**Office:** SS 1224

**Phone:** 403-220-6434

**Email:** [dgdick@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dgdick@ucalgary.ca)

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays, 1:30pm-3:30pm, and by appointment

### *Course Description*

This course aims to simultaneously introduce moral philosophy and the way it can be applied to practical problems and professional disciplines taking business ethics as its example. By the end of the course, students should understand several prominent moral theories well enough to apply them to novel ethical problems that arise in the business world and beyond. The course will cover units on moral theory, specific ethical issues in business, and moral and philosophical issues surrounding money.

### *Required Texts*

*A Companion to Business Ethics*

Frederick, Robert E. (editor), Blackwell Publishing, 2002.

ISBN 13: 978-1405101028

*Philosophy 329 Coursepack*, available at the University Bookstore

Additional materials will be indicated via the Blackboard site for this class.

Available at: <https://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login/>

### *Evaluation*

Participation:	5%	
Weekly Questions:	10%	
First Paper:	25%	Due: Tuesday, October 8th
Midterm:	25%	Thursday, November 7th
Second Paper:	35%	Due: Thursday, December 5th

This course has no Registrar administered final exam, only a final paper.

Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of your work for this course. For further explanation, see the University Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

The final grade will be based on the credit accumulated from the various assignments, so it is mathematically possible to pass the course without turning in any particular assignment. But this strategy is not recommended.

#### Participation:

I want you to be engaged with the material and the class, so I'm rewarding you for giving me evidence that you are. This evidence can come in many forms, such as attending and participating in the class and its discussions, visiting me in office hours to discuss course material, or sending me an email with a good idea or question when one comes to you.

#### Weekly Questions:

Each week, I'd like you to submit a question based on the reading for the day that you submit the question. The question you write should convince me that you've read the day's reading, at least well enough to be confused by it. I'm not kidding: confusion is a philosophical heuristic, it either helps you identify a place where you don't understand, or where the argument doesn't make sense. Either one of these counts as philosophical progress. These questions and their explanations need not be any longer than about half a page. (I'll post an example of what I mean to Blackboard.)

Here's how this works: For each week of the term, pick one day that week and write a question based on the reading assigned for that day. Then, submit a hard copy version of this question at the beginning of class where that reading will be discussed.

Weekly questions are only accepted when submitted in person at the beginning of each class, and only in hard copy. Barring extraordinary and documented serious emergencies, missed weekly questions cannot be made up.

There are 13 weeks in the semester (including this first one) but you only owe me 12 weekly questions for the term. It's entirely up to you which day you'd like to pass on. Extra weekly questions beyond this 12 will be read, but will not count for any extra credit.

Weekly questions can be hand written, but keeping an electronic file with your weekly questions can be helpful both for studying and for keeping track of how many you've turned in.

#### Midterms and Papers:

Will be in the form of philosophical essays written in response to topics I will distribute in advance of the days the papers are due or the midterms are given.

Further instructions will be included when those topics are distributed.

### ***Grading Method***

All evaluated material will be graded on a scale from A+ to F. To weight assignments and calculate the final grade, these letter grades will be converted into the standard 4.0 scale:

4.3 - A+	3.3 - B+	2.3 - C+	1.3 - D+	0.0 - F
4.0 - A	3.0 - B	2.0 - C	1.0 - D	
3.7 - A-	2.7 - B-	1.7 - C-		

The arithmetic that will calculate your final grade will follow this formula:

$$\text{(Partic.)}.05 + \text{(W. Questions)}.10 + \text{(1st Paper)}.25 + \text{(Midterm)}.25 + \text{(2nd Paper)}.35 = \text{Final Grade}$$

## ***Policy on Late Assignments***

Weekly questions and the midterm exam are to be submitted in class and will not be accepted late. Late term papers are accepted, with a penalty of one full grade per 24-hour period late. So, an A- paper submitted between 24 and 48 hours after it was due would receive a C-. Once a paper is late, it should be submitted via email (to me at [dgdick@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dgdick@ucalgary.ca)) as soon as it is ready.

### **Academic Honesty**

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

### **Academic Accommodation**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a permanent disability or temporary impairment who may require academic accommodation, you must first register with the Student Accessibility Resource Office located in MacEwan Student Centre 452; phone 403-220-8237; email [access@ucalgary.ca](mailto:access@ucalgary.ca). Students who have not registered with the Student Accessibility Office are not eligible for academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/> for further information.

### **Blackboard Help**

Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/computersupport/onlineservices/blackboard> for Student Help and FAQs about Blackboard. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are available at <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/blackboard/students>.

### **Student Advising and Information Resources**

- **General Academic Concerns** – Have a question but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts' Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undersgraduate> for detailed information on common academic concerns.
- **Program Planning** – For assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation, contact the Student Success Centre at 403-220-5881 or visit it on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- **Advice on Philosophy Courses** - You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy's website <http://phil.ucalgary.ca> or contact one of Philosophy's current Undergraduate Advisors (see below)
- **Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers** – If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the instructor of the course.

### **Protection of Privacy**

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor.

### **Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representatives**

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial, and confidential support for students who require assistance or advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. For more information, see [www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds). For the Students' Union Faculty of Arts rep: [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@ucalgary.ca).

### **Safewalk**

Call 403-220-5333 (24/7/365) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and the LRT station or use a Campus Help Phone.

#### **PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT**

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at [www.phil.ucalgary.ca](http://www.phil.ucalgary.ca)

#### **PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR FALL 2013:**

Chris Framarin [chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca](mailto:chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca)

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For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact Merlette Schnell ([schnell@ucalgary.ca](mailto:schnell@ucalgary.ca))