



Course Type: **CORE VALUE**

Course Code: **VAL501**

Course Name: **Business Ethics**

COURSE SYLLABUS

Students please note that this is core value course. All students must undertake this Calwest courses (\$250 per course) via Tube classes. Students may have undertaken similar course in another accredited university; but must still complete this course at Calwest. There will be no Recognized Prior Learning (RPL) for this course.

1. Course Description

In all parts of the world, and especially America, there are “rags to riches” stories about the energetic and dedicated hero who worked hard and made it big. Hard work and a little luck were all that was required. Oddly, alongside that belief was another contradictory one that anyone who was or became rich must have become so by unethical activity and behavior. As such, there is now a growing consensus that ethics has a role to play in business, the public view of business is still expressed in what can be called the Myth of Amoral Business. This business ethics course studies the Myth of Amoral Business, by offering an introduction into the concept of values, morality, as well as cultural beliefs and upbringing in all areas of business, from consumer rights to corporate social responsibility. Decisions made by shift managers or corporate presidents may affect thousands of individuals or entire communities. Consumers today expect and demand integrity, honesty, and transparency in all levels of their environment. Understanding those expectations is the key to communicating core values and behavior not only to employees, but society in general.

2. Learning Objectives

1. Students will study ethics, both descriptive ethics (how the world is) and normative ethics (how the world should be) from a business perspective.
2. Students will gain a broad critical perspective of business ethics by studying and describing the morality of a people, culture, or society.
3. Student will compare and contrast different moral systems, codes, practices, beliefs, principles, and values.
4. Students will learn how to form into a related whole the various norms, rules, and values of a society’s morality.
5. Students will learn to justify the basic principle of morality and to provide a procedure by which conflicting norms can be adjudicated and particular cases decided.

3. Learning Outcomes:

To successfully complete this subject, a student should be able to:

1. Identify and discuss ethical and corporate governance issues among a diverse group of people.
2. Apply ethical theories and frameworks to analyse and make recommendations to resolve ethical issues in business.
3. Identify different stakeholders and analyse their differing perspectives on ethical issues.
4. Develop logical and coherent arguments to support ethical viewpoints

4. Prescribed Reading (Compulsory)

Richard T DeGeorge, *Business Ethics (Latest Edition)*, Pearson, New Jersey, USA.

<http://www.pearsoned.com/>

5. Student Resource Requirements

- PC: A reliable computer running Windows XP or higher with 500 MB of RAM or higher
- Mac: A reliable computer running Mac OS 10 or higher
- Reliable high speed Internet connection (minimum 768 Kbps/128 Kbps)
- Web browser with Adobe Flash Player installed (Flash Player 10 or higher recommended)

6. Topic Outline

Topic No.	Topic and Topic PowerPoint	Text Book Topic
1	Ethics and Business	1
2	Conventional Morality and Ethical Relativism	2
3	Utility and Utilitarianism	3
4	Moral Duty, Rights, and Justice	4
5	Virtue Ethics and Moral Reasoning	5
6	Moral Responsibility: Individual and Corporate	6
7	The International Business System, Globalization, and Multinational Corporations	9
8	Corporations, Morality, and Corporate Social Responsibility	10
9	Corporate Governance, Disclosure, and Executive Compensation	11
10	Whistle-Blowing	14
11	The Information Age: Property and New Technologies	19
12	Information, Computers, the Internet, and Business	20
13	The New Moral Imperative for Business	22

7. Assessment

There will be **Continuous Assessments** done throughout this course. All topics will have a **Topic Quiz** that needs to be satisfactorily answered prior to being allowed to access the next topic in the course. You are allowed 3 attempts in each Topic Quiz, so that you can revise the course material and master the topic before proceeding to the next topic in the course. Calwest keeps computer logs of all student activity in terms of accessing the course material and MCQs to ensure that sufficient time is being spent on online

studies. Note that negative marks will be attached to wrong answers in the Topic MCQs, and this will affect the final assessment score. *Therefore, please study the course material before attempting the Topic MCQs.*

After completing all Topics (and Quizzes), your **Final Assessment** will be available for you to undertake online at a time of your convenience. There will be a time limit of *90 minutes* for the final assessment in which you will need to answer *80 multiple-choice questions* that will be randomly selected from the questions asked in the topic quizzes.

Please ensure that you have an undisturbed 90-minute time frame to undertake your Final Assessment as after 90 minutes your work will be automatically submitted and graded.

There will be only one attempt provided for the Final Assessment.

The Final Assessment will form the over 80% of the weight given to your final course grade. The Balance 20% is obtained as an average of the scores you achieve in the Topic Quizzes.

8. Grading Criteria

Calwest University applies the following grading system in all courses:

A pass mark of 60% (grade of D which is a bare minimum pass) or above is required to satisfy the educational requirements of the university for completing the course. The grade assessments are as follows:

Below 60%:	Fail
60-64%	: D
65-69%	: D+
70-72%	: C-

73-75%	: C
76-78%	: C+
79-81%	: B-
82-84%	: B

85-88%	: B+
89-91%	: A-
92-95%	: A
Over 95%	: A+