

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™

Graduate Programs—NEW COURSE PROPOSAL¹

UGPC APPROVAL _____
 UFS APPROVAL _____
 SCNS SUBMITTAL _____
 CONFIRMED _____
 BANNER POSTED _____
 CATALOG _____

DEPARTMENT: SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTING

COLLEGE: BUSINESS

RECOMMENDED COURSE IDENTIFICATION:

PREFIX BUL COURSE NUMBER 6455 LAB CODE (L or C) _____

(TO OBTAIN A COURSE NUMBER, CONTACT RSHIMAN@FAU.EDU)

COMPLETE COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS LAW AND APPLIED ETHICS

EFFECTIVE DATE

(If submitted course will be offered)

3/20/2013

CREDITS:²
1.5

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION:

BUSINESS ETHICS, CONCEPTS AND CASES. 7TH EDITION, (PEARSON, 2012); MANUEL G. VELASQUEZ.
 LAW & ETHICS IN THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT, 7TH EDITION, (SOUTH-WESTERN CENGAGE LEARNING 2012); TERRY HALVERT, J.D. AND ELAINE INGULLI, J.D., L.L. M.
 PREVENTIVE LAW FOR BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS. (THOMSON/SOUTH-WESTERN, 2005), MARTIN SEGAL.
 CONTRACTS, 5TH EDITION, EXAMPLE & EXPLANATIONS. (WOLTERS KLUWER, ASPEN PUBLISHERS, 2011), BRIAN A. BLUM.

GRADING (SELECT ONLY ONE GRADING OPTION): REGULAR SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION, NO MORE THAN THREE LINES: THE COURSE IS DESIGNED TO PRESENT LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES THAT ARISE IN BUSINESS. EMPHASIS IS PLACED ON CONTRACTUAL AND EMPLOYMENT ISSUES AND THE ETHICAL CONCERNS RELATED TO THEM. STUDENTS WILL DEVELOP SKILLS AND TOOLS TO LEAD OR MANAGE A BUSINESS WHILE CREATING AND MAINTAINING AN ETHICAL ENVIRONMENT.

PREREQUISITES *: ADMISSION TO AN FAU GRADUATE PROGRAM

COREQUISITES*:
BUL 4421 AND BUL 4422,
RECOMMENDED

REGISTRATION CONTROLS (MAJOR, COLLEGE, LEVEL)*:


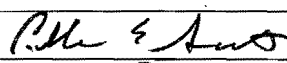
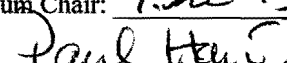
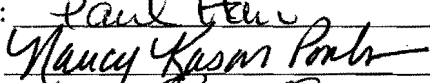
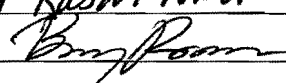
* PREREQUISITES, COREQUISITES AND REGISTRATION CONTROLS WILL BE ENFORCED FOR ALL COURSE SECTIONS.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED TO TEACH THIS COURSE: JD

Faculty contact, email and complete phone number:
 Maria Elina Ellison, mellison@fau.edu,
 561-291-2060

Please consult and list departments that might be affected by the new course and attach comments.³
 Department of Philosophy
 Department of Political Science

Approved by:

Department Chair: 
 College Curriculum Chair: 
 College Dean: 
 UGPC Chair: 
 Graduate College Dean: 
 UFS President: _____
 Provost: _____

Date:

3.14.13
 3-14-13
 3.14.13
 3/20/2013
 3.21.13

1. Syllabus must be attached; see guidelines for requirements:
www.fau.edu/provost/files/course_syllabus.2011.pdf
2. Review Provost Memorandum: **Definition of a Credit Hour**
www.fau.edu/provost/files/Definition_Credit_Hour_Memo_2012.pdf
3. Consent from affected departments (attach if necessary)



Florida Atlantic University
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

BUL 6455
CRN Number TBA
Business Law and Applied Ethics (1.5 credits)
Fall 2013
Class Location: TBA
Class Times: TBA

Professor Information

Name
Office Address
e-mail address
Phone Number

Office Hours

TBA

Required Text and Materials

- *Business Ethics, Concepts and Cases*, 7th Edition, (Pearson, 2012); Manuel G. Velasquez. ISBN: 13: 978-0-205-01766 -9.
- *Law & Ethics in the Business Environment*, 7th Edition, (South-Western Cengage Learning 2012); Terry Halvert, J.D. and Elaine Ingulli, J.D., LL.M. ISBN: 13: 978-0-538-47351-4.
- *Preventive Law for Business Professionals*. (Thomson /South-Western , 2005); Martin Segal. ISBN: 0-324-22574-1.
- *Contracts*, 5th Edition, *Examples & Explanations*. (Wolters Kluwer, Aspen Publishers, 2011); Brian A, Blum. ISBN: 978-0-7355-8852-3.

Course Description

Students will learn to identify the ethical and legal challenges confronted in a business environment. They will apply ethical principles in the context of definitions of good and right. They will develop skills and tools to lead or manage a business, including contractual and employment issues while creating and maintaining an ethical environment.

Course Prerequisites and Credit Hours

Admission to an FAU Graduate Program



Course Learning Objectives

- Demonstrate an understanding of ethical theories. Identify the ethical implications of business decisions and practices in a business/professional environment.
- Demonstrate critical thinking by applying legal rules to hypothetical business scenarios, identifying stakeholders and the effect of these decisions upon each group of stakeholders.
- Apply ethical principles to hypothetical business scenarios concerning entity corporate governance, technology, transactions, health and safety considerations, correcting missteps, and ownership of intellectual property rights.
- Explore ethical duties owed to stakeholders, identify models of compromise for the competing values, and formulate options.

Grading Scale (out of a maximum of 100 points)

A: 100 – 94	B-: 83 – 80	D+: 69 – 67
A-: 93 – 90	C+: 79 – 77	D: 66 – 64
B+: 89 – 87	C: 76 – 74	D-: 63 – 60
B: 86 – 84	C-: 73 – 70	F: 59 – 0

Course Evaluation Method

Activity	Number of Activity	Points for Each	Total Points
Exams	1	40	40
Assignments	6	10	60

Additional Course Policies

Missing Exams

Every effort should be made to take final exam as scheduled in the course schedule. Any excusable absence (official university event, religious holiday, job interview, etc.) must be documented by a verifiable source and be submitted at least one week prior to the exam. If you are absent from an exam due to an illness or emergency, you must notify the professor by e-mail within 24 hours after the exam, and documentation is required. Unexcused and non-documented absences are subject to a minimum penalty of 40%. Unexcused absences include the inability to leave work on time, oversleeping, lack of transportation, minor illnesses, fatigue, and so forth.



Late Assignments

Course Assignments are due as indicated in the course schedule. Late submissions are subject to a penalty of 10% per day.

Attendance Policy

Class attendance and participation are strongly recommended for a successful performance in this course. Due to the cumulative nature of the material it is important to stay current with course materials on a daily basis. The professor will not provide notes or teach lectures twice due to an absence.

Anti-plagiarism Software

Written components of any assignment or project may be submitted to anti-plagiarism software (*SafeAssign* or *TurnItIn*) to evaluate the originality of the work. Any students found to be submitting work that is not their own will be deemed in violation of the University's honor code discussed above.



Course Outline

Week 1	M, Aug 19 W, Aug 21	Introduction to Law, Ethics, & Business	Ch. X Ch. X
Week 2	M, Aug 26 W, Aug 28	Duty of Loyalty in the Business Context Review of contract principles	Ch. X Ch. X
Week 3	M, Sept 2 W, Sept 4	Privacy Issues in the Workplace Application of contract rules in the business setting	Ch. X Ch. X
Week 4	M, Sept 9 W, Sept 11	Valuing Diversity, including Civil Rights Act & Employment Issues Contractual provisions Employers should consider including in their employment contracts.	Ch. X
Week 5	M, Sept 16 W, Sept 18	Employer's Duties for Health & Safety in the Workplace Examination of contract clauses found in typical business contracts	Ch. X Ch. X
Week 6	M, Sept 23 W, Sept 25	Commercial Speech – Advertising etc. The importance of the Law of Agency in Business transactions	Ch. X Ch. X
Week 7	M, Sept 30 W, Oct 2	Allocating Risks & Responsibilities Ownership, Creativity & Innovation: Intellectual Property	Ch. X Ch. x
Week 8	M, Oct 7	Final Exam	

Problem Set and Project Due Dates:

Assignment #1: Due Wednesday, August 28

Assignment #2: Due Wednesday, September 4

Assignment #3: Due Wednesday, September 11

Assignment #4: Due Wednesday, September 18

Assignment #5: Due Wednesday, September 25

Assignment #6: Due Wednesday, October 2

Course Project: Due Monday, October 7



Selected University and College Policies

Code of Academic Integrity Policy Statement

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001.

Disability Policy Statement

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) – in Boca Raton, SU 133, (561) 297-3880; in Davie, MOD 1, (954) 236-1222; in Jupiter, SR 117, (561) 799-8585; or, at the Treasure Coast, CO 128, (772) 873-3305 – and follow all OSD procedures.

Religious Accommodation Policy Statement

In accordance with rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices **and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration, class attendance and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments.** For further information, please see Academic Policies and Regulations.

University Approved Absence Policy Statement

In accordance with rules of the Florida Atlantic University, students have the right to reasonable accommodations to participate in University approved activities, including athletic or scholastics teams, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to notify the course instructor at least one week prior to missing any course assignment.

College of Business Minimum Grade Policy Statement

The minimum grade for College of Business requirements is a "C". This includes all courses that are a part of the pre-business foundation, business core, and major program. In addition, courses that are used to satisfy the university's Writing Across the Curriculum and Gordon Rule math requirements also have a minimum grade requirement of a "C". Course syllabi give individualized information about grading as it pertains to the individual classes.



Selected University and College Policies

School of Accounting Announcements and Events

- Students are strongly encouraged to join our [LinkedIn Student Group](#) and/or like our [Facebook Group Page](#). LinkedIn® and Facebook® will provide important School of Accounting announcements, news, internships, job postings and events. You will also be able to connect with accounting students, alumni, and accounting professionals - an invaluable resource.
 - To join LinkedIn®, simply click on the link above. If you are already registered with LinkedIn, the link will take you to our home page. If you have not yet registered with LinkedIn, simply complete the short registration form. Once you are at our home page, select join group.
 - To like our Facebook® page, simply click on the link above. If you are already registered with Facebook®, the link will take you to our group page. If you have not yet registered with Facebook®, simply complete the short registration form. Once you are at our group page, select like.
- Important student events are also posted in the School of Accounting Google Calendar. Students are strongly encouraged to subscribe to the calendar and participate in the events. All posted events are open to all students and provide an opportunity for students to build a strong professional network, a critical element for a successful career in business and accounting.
 - To subscribe to the School of Accounting calendar from other applications, copy and paste the following URL into any calendar product that supports the iCal format (e.g., iPhone, Outlook). Do not just click on the link below as this will only provide a copy of the current calendar.
 - http://www.google.com/calendar/ical/fau.edu_enf3tksj4013stllpic91ri48%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics
 - To access the School of Accounting Calendar in any web browser:
 - http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=fau.edu_enf3tksj4013stllpic91ri48%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/New_York
 - To access the School of Accounting Calendar from other applications, copy and paste the following into any feed reader:
 - http://www.google.com/calendar/feeds/fau.edu_enf3tksj4013stllpic91ri48%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic
- Current accounting students will receive the School of Accounting's e-Newsletter every second and fourth Monday of each month.
- Information is also available on the [SOA's website \(http://soa.fau.edu\)](http://soa.fau.edu).

School of Accounting Policies

You are responsible for [School of Accounting](#) policies. *These policies are considered to be an integral part of this syllabus.*

Incomplete Grade Policy Statement

A student who is passing a course, but has not completed all work due to exceptional circumstances, may, with consent of the instructor, temporarily receive a grade of incomplete ("I"). The assignment of the "I" grade is at the discretion of the instructor, but is allowed only if the student is passing the course. The specific time required to make up an incomplete grade is at the discretion of the instructor. However, the College of Business policy on the resolution of incomplete grades requires that all work required to satisfy an incomplete ("I") grade must be completed within a period of time not exceeding one calendar year from the assignment of the incomplete grade. After one calendar year, an incomplete grade automatically becomes an "F".

Withdrawals

Any student who decides to drop is responsible for completing the proper paper work required to withdraw from the course.

Grade Appeal Process

A student may request a review of the final course grade when s/he believes that one of the following conditions apply:

- There was a computational or recording error in the grading.
- Non-academic criteria were applied in the grading process.
- There was a gross violation of the instructor's own grading system.

The procedures for a grade appeal may be found in Chapter 4 of the University Regulations.

Disruptive Behavior Policy Statement

Disruptive behavior is defined in the FAU Student Code of Conduct as "... activities which interfere with the educational mission within classroom." Students who behave in the classroom such that the educational experiences of other students and/or the instructor's course objectives are disrupted are subject to disciplinary action. Such behavior impedes students' ability to learn or an instructor's ability to teach. Disruptive behavior may include, but is not limited to: non-approved use of electronic devices (including cellular telephones); cursing or shouting at others in such a way as to be disruptive; or, other violations of an instructor's expectations for classroom conduct.

Faculty Rights and Responsibilities

Florida Atlantic University respects the right of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions which do not impede their exercise. To ensure these rights, faculty members have the prerogative:

- To establish and implement academic standards
- To establish and enforce reasonable behavior standards in each class
- To refer disciplinary action to those students whose behavior may be judged to be disruptive under the Student Code of Conduct.

Bibliography

Business Law: Text and Cases – Legal, Ethical, Global, Corporate Environment, 12th Edition, (South-Western Cengage Learning, 2010); Kenneth W. Clarkson, Roger LeRoy Miller, Frank B. Cross. ISBN: 0538470828.

Anderson's Business Law and the Legal Environment, 21st Edition, (South-Western, 2010); David P. Twomey, Marianne M. Jennings. ISBN: 0324786662.

Business Law and the Legal Environment, 6th Edition, (South-Western, 2012); Jeffrey F. Beatty, Susan S. Samuelson. ISBN: 1133562159.

Business Law: Principles and Cases in the Legal Environment, 9th Edition, (Aspen Publishing, 2010); Daniel V. Davidson, Brenda E. Knowles, Lynn M. Forsythe. ISBN: 9780735593787.

Business Law: Legal Environment, Online Commerce, Business Ethics, and International Issues, 7th Edition, (Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2009); Henry R. Cheeseman. ISBN: 0136085547.

Business: Its Legal, Ethical, and Global Environment, 9th Edition, (South-Western Cengage Learning, 2012); Marianne M. Jennings. ISBN: 0538470542.

High Performance with High Integrity. (Harvard Business Press Books, 2008); Ben W. Heineman Jr. Product Number: 2295-HBK-ENG.

Ethics Without the Sermon. (Harvard Business Review, Nov. 1, 1981); Laura L. Nash. Product Number: 81609-PDF-ENG.

How (Un)ethical Are You? (Harvard Business Review, Dec 1, 2003); Mahzrin R. Banaji, Max H. Bazerman, Dolly Chugh. Product Number: R0312D-PDF-ENG.

Ethical Breakdowns. (Harvard Business Review, Apr 1, 2011); Max H. Bazerman, Ann E. Tenbrunsel. Product Number: R1104C-PDF-ENG.

Extensive online resources at the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University website: http://www.scu.edu/ethics/practicing/focusareas/business/business_articles.html

Journal of Business Ethics (Springer)

Journal of Business Ethics and Organizational Studies (Business and Organizational Ethics Network)

Journal of Academic and Business Ethics (Academic and Business Research Institute)

Journal of Business Ethics Education (Neilson Journals Publishing)

Paul Hart

From: Michael Harris
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 12:41 PM
To: Paul Hart
Subject: RE: Request for E-mail Regarding New Course Proposal for Ethics and Law

Paul,

I think the change is good. I have no objections to that course being offered under that new title.
Best, Mike

From: Paul Hart
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 10:42 AM
To: Michael Harris
Subject: RE: Request for E-mail Regarding New Course Proposal for Ethics and Law

Mike,

I understand Clevis' point. The constraint I have is that this will be a 1.5 credit course and there's clearly a limit on how much can be covered. Down the road I would be open to exploring possibilities for reinforcing ethics in our undergrad/grad curriculum and inviting philosophy faculty to collaborate in some form with us. The most immediate constraint is that I had to turn in the syllabus and paperwork yesterday to meet the UPC deadline. Their meeting is next week. I plan on attending. I am most sympathetic to changing the name of the course to respond to Clevis' point. Perhaps a title such as "Business Law and Applied Ethics" would be satisfactory. I believe this work for folks in our College. Would you be okay with that?

Paul

From: Michael Harris
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 8:22 AM
To: Paul Hart
Subject: FW: Request for E-mail Regarding New Course Proposal for Ethics and Law

Hi Paul,

Here is a response from one of the philosophers. Can you take any of the "suggestions" below?

Best, Mike

From: Clevis Headley
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 10:09 PM
To: Michael Harris
Subject: RE: Request for E-mail Regarding New Course Proposal for Ethics and Law

Dear Mike:

The College of Business needs help with this kind of course. I reviewed the syllabus and there is no mention of theoretical ethics; it is intellectually irresponsible to teach ethics (even business ethics) and not cover the basic theories of ethics. In other words, students should be familiar with the basic concepts and principles of ethics in order to appreciate the ethical ramifications of business practices.

I suggest that if they really want to offer this course that they put the word "business" in the title in order to avoid confusion with a *bone fide* philosophical course on ethics. Indeed, I think that a better title would be: "Business and Responsibility."

Regards

Clevis

From: Michael Harris
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 4:29 PM
To: Clevis Headley; Marina Banchetti
Subject: FW: Request for E-mail Regarding New Course Proposal for Ethics and Law

fyi

From: Paul Hart
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 4:25 PM
To: Michael Harris
Subject: RE: Request for E-mail Regarding New Course Proposal for Ethics and Law

Thanks. Down the road there may be some opportunity for collaboration on a course like this. I am not sure what form it might take, but it would be interesting to experiment.

The UPC meets next Wednesday. I would appreciate it if you could respond before that meeting.

Paul

From: Michael Harris
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 4:22 PM
To: Paul Hart
Subject: RE: Request for E-mail Regarding New Course Proposal for Ethics and Law

Paul,

I will send this out to my colleagues in the Department of Philosophy. I wouldn't think there would be any objection, but let me check first.

Best, Mike

From: Paul Hart
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 2:37 PM
To: Michael Harris
Subject: Request for E-mail Regarding New Course Proposal for Ethics and Law

Michael,

The College of Business conducted an extensive review of the MBA curriculum. One of the changes the College would like to make is to include a 1.5 credit course in Ethics and Law in the curriculum. I am attaching a copy of the Course Proposal, the Syllabus, and a Bibliography. Would you review the materials and provide an e-mail commenting on the course. I will try to follow up with a phone call this afternoon.

Paul

Paul Hart
Associate Dean

Paul Hart

From: Aimee Arias
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2013 11:40 AM
To: Paul Hart
Subject: RE: Ethics and Law Course -- College of Business

The Department of Political Science has reviewed and supports this course with no issues.

Best,
Aimee

Aimee Kanner Arias, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Chair
Department of Political Science
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road, SO 392A
Boca Raton, FL 33431
Phone: 561.297.3211
E-mail: akanner2@fau.edu

From: Paul Hart
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 11:23 AM
To: Aimee Arias
Subject: Ethics and Law Course -- College of Business

Hello Aimee,

Tim Lenz forwarded material to you regarding a new course proposal the College of Business is putting through as part of our MBA curriculum revision. I am attaching the materials for your convenience. The UPC is meeting next week. I would appreciate your response as soon as possible. If you would like to discuss the course, please call me at 7-3674. Thanks.

Paul

Paul Hart
Associate Dean
College of Business
Florida Atlantic University