

## **RE 334 BUSINESS ETHICS**

**The Rev. Dr. Vincent O'Neill (626-1306)**

### **SOURCES**

**This course will draw on the following sources: Selected articles and videos, philosophical of business dilemmas, case studies, quizzes, models of ethical decision making, and an understanding of human moral development.**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Business ethics is an upper level course in religious studies. The purpose of this course is twofold: to provide each student with a comprehensive understanding of business ethics and to equip each student to think ethically and critically in business.**

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Student will be expected:**

- 1. To attend all classes and to participate in all class discussions and interactions.**
- 2. To read reflectively all required materials.**
- 3. To provide the instructor with a written critical summary of each article as indicated.**
- 4. To respond to each ethical business case study in writing as well as in group discussion.**
- 5. To complete a major term paper on a business topic with ethical issues, dilemmas, or challenges. The student chooses the topic with the instructor's approval.**

**TEXT: RESPONSES TO 101 QUESTIONS ON BUSINESS ETHICS**

**George Devine**

## **MAJOR THEMES**

**FEDERAL AGENCIES – HANDOUT AND LECTURE**  
**TERMINOLOGY – HANDOUT AND DEFINE**  
**COMPREHENSIVE ETHICS PROGRAM – 7 ELEMENTS –**  
**LECTURE**

**FIVE STEPS OF ETHICAL MANAGEMENT – LECTURE**  
**FOUR LINES OF BUSINESS ETHICS – LECTURE**  
**CEO – 3 ROLES – LECTURE**  
**FOUR DEFENSE MECHANISMS – LECTURE**  
**COMMISSION & OMISSION – LECTURE**  
**WORKPLACE VIOLENCE – HANDOUT & LECTURE**  
**THEFT, ESPIONAGE, SABOTAGE**  
**ARISTOTLE’S MODELS – HANDOUT & LECTURE**  
**MARCUS – EXAM**  
**ETHICS CODE – TRAINING & RETRAINING – LECTURE**  
**CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 WITH ADDITIONS – LECTURE**  
**THE POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF CORPORATIONS, UNIONS,**  
**AND ASSOCIATIONS – LECTURE**  
**MAJOR FEDERAL ANTITRUST LAWS – LECTURE**  
**MAJOR FEDERAL EQUAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES – LAWS &**  
**EXECUTIVE ORDERS**  
**PERSON VALUES – ALLIGATOR RIVER**  
**HUMAN MORAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**TRUST – WHAT IS IT?**  
**CONSUMERISM AND MATERIALISM**

## **PRINCIPAL TOPICS**

- **Advertising**
- **Professional Ethics**
- **Confidentiality**
- **A Living Wage**
- **Work Performance**
- **Quality Products**
- **Full disclosure**
- **Defective Products**

- **State and Federal Taxes**
- **“One’s Word”**
- **Excessive CEO Compensation**
- **Competition**
- **Company Loyalty**
- **Social Responsibility**
- **Favoritism**
- **Vice of Greed**
- **Health Benefits**
- **Product Recall**
- **Ecology**
- **Unearned Reward**
- **Termination**

### CASES

- **Federal White Collar Crime Case**
- **Sales Manager**
- **Third World Employees**
- **The Competition**
- **Environmental Laws**
- **Jane Beagle**
- **Affirmative Action**
- **Sid Slick**
- **Marcus**
- **Downsizing**
- **The Neighborhood Store**
- **Diversified Services, Inc.**
- **Bill Bagadonuts**
- **Joe Sixpack**
- **Artie**

### VIDEOS

- **Taxi – 20 min.**
- **Crime in the Suites – 30 min.**
- **White Collar Crime – 1 hr.**
- **South of the Border – 20 min.**

- **Truth on Trial – 1 hr.**
- **Public Trust, Private Interests – 1 hr.**
- **Anatomy of a Corporate Takeover – 1 hr.**
- **Five Ethical Dilemmas – 5 min. (each)**

### **ARTICLES**

- **Profiling Workplace Violence**
- **The Church and Wall Street**
- **Business Ethics : A Oxymoron?**
- **It's Not Nice To Fool Business Ethicists**
- **Whistle Blowing and The Professional**
- **The Ultimate Ethics Test**