

BMGT 1341.12013
Business Ethics
Spring 2012

Class Time: TTH 10:00-11:20 am
Sedate Hall Room 210-2

[Office Hours](#)



Instructor: Connie Nichols

E-mail: cnichols@odessa.edu

Office: Sedate Hall 208

Phone: 432-335-6521

It is the student's responsibility to check the syllabus for updates and changes during the semester.

Course Description: Discussion of ethical issues, the development of a moral frame of reference and the need for an awareness of social justice in management practices and business activities. Review of ethical responsibilities and relationships between organizational departments, divisions, executive management, and the public. 3 Credit Hours (SCANS 5, 6, 9, 10, 11) No prerequisite required.

Required Text: Business Ethics 2nd edition by Andrew W. Ghillyer, ©2010, McGraw-Hill, ISBN-13 9780073377100. This book may be purchased from the Odessa College Bookstore or from an online book seller.

Course Goals and Outcomes:

- Define business ethics and list reasons why business firms should be ethical
- Describe major types of ethical reasoning that persons in business can use to analyze ethical dilemmas
- Explain how business, government, and society function as an interactive system
- Explain the concept of corporate social responsibility
- Discuss social and ethical threats emerging from rapid technological change

Course Expectations: This is a college level course and you will, therefore, be expected to uphold established college standards as outlined in the most recent Odessa College Catalog. Your final grade will be based upon a combination of the following factors:

1. Preparedness
2. Purposeful participation in the classroom discussion
3. Ability to relate and apply the concepts discussed in the course
4. Scores on exams, projects, and other assignments
5. Attendance of a minimum of 4 community leadership meetings
6. Score on final exam

Note that preparedness and purposeful participation are the first two elements of the grading criteria. This is **not** strictly a lecture course. Students will be required to actively participate in the discussions, both individually and in assigned groups. You cannot participate if you are not present in class, and purposeful participation is difficult to achieve if you are not prepared. If you must be absent, please contact your instructor before the absence if possible or as soon after the missed class as possible to make arrangements for the make-up work or missed

assignments. **This is your responsibility.** Show respect to everyone in the class by communicating appropriately - do not sleep or put your head or feet on the tables or chairs. The instructor's office hours and phone numbers are listed above. Please do not hesitate to utilize this time to discuss any course-related topic.

Management students are encouraged to make appointments with Connie Nichols or Sue Jones to discuss both academic and career goals toward the end of each long semester.

Departmental and Instructor Course Requirements, Evaluation Methods and Grading Policy:

There are projects and/or assignments associated with this course as well as a Final Exam. The assignments must be completed and turned in by due date. Check the Assignment page for details. Students are required to attend a minimum of 4 community leadership meetings during the each semester. Check the calendar page for a list of organizations, meeting dates and times, and instructions.

- Class Participation 45%
- Tests and Assignments 35%
- [Community Leadership Meetings](#) 10%
- Finals 10%

The projected cutoff point for A's, B's, C's, and D's are based on a 90%, 80%, 70%, and 60%, respectively. At the end of the semester these projected cutoff points will be adjusted (i.e. raised or lowered) in order to reflect the overall performance of the class. Thus the actual grade will not be known with certainty until after the semester is over. Student will receive an updated grade sheet along with the graded assignment and any comments or suggestions regarding the work submitted.

Information regarding withdrawals, dropping a class or receiving an incomplete can be found in the current [Odessa College Catalog](#).

Management students should be aware that a grade of a "C" or better is necessary to meet the degree or certificate requirements.

Student E-mail: If you have not already accessed your Odessa College Student E-mail, please follow the link to set up your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>

Objective of the Management Department: The primary object of the management program is to prepare each student for employment by providing skills training in critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, communication, self-management, and leadership. The management program is not intended to serve as preparatory work toward a baccalaureate degree. Students planning to pursue a four-year degree should consult the upper level institution of their choice regarding transferability of courses.

Department Web site: <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/management/>

Management Department Philosophy: Marketing is the core of all business practices - from the mom and pop neighborhood store to Fortune 500 companies. To help students understand this broad based concept, the following acronym has been created by Sue Jones and Connie Nichols, instructors in the Management Department of Odessa College:

- **M - managing**
- **A - all**
- **R - resources,**
- **K - knowledge and**
- **E - efforts**
- **T - toward**
- **I - intentionally**
- **N- navigating**
- **G - gains**

Learning Contract: Each student is expected to make a commitment to learn. Example below:

On this day, _____ I, _____ commit to learn.

Information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or students' and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).

Special Needs: Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this class, please contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability Services at 335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations. Students with disabilities are expected to carry out their obligations in completing coursework required of all students.

BMGT 1341.12013 Business Ethics		
Spring 2012 Tentative Schedule		
Date	Topic	Assignment
Week 1 1-17-12 1-19-12	Course Introduction Chapter 1 Understanding Ethics	Assignment 1 due 1/19/12 Read Chapter 1
Week 2 1-24-12 1-26-12	Complete Chapter 1 Chapter 2 Defining Business Ethics	Read Chapter 2
Week 3 1-31-12 2-02-12	Chapter 2 - continued	Assignment 2 due 2/02/12

Week 4 2-07-12 2-09-12	Video Case Study - 	Assignment 3 - due 2/07/12 Read Chapter 3
Week 5 2-14-12 2-16-12	Chapter 3 Organizational Ethics	Read Chapter 4
Week 6 2-21-12 2-23-12	Chapter 4 Corporate Social Responsibility	Read Chapter 5
Week 7 2-28-12 3-01-12	Chapter 5 Corporate Governance	Read Chapter 6
Week 8 3-06-12 3-08-12	Spring Break - no class	
Week 9 3-13-12 3-15-12	Chapter 6 The Role of Government	
Week 10 3-20-12 3-22-12	Case Study – Wall Street 	Read Chapter 7
Week 11 3-27-12 3-29-12	Chapter 7 Blowing the Whistle	Wall Street Assignment due 3/27/12 Read Chapter 8
Week 12 4-03-12 4-05-12	Chapter 8 Ethics and Technology	
Week 13 4-12-12 4-12-12	Case Study – Thank You For Smoking 	Read Chapter 9
Week 14 4-17-12 4-19-12	Chapter 9 Ethics and Globalization	Thank You For Smoking Assignment due 4/17/12 Read Chapter 10
Week 15 4-24-12 4-26-12	Chapter 10 Making it Stick: Doing What's Right in a Competitive Market	
Week 16 5-01-12 5-03-12	Course Review	
Week 17 5-08-12	Final	Final Due 5-08-12
Holidays January 18, 2012 Martin Luther King Day - Campus Closed March 12-17 Spring Break - Campus Closed Last Day to Drop: Friday, April 13, 2012 April 06 Good Friday - Campus Closed Graduation: May 11, 2012		