



MGMT 5710.540 – Seminar in Business Ethics | Fall 16W 2025

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Class: Tuesday | 09:00 -11:50 | BLB 260

Office Hours: By appointment or on

Mon. 14:30-16:00 & Tue. 13:30-15:00

Course Description

Seminar in Business Ethics (3 credit hours). This course will give students an understanding of the strategic purposes of the firm as both an economic and social entity within society. Topics for the course include ethics in business and ethical decision-making, corporate social responsibility, and stakeholder management. An examination of the organization's relationship with various stakeholders will include shareholders, employees, customers, and the environment. Ethical dilemmas related to each topic are identified and analyzed. Students should consider the course an exercise in applied philosophy, designed to increase critical thinking skills for the purpose of producing more ethical business practices.

Course Objectives

- **Ethics:** students will understand, identify, and apply the following ethical frameworks in the practice of present-day business operations: virtue ethics, deontology or duty-based ethics, consequentialist ethics, feminist & justice ethics.
- **Business:** students will understand and analyze the ethical nature of business operations and create concatenate ethical business practices.
- **Sustainability:** students will understand and evaluate critical problems in industrial capitalism relative to long-term sustainability.

Required Materials

This course is an Open Educational Resource and does not require the purchase of any curricular materials such as texts or workbooks. Students will need appropriate technology including access to a computer with Internet capability and access to some form of GenAI (such as an LLM of their choice).

Course Access

- ❖ You can access the course at <https://unt.instructure.com>
- ❖ Login using your EUID and Password
- ❖ Click "MGMT 5710" from the list of courses

Please note that Canvas relies exclusively on electronic technologies for online participation, and technology is not 100% reliable. Students assume ALL responsibility for the operating condition of personal computers and the functionality of individual Internet connections.

Please immediately report ALL Canvas problems to the UNT helpdesk at 940.565.2324. Be sure to ask for a ticket number and then email the ticket number to me along with the report from the helpdesk. Without a ticket number, I can't follow up on the technical issue. Technical difficulties are resolved as they appear on a case-by-case basis.



EUID access, passwords, and communication:

Enterprise User Identification Numbers (EUID's) and passwords are required by the University of North Texas to access this course. It is the student's responsibility to maintain a current EUID number and password. You may reset your password at <https://ams.unt.edu/acctreq.php>.

Students are also expected to regularly check both their university assigned email address and Canvas messaging system while class is in session. Students can be held accountable for communication sent to either of these locations and should only communicate with faculty through these channels, in-person, or by calling the above listed office phone number.

Class Structure

This course is taught in-person, utilizing resources online and through Canvas. It is the student's responsibility to be able to access, and appropriately use, online materials and complete course requirements as assigned in the course schedule provided in the syllabus. Course meets F-1 visa requirements for international students.

Assignments are made available on a scheduled basis throughout the semester. Exams and quizzes will only be accessed in person using exam security protocols. Assignment dates are published at the beginning of the semester so students may plan ahead. Students are expected to read or review all the assigned materials on time, per the course calendar in the syllabus. Additional material, which may reflect content newly identified as relevant to the course, may be provided. In such instances, students will be given adequate notice and time to review it.

Grading Policy

Students are awarded points on course assignments following faculty review of submitted work using the grading tools found online in Canvas for each assignment. Students may submit work late for partial credit: 15% reduction in the first 24 hours and a 30% reduction thereafter. No late work is accepted after the Wednesday of week fifteen in the semester. This does not apply to work submitted late that has been excused by [University Policy](#).

Assignment	Points
Reading Quizzes	50
Ethical Case Analyses	200
My Ethical Action Project	200
Corporate Responsibility Action Pitch	100
Exams (3 @ 100 points each)	450
Total Points Available for the Course	1000

Grades will be based on the points earned during the course according to this scale:

A = 900-1000 points
B = 800-899 points
C = 700-799 points

D = 600-699 points
F = Below 600 points



Major Assignment Descriptions

Ethical Case Analyses (2 @ 100 points each)

Students will be presented with cases related to modern day business operations. Each case will align with the reading material assigned for that week. Students will then be prompted to analyze the case by heavily utilizing the material from that week while minimizing opining or pontificating. The objective here is to demonstrate an understanding of the material and an ability to apply it.

Reading Quizzes (50 Points)

Students are expected to read the assigned material per the course calendar in Canvas and at the bottom of the syllabus. If it is deemed necessary as a measure of accountability, the instructor may institute short quizzes over the assigned reading. At the conclusion of the semester the total number of points will be converted to 50 and be calculated into the 1,000-point total for the course. Example: If it ends up there are a total of 60 points throughout the semester and a student earns 48 of them, this will convert to 40/50 toward the final grade.

M.E.A.P. [My Ethical Action Project] (200 Points)

An MBA is a practitioner's degree, and while it should be academically rigorous, the focus is on gaining practical skills that are demonstrable in the modern workforce. In line with this thinking, students are tasked to engage in a series of ethical actions outside of the classroom in the setting of a local organization or community group. Full details will be available in Canvas and students are encouraged to start early and ask questions often.

C.R.A.P. [Corporate Responsibility Action Pitch] (100 points)

Students will record a presentation for the class on the need for reform in the business world toward greater corporate social responsibility. Topics may include environmental, social, or operational concerns. The presentations will be in the form of a Pecha Kucha, a brief, highly structured presentation format. The presentation will utilize a form of peer review in which reviewers are granted anonymity to promote critical assessment.

Exams (3 @ 150 points each)

There will be three exams scheduled during the semester, with the third exam being the non-cumulative final. All material covered in class, assigned textbook readings, Internet resources, and videos are subject to appear on the exams. Exams are not open-book or open-note, with the exception of one 3x5 notecard. Other than that, no outside assistance is allowed. Students are expected to study beforehand and use this knowledge to take the exams during scheduled class time. University laptops may be made available if the exams use LockDown Browser.



Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments Due
1	<u>8/19</u>	Business Ethics Foundations and Key Topics	
2	8/26	Ethical Theory (1)	
3	<u>9/2</u>	Ethical Theory (2)	M.E.A.P. Proposal
4	9/9	Ethical Theory (3)	
5	<u>9/16</u>		Exam
6	9/23	Motives and Market Structure	
7	<u>9/30</u>	Corporate Social Responsibility	Ethical Case Analysis 1
8	10/7	Stakeholder Management Principles	
9	<u>10/14</u>	Workplace Ethics & Moral Psychology	
10	10/21		Exam
11	<u>10/28</u>	Ethics in the Technosphere	Ethical Case Analysis 2
12	11/4	Corporate Agency & Political Systems	
13	<u>11/11</u>	Sustainability & Environmental Ethics	C.R.A.P.
14	11/18	Globalization & International Ethics	
15	12/2	Review and Discussion	Final M.E.A.P.
16	12/11	<u>8:00 AM on Thur. December 11</u>	Final Exam



Course Policies, Procedures, and Requirements

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>) academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. All violations of the Student Academic Integrity policy will be reported. Usage of cell phones, iPhones, cameras, or any other electronic device is not allowed during a test; nor is talking to other students, soliciting or giving help. Copying, photographing, or disseminating the questions in any form is prohibited. Remember, the exam questions are randomized so you will NOT see the same questions in the same order as your classmates. The course will utilize TurnItIn as a plagiarism checker.

ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Act professionally and respectfully at all times. Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class, or other students' opportunity to learn, is unacceptable, disruptive, and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be referred to the Dean of Students to review whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://conduct.unt.edu>. Any person who believes that a violation of UNT policy has been committed by a student can go to <https://report.unt.edu> and report the allegation.

ATTENDANCE

A lot of work goes into each class to make a student's encounter with the course material enriching, informative, and engaging. It is therefore disrespectful to miss class for reasons not outside of the student's control. That being said, college is a place of adult learners. If students elect to pay for a class and not show up, that remains their prerogative in a free society. Though not built into the course grading structure, students who elect not to attend are likely to suffer a grade reduction or miss out on opportunities their peers in class experience. Students should communicate with faculty as soon as possible for anything covered under University Policy 06.039: [Student Attendance and Authorized Absences](#).

COLLEGE EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Severe Weather: In the event of severe weather, all building occupants should immediately seek shelter in the designated shelter-in-place area in the building. If unable to safely move to the designated shelter-in-place area, seek shelter in a windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest floor of the building. All building occupants should take shelter in rooms 055, 077, 090, and the restrooms on the basement level. In rooms 170, 155, and the restrooms on the first floor. **Bomb Threat/Fire:** In the event of a bomb threat or fire in the building, all building occupants should immediately evacuate the building using the nearest exit. Once outside, proceed to the designated assembly area. If unable to safely move to the designated assembly area, contact one or more members of your department or unit to let them know you are safe and inform them of your whereabouts. Persons with mobility impairments who are unable to safely exit the building should move to a designated area of refuge and await assistance from emergency responders. All building occupants should immediately evacuate the building and proceed to the south side of Crumley Hall in the grassy area, west of parking lot 24.



COURSE EVALUATIONS

This semester, UNT will administer course evaluations online (the "SPOT" – Student Evaluation of Teaching). The evaluations are used to evaluate faculty performance and provide guidance on what can be improved (also tell us what you like!). These are very important to me as you are the reason I'm here. I truly value your feedback and very much appreciate you taking the time to complete the evaluations which will be administered towards the end of the semester. You will be notified on Canvas and via your UNT email once the evaluations open.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodation at any time. However, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided to me within the first week of the semester. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the ODA website at <http://disability.unt.edu>.

DROPPING THE COURSE

If you decide it is necessary to drop the course, please adhere to the Academic Calendar on the Registrar's website: <http://www.unt.edu/catalog/>. With regards to dropping the course, you will need to go to the following link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/dropping-class> and click on Request to Drop Class form. If you have questions or need assistance you may go by the Department of Management in the Business Leadership Building – room 207.

EMERGENCY ALERTS

The University of North Texas has an emergency Notification System, Eagle Alert (<https://www.unt.edu/eaglealert/>), which has the capability of calling or text messaging emergency notices. As a student, you may also register with Eagle Connect Alert to receive notification of any warnings or campus closings that are announced. Instructions for enrollment can be found at my.unt.edu. The University's radio station, KNTU 88.1 FM and website <http://www.unt.edu>, will provide updated information during an emergency situation.