

# IB3E6-15 Ethical Issues in Contemporary Business

**22/23**

**Department**

Warwick Business School

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 3

**Module leader**

Demetris Hadjimichael

**Credit value**

15

**Module duration**

10 weeks

**Assessment**

Multiple

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

This is an elective module available for WBS and non-WBS students.

- Introduce students to basic theories of ethics and politics.
- Engage students with a range of ethical challenges faced by contemporary business and other organisations in the practices of their activities and operations.
- Enable students to apply theories of ethics to contemporary issues faced by business and other organisations.
- Enable students to engage with and critically reflect upon ethical choices and dilemmas by engaging in a team based project work which requires them to deal practically with ethical concerns.

[Module web page](#)

### Module aims

- Introduce students to basic theories of ethics and politics.
- Engage students with a range of ethical challenges faced by contemporary business and

other organisations in the practices of their activities and operations.

- Enable students to apply theories of ethics to contemporary issues faced by business and other organisations.
- Enable students to engage with and critically reflect upon ethical choices and dilemmas by engaging in a team based project work which requires them to deal practically with ethical concerns.

## **Outline syllabus**

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Introduction to business ethics and contemporary ethical dilemmas

How narratives, habits and non-reflectiveness affect ethics in organizations

Utilitarian ethics and organizations

Kantian ethics and organizations

Virtue ethics and organizations

Freedom and rights: liberalism and egalitarianism

Marx, commodity fetishism and inhumane working conditions

Feminist Ethics

Ethics and Emotions in Organisations

The future of work; effective labour

## **Learning outcomes**

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of core theories of ethics.
- Understand key contemporary ethical issues faced by businesses and organisations.
- Utilise critical thinking skills in analyzing ethical dilemmas elicited/explored with the research project
- Understand/have an experience of teamwork and research skills/activities

## **Indicative reading list**

Sandel, M. (2010). Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do? London: Penguin Books.

Gibson, K. (2012). Ethics and Business: An Introduction Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Sandhu, Martin (2011) Just Business: Arguments in Business Ethics. London: Pearson Hall.

## **Subject specific skills**

Apply ethical theories to analyse critically contemporary ethical issues faced by businesses and other organisations.

Understand current organizational responses (practices, procedures, etc.) to ethical dilemmas.

## **Transferable skills**

Demonstrate improved verbal communication skills.  
Demonstrate improved written communication skills.

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## Study

### Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	10 sessions of 2 hours (13%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	48 hours (32%)
Assessment	73 hours (49%)
Total	150 hours

### Private study description

Private Study.

## Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

### Assessment group A3

	Weighting	Study time
Individual Assignment (15 CATS)	70%	51 hours
Group Video and Summary (15 CATS)	20%	15 hours
Group video and summary (500 words)		
Participation (15 CATS)	10%	7 hours

### Assessment group R1

	Weighting	Study time
Individual Assignment	30%	
1500 word limit (replaces group video and participation)		

	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Study time</b>
Individual Assignment	70%	

## Feedback on assessment

Feedback via My.WBS.

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## Availability

### Courses

This module is Optional for:

- UIBA-MN34 Law and Business Four Year (Qualifying Degree)
  - Year 3 of MN34 Law and Business Studies Four Year (Qualifying Degree)
  - Year 4 of MN34 Law and Business Studies Four Year (Qualifying Degree)
- UECA-3 Undergraduate Economics 3 Year Variants
  - Year 3 of L100 Economics
  - Year 3 of L100 Economics
  - Year 3 of L100 Economics
  - Year 3 of L116 Economics and Industrial Organization
  - Year 3 of L116 Economics and Industrial Organization
- UECA-4 Undergraduate Economics 4 Year Variants
  - Year 4 of L103 Economics with Study Abroad
  - Year 4 of LM1H Economics, Politics & International Studies with Study Abroad
  - Year 4 of LM1H Economics, Politics & International Studies with Study Abroad
  - Year 4 of L114 Industrial Economics with Study in Europe
- UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies
  - Year 3 of LM1D Economics, Politics and International Studies
  - Year 3 of LM1D Economics, Politics and International Studies
- Year 3 of UIBA-MN31 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies
- UIBA-MN32 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies
  - Year 3 of MN32 Law and Business Studies (Four-Year)
  - Year 4 of MN32 Law and Business Studies (Four-Year)
- Year 5 of UIBA-MN37 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies (Qualifying Degree) with Intercalated Year
- UIBA-MN35 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (3+1)
  - Year 3 of MN35 Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (3+1)
  - Year 4 of MN35 Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (3+1)
- Year 5 of UIBA-MN36 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (4+1)
- Year 3 of UMAA-GL11 Undergraduate Mathematics and Economics
- Year 4 of UECA-GL12 Undergraduate Mathematics and Economics (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Unusual option for:

- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
  - Year 3 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
  - Year 3 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
  - Year 3 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)

This module is Option list G for:

- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
  - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
  - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
  - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)