

ENGLISH – SYLLABUS (GENERAL)

SUBJECT:

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ETHICS

Studies: Management

II cycle studies
Excellence in Management

Faculty: Management

Subject status	Type of studies	Semester/ Term	Teaching hours		ECTS Points
			lectures	classes	
	Full time studies	1	18	-	3

Course description:

International Business Ethics is an interdisciplinary field that addresses the ethical challenges and dilemmas encountered in the global business arena. It explores the moral and ethical dimensions of business conduct, particularly in an international context where diverse cultural, legal, and societal norms interact. This subject delves into the study of ethical principles, moral philosophies, and ethical decision-making frameworks relevant to multinational corporations, cross-border trade, and global business operations.

The program emphasizes the critical examination of ethical theories and principles, integrating them with practical case studies and real-world scenarios. Students engage in discussions on various topics, including corruption, fair trade, labour rights, environmental sustainability, and corporate governance. They explore how cultural differences impact ethical perceptions and decision-making in international business.

Ethical decision-making is a central theme, enabling students to analyse and respond to complex ethical dilemmas they might encounter in the international business environment. The curriculum also covers corporate social responsibility (CSR), urging students to consider the ethical implications of business decisions on society, the environment, and various stakeholders.

The subject fosters a deeper understanding of ethical leadership and the development of responsible business practices, preparing students to be ethical leaders and agents of positive change in the global business community.

The course is filled in with many case studies and practical examples of ethical problems, so it should be interesting for all those students who are eager to deal with ethical issues also after the course.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Ethical Awareness: To cultivate a deep understanding of ethical issues in the global business landscape, fostering ethical consciousness and sensitivity among students.
- Ethical Decision-Making: To equip students with the skills necessary to critically analyse ethical dilemmas and make ethically sound decisions in international business contexts.
- Corporate Social Responsibility: To emphasize the significance of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainability in international business practices, encouraging students to integrate ethical and social considerations into business strategies.
- Cultural Competence: To promote cultural sensitivity and an understanding of diverse ethical perspectives, preparing students to navigate the ethical complexities in a globalized business environment.
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving: Students should be capable of critically analysing complex ethical issues, identifying problems, and proposing solutions based on sound ethical reasoning.

Teaching the functions and role of ethics for contemporary market entities, developing skills in solving ethical problems, as well as analysing data (from primary and secondary data).

Creating presentations for the reports and written reports on international business ethics problems. Training of social competences related to collective problem solving and preparing and introducing all stages of ethical problems in contemporary world

COURSE EVALUATION:

Workshops – n/a

Lectures - final exam will be one-choice questions and open questions. (or TBA during classes)

The grading scale is as follows:

100% - 85%	5.0 (excellent)
84,9% - 75%	4.5 (very good)
74,9% - 70%	4.0 (good)
69,9% - 60%	3.5 (very satisfactory)
50% - 59,9%	3.0 (satisfactory)
< 50%	2.0 (failure)

Course policies and class rules:

The use of smartphones, mobile phones, all devices with internet access, are not allowed during the exams. During other in-class assignments you can use them for assignment purposes only. Students are expected to take full responsibility for their academic work and academic progress. Students are expected to attend class regularly, for consistent attendance offers the most effective opportunity open to all students to gain a developing command of the concepts and materials of the course. The study programme is strict about student attendance regulations. Students who focus on the business of the class increase their likelihood of success. They can do so by listening attentively to the instructor or to other students while participating in discussions. During class, they can participate as fully as possible and volunteer to answer questions. Students should minimise all behaviours that distract others during the class. Talking to other students apart from class discussions is inappropriate. Students who arrive late should seat themselves as quietly and as near to the door as they can. Students who must leave before the class period ends should exit quietly. The course material is designed to be completed within the semester time frame.

Finally, please feel free to come and see me to ask questions or to discuss difficult material. The course material is all cumulative. If you do not understand what happens in the first week, you will not understand what happens in the last week.

Teaching Methods:

Lectures and case studies (multimedia, case study – projects on ethical topics)

Course overview:

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Main topics:

1. "Ethical Theories and Frameworks in International Business" - Exploring various ethical theories and decision-making frameworks applicable to global business contexts.
2. "Corporate Social Responsibility in Global Business" - Analysing the role of businesses in contributing to sustainable development and the well-being of communities worldwide.
3. "Cultural Diversity and Ethical Challenges" - Examining how cultural differences impact ethical decision-making and business conduct in the international arena.
4. "Ethics in Global Supply Chains" - Discussing ethical challenges in supply chain management, such as labour rights, fair trade, and sustainability issues.
5. "Ethical Leadership and Governance in Multinational Corporations" - Exploring the responsibilities of leaders and governance structures in upholding ethical standards in multinational enterprises.

Both lectures and case studies cover all above.

Literature**Main texts:**

1. Arnold, D. G., & Hartman, L. P., "Ethical Theory and Business", Cambridge University Press, 2013
2. Schwartz, M. S., "Business Ethics: An Ethical Decision-Making Approach", Wiley, 2016
3. Bowie, N. E., "Business Ethics: A Kantian Perspective", Wiley-Blackwell, 2018

Additional required reading material:

1. Crane, A., & Matten, D., "Business Ethics: Managing Corporate Citizenship and Sustainability in the Age of Globalization", Oxford University Press, 2016
2. Treviño, L. K., & Nelson, K. A., "Managing Business Ethics: Straight Talk about How to Do It Right", Wiley, 2016
3. Fort, T. L., "Business, Integrity, and Peace: Beyond Geopolitical and Disciplinary Boundaries", Cambridge University Press, 2015

Rules of the exams on subject (Assessments)

Lectures – Written exam (test and case study)

Classes – n/a

Date of submitting the syllabus: 30.09.2023

Accepted by: Dean of International Affairs

Signature:

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