

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith**  
**5210 Grand Avenue**  
**P. O. Box 3649**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649**  
**479-788-7000**

## **General Syllabus**

### **PHIL 3213 Business Ethics**

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: PHIL 2753 Introduction to Philosophy, or PHIL 3203 Ethics Across the Disciplines, or MGMT 3133 Social Responsibility and Ethics

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

#### **I. Course Information**

##### **A. Catalog Description**

Exploration of normative ethical theories and their application to systemic, corporate, and individual practices in business world.

##### **B. Additional Information**

This course will serve as one of the electives for the minor in Philosophy and will help to expand the department's offerings

#### **II. Student Learning Outcomes**

##### **A. Subject Matter**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the importance of ethics for the operation of a successful business.
2. Identify the major ethical principles and issues in business.
3. Describe the major positions that have been put forward in response to these issues.
4. Analyze some of the common arguments used to justify positions in business ethics and show how these relate to standard ethical theories.
5. Evaluate some of the common arguments that have been introduced to justify positions in business ethics.
6. Develop his/her own arguments on various topics in business ethics.

##### **B. University Learning Outcomes**

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

**Ethical Decision Making**

Students will be evaluate and argue for the best solutions in resolving case studies.

**Communication Skills**

Through oral presentations and written documents, students will further develop some of the conceptual and linguistic skills necessary to successfully communicate ethical ideas to a wide audience.

**Global and Cultural Perspectives**

Students will discuss the role that business ethics has had in shaping cultures throughout the world.

**III. Major Course Topics**

- A. Basic ethical theories and types of arguments
  1. General Issues in Business Ethics:
    - Relationship between Ethics and Business
    - Morality of Major Economic Systems
    - Employer's Rights and Obligations
    - Employee's Rights and Obligations
    - Technology and Ethics
  2. Specific Issues in Business Ethics:
    - Competition
    - Environmental Concerns
    - Marketing
    - Discrimination
    - Sexual Harassment
    - Affirmative Action
    - Whistle-blowing
    - Insider Trading, etc.