Stephen F. Austin State University
College of Business Administration
Business, Ethics, & Society – BUSI 3325 Section 004
GENERAL INFORMATION AND SYLLABUS
Fall 2023

Professor: Mr. George Paul, MBA
Nelson Rusche College of Business/McGee Building 229K
Department of Business Communications & Legal Studies
Tel: (936) 468-3103 Department
(936) 468-1649 Office
Email: George.paul@sfasu.edu

Office Hours:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Office Hours</th>
<th>Class Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>13:00 – 14:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:00 – 17:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>11:00 – 16:00</td>
<td>09:30 – 10:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>13:00 – 14:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:00 – 17:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>11:00 – 12:00</td>
<td>09:30 – 10:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Course Description: A comprehensive study of the dynamic social, political, legal, and regulatory environments within which domestic and international businesses must operate. Course topics are examined with an emphasis on ethical business decision making and consideration of the social responsibility of business.

Prerequisite: Junior Standing

Program Learning Outcomes: Program learning outcomes define the knowledge, skills, and abilities students are expected to demonstrate upon completion of an academic program. These learning outcomes are regularly assessed to determine student learning and to evaluate overall program effectiveness. You may access the program learning outcomes for your major and particular courses at http://www.sfasu.edu/cob/ug-plo.asp.

Student Learning Outcomes/Course Goals and Objectives:

This course is designed to emphasize and explain the importance of understanding the dynamics of the environment of the business community. After completing this course, the student will be able to identify the environmental forces that may impact the operation of a business, and further, to understand the importance of being prepared for environmental changes and anticipating the expectations of stakeholders. This course will also help the business student develop an understanding and application of ethical
principles in evaluating business decisions, as well as considering the social responsibility expected by
the stakeholders of the business community in the decision-making process.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Examinations: There will be 3 “mini-examinations” (45 min. each) and 2 full examinations (a mid-term
and a final). You will have 75 min. to complete the mid-term, and 120 min. to complete the final. The
examinations will be worth the following points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination Type</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Mini-Examinations:</td>
<td>60 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Examination:</td>
<td>125 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination:</td>
<td>150 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Exam Points:</td>
<td>455 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are responsible on every exam for all material covered in class and also for all reading assigned
outside of class. All examinations are considered to be a major part of the course work upon which a large
part of your grade depends. Missed exams will only be excused and allowed to be made up for
university-excused absences or for extreme emergencies that justify missing the exam. What
constitutes an extreme emergency is within the discretion of the instructor. Any excused exams must
be scheduled for make up within two (2) days of the missed exam or the emergency has resolved itself, or
students missing the exam will receive a point value of zero (0) for the missed exam. It is entirely the
student’s responsibility to make arrangements with me to take the missed exam. If you have a conflict
with another university event or a university excused absence, you must contact me well in advance of the
examination. In case of an extreme emergency that prevents you from taking an exam, contact me before
the scheduled examination if at all possible. If it is not possible to contact me before the exam, contact
me as soon as possible after the emergency is resolved. Failure to do so may result in an examination
grade of zero.

For the online mini-exams, you are allowed to use your book and class notes. However, you are not
allowed to use any online study aids/try to look up answers online!

Students are NOT permitted to use the textbook, notes, or any other resources during the mid-term
or final exams. In addition, exams are to be individual work and collaboration with other students
or individuals is not allowed. Using ANY materials of any kind on the exams or collaborating with
other students on the exams is considered cheating, and a violation of SFA’s academic dishonesty
policy, which will result in appropriate consequences.

As of now, I do not plan to require any proctoring of exams. However, if I begin to see abnormal
test results that indicate cheating is taking place, I reserve the right to require proctoring of
exams.

Individual Writing Assignments (100 points total): You will write two ethical reasoning case analyses.
Each will be worth 50 points. Further instructions on these assignments is provided in Syllabus Appendix
1.
**Group Writing Assignment (100 points total):** The class will be divided up into groups of 3-5 students and you will complete a group writing project. This assignment will be worth 100 points. The specifics of this assignment are set forth in Appendix 2 of this syllabus.

**Late Work:** I do not accept late work. Any paper that is not submitted via the D2L Dropbox by the time set forth in the syllabus will receive a zero. **It is the student’s responsibility to know how to use the Dropbox submission process properly.** If you fail to properly submit your assignment through Dropbox before the time and date it is due, you will receive a 0 on that assignment. **There is no exception to this policy – I do not accept late work.** The only way I will accept a paper that was not in the Dropbox folder by the time it is closed is if you provide me with proof, through the Dropbox submission confirmation email, that you did submit the assignment and the only reason I have not received it was a technical problem outside of your control. **If you have submitted your assignment properly, you should receive an email from Dropbox. If you do not receive an email, then you should try to re-submit, because that means your submission did not go through.** This means that you should submit your paper sufficiently in advance of the time it is due such that if the Dropbox is not working for some reason, you can send me an email before the time the paper is due with the paper attached to the email letting me know that you tried to submit the paper via the Dropbox but it was not working properly. I will not accept hard copies handed to me or emailed copies – you must submit your assignments electronically via Dropbox.

**Extra Credit – Course Evaluation:** Students will be given 5 extra credit points for completing the course evaluation.

**Grading Policy:** Grades are calculated based on the percentage ratio of the student’s total accumulated points to the total possible (655) points for the course. For example, if an exam has 25 questions, it is irrelevant if a question is valued at 1 point or 4 points or 100 points. Your grade will be calculated by dividing the correctly answered questions by 25. In this case, 25/25 = 100%. 20/25 = 80%, etc. This also applies to assignments.

Your participation grade will be the average score of all your percentage points. For example, 8/10 = 80%. 90/100 = 90%. If these were your only assignments, then your assignment grade would be 85%, which equals the average of 80% (8/10) and 90% (90/100). Grades are NOT rounded up; 79.99 = 79.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100% = A</td>
<td>45 points Mini-Exam No. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89% = B</td>
<td>47 points Mini-Exam No. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79% = C</td>
<td>50 points Mini-Exam No. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69% = D</td>
<td>100 points Mid-Term Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60% = F</td>
<td>100 points Final Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>82 points Ethics Class Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>92 points Case Assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>516 Total Accumulated Points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

516 +5 bonus points (course eval) = 521/655= .79542 or 79.54%=80%=B Letter Grade. Even small amounts of extra credit help!
Medical and Other Serious Problems: Please take time and make the effort to advise me if you have difficulties which require my attention to properly evaluate your classroom participation and activities.

Late Instructor: Every effort is made by me to be in the classroom when the class is scheduled to begin. Students will be advised ahead of time if class is delayed or is not going to be held (and this would be extremely rare). Students are expected to wait 15 minutes for the instructor before leaving the class for failure to appear at the beginning of the scheduled time for class.

Unannounced Tests (Pop Quizzes) - I reserve the right to give unannounced tests (pop quizzes). Missed tests for university-excused absences will be made up within two (2) calendar days, or students missing the test will receive a point value of zero (0). It is the student’s total responsibility to make arrangements to take the missed test. Unannounced test points are added to the total possible point accumulation for the course.

Student Conduct (University Policy 10.4):

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the full Student Conduct Code at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-conduct-code.pdf.) Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/ inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

Food, drink, and tobacco products are prohibited in the classroom. Cell phones, computers, or any other type of electronic communication device are not allowed in the classroom unless the instructor expressly allows otherwise. If the instructor so directs, all such devices must be turned off and put away during class.

Student Academic Dishonesty (4.1):

Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any assignment or exam; (2) falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when is at least partly the work of another person; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or (3)
incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author credit. **Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university.** Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf)

**Course Grades (University Policy 5.5):**

At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy related to active military service. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Please refer to the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades.pdf).

**Students with Disabilities:**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Room 325 in the Human Services Building, 468-3004/468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Mental Health**

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support student’s mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**
SFASU Counseling Services • [www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices)
Health and Wellness Hub (corner of E. College and Raguet) • 936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic • [www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)
Human Services Room 202 • 936-468-1041

**Crisis Resources:**
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

**Course Calendar:** This is a general outline of material expected to be covered. Material covered, dates of tests, and material covered on each exam may vary slightly as necessitated by the pace in which material is covered. Any material deviations from this schedule will be announced and delivered to students either during class or by email.
Aug. 28 Mon. Syllabus, Policies, Chapter 1 – Introduction to the BGS Field

Aug. 30 Wed. Chapter 1 Cont’d.; Chapter 7 – Business Ethics

Sep. 4 Mon. Chapter 7 – Business Ethics
**Must notify me by end of class today, by email, of your group of 3-5 individuals if you have formed your own group, and which presentation you would like to do. The presentations will be allocated on a “first come, first serve” basis, so you should hurry and get your preference to me as soon as possible. If you have not self-selected a group and presentation date/topic by this time, I will randomly assign you to a group with others who have not self-selected.**

Sep. 6 Wed. Behavioral Ethics

Sep. 11 Mon. Behavioral Ethics/ Chapter 8 – Ethical Decision Making

Sep. 13 Wed. Chapter 8 – Ethical Decision Making

Sep. 18 Mon. Chapter 8 – Ethical Decision Making/Chapter 5 – Corporate Social Responsibility

Sep. 20 Wed. Chapter 5 – Corporate Social Responsibility

**Online Mini-Test 1 opens on Friday, Sep. 16 at 8:00 a.m. and is due by 11:59 p.m. on Sun., Sep. 18. [Chapters 1, 5, 7, 8, Behavioral Ethics]**

**Individual Case # 1 – due via D2L Dropbox Sun., Sep. 18 @ 11:59 p.m.**

Sep. 25 Mon. **Presentation # 1 – Sourcing Raw Materials and Supply Chain Management**

Sep. 27 Wed. Chapter 2 – The Dynamic Environment

Oct. 2 Mon. Chapter 2 – The Dynamic Environment/Chapter 3 – Business Power

Oct. 4 Wed. Chapter 3 – Business Power/Chapter 4 - Critics of Business

Oct. 9 Mon. **Presentation # 2 – Social Media, Free Speech, and Censorship**

Oct. 11 Wed. Chapter 4 – Critics of Business

Oct. 16 Mon. Chapter 4 – Critics of Business

**Online Mini-Test 2 opens on Monday, Oct. 10 at 5:00 p.m. and is due**
by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Wed., Oct. 12 [Chapters 2-4]

Oct. 18 Wed. Mid-Term Exam [Chapters 1-5, 7, 8, Behavioral Ethics]

Oct. 17 Mon. Presentation # 3 – Factory Farming

Oct. 23 Wed. Chapter 10 – Regulating Business

Oct. 25 Mon. Chapters 13/14 – Managing Environmental Quality

Oct. 30 Wed. Chapters 13/14 – Managing Environmental Quality

Individual Case # 2 due Sun., Oct. 30 @ 11:59 p.m.

Nov. 1 Mon. Presentation # 4 – Soda/Sugar Regulation and the Obesity Epidemic

Nov. 6 Wed. Chapter 15 – Consumerism

Nov. 8 Mon. Chapter 15 - Consumerism

Nov. 13 Wed. Presentation # 5 – Gender Based Marketing

Online Mini-Test 3 opens on Friday, Nov. 11 at 8:00 a.m. and is due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 13 [Chapters 10, 13, 14, 15]

Nov. 15 Mon. Chapter 16 – The Changing Workplace

Nov. 20 Wed. Chapter 16/Chapter 17 – Civil Rights, Women, and the Workplace

Nov. 22 Mon. NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Nov. 27 Wed. Presentation # 6 – Social Media and Hiring
Chapter 17 – Civil Rights, Women, and the Workplace

Nov. 28 Mon. Presentation # 7 – Gravity Payments
Chapter 17 – Civil Rights, Women, and the Workplace

Dec. 4 Mon. 

Dec. 6 Wed. 

Dec. 11 Mon. FINAL EXAM [Chapters 10, 13-17, 7 & 8, Behavioral Ethics] – 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.