

Dominican College of Blauvelt

MG 364: Business Ethics in Film and Literature

Instructor Information

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Course Information

Course Name: MG 364 – Business Ethics in Film and Literature

Credit Hours: 3

Format: Online

Term: Winter 2021

Course Description

Within this course, the concepts of business ethics are explored through the mediums of film and various works of literature. Topics such as social responsibility, genetic engineering, fraud, power, cheating, harassment, whistle-blowing, corporate culture, and labor relations will be explored.

Required Texts & Materials:

Required Texts

- *The Lord of the Flies*
- Machiavelli's *The Prince*
 - You can get this online. You only need Chapters 17, 18 and 19.

Films

- *Gattaca*
- *Enron*
- *Wall Street Money Never Sleeps*
- *Runaway Jury*
- *Flawless*
- *Emperor's Club*
- *A Civil Action*

Articles

You can get these by using the remote library database or on the internet.

- **(1) "Some Moral, Ethical and Transethical Issues Raised by Biotechnology and How We Might Deliberate About Them"** by Kieran Donaghy
 - Get this via the remote access library database
 - You will need this for *Gattaca*
- **(2) "Criminal Law vs. Civil Law Difference and Comparison"**
 - Get on the Internet or go to www.diffen.com/...Civil_Law_vs_
 - You will need this for *Runaway Jury*
- **(3) "Jury Tampering Law and Legal Definition"**
 - Get on the Internet or go to http://definitions.uslegal.com/j/jury_tampering/
 - You will need this for *Runaway Jury*
- **(4) "The Cheating Culture: Why More Americans are Doing Wrong to Get Ahead"** by David Callahan
 - Get on the remote access library database
 - You will need this for *The Emperor's Club*
- **(5) "The Parable of the Sadhu"**
 - You can get this on the Internet by going to: [The Parable of the Sadhu-muldoonski.com](http://www.muldoonski.com)
- **(6) "An Overview of Moral development and Moral Education"**
 - You can get this on the Internet
 - You will need it for the entire course
- **(7) "Ethical Issues in Genetic Engineering and Transgenics"**
 - You can get this online at <http://www.actionbioscience.org/biotech/glenn.html>
- **(8) "Ethical Dangers of Genetic Engineering"**
 - You can get this online at <http://www.greens.org/s-r/20/20/-01.html>

Course Objectives:

By the end of this semester, students should be able to:

- Explain how positive social responsibility makes an organization stronger
- Discuss how the ethical orientation of an organization impacts various stakeholders
- Demonstrate through the readings and analysis of the films how the culture of an organization impacts ethics.
- Articulate the different ethical philosophies that individuals can employ when making a decision involving the use of ethics.
- Understand how the use of power can work to the ethical advantage or disadvantage of an organization.
- Develop awareness as to how the efforts of science can be construed as ethical or unethical and how scientific endeavors are related to the field of business.

Assignments:

All assignments must be submitted on specified dates. Late assignments will be subject to a 2 point reduction for every day that an assignment is late. After the second day, the assignment will receive a grade of 0. Only those students who can substantiate the reason why they have not submitted an assignment on time will be permitted to hand in a late assignment.

Substantiation includes doctors' notes, court appointment notifications, or any other document that is considered to be of a serious nature.

Be aware that as we progress through the term, that class assignments are subject to minor changes made by the instructor.

Films

To obtain films for film assignments, you can go to Netflix, rent the films from a local video store, go to the library, purchase the film online or at F.Y.E, or find some other Internet source by which you can find the films – if the film is available online. It is suggested that you find films way in advance.

Format of Written Assignments:

Written assignments must be typewritten (double-spaced) and proofed for both spelling and grammar, otherwise you will lose points. Appropriate, concise writing must be used, so that ideas are clearly conveyed. A 10 or 12 point font should be used and 8 ½ x 11 paper. This means that your paper should have approximately 20 lines per page assigned. Your name should appear on the top of your paper, as the instructor cannot guess whose paper it is when no name appears on the top. GRAMMAR AND SPELLING COUNT!

- All film analysis papers should be approximately 1 – 1.5 pages in length.
- Analysis of Lord of the Flies should be approximately 3-4 pages in length.
- Analysis of the three chapters of Machiavelli should be approx. 2-3 pages in length.
- Analysis of Parable of the Sadhu should be approx. 2 pages in length

Late assignments will be penalized 2 points for every day they are late. After the 2nd day, the late assignment will be graded as a 0.

Evaluation Criteria:

Assignment	Percentage
Analysis of films – 7 films @ 8 points each	56
Written Book Analysis (<i>Lord of the Flies</i>)	15
Written Analysis of 3 Chapters from <i>The Prince</i>	12
Discussions 2 @ 4 points each	8
Written analysis of Parable of the Sadhu	8
Free point	1

TOTAL

100 POINTS

Grading Scale:

Percentage Earned	Letter Grade
95-100	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+

83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
66-69	D+
60-65	D
Below 60	F

Course Policies

Academic Integrity:

Plagiarism (not acknowledging the course of words or ideas that are not your own) and cheating will not be tolerated, and are subject to penalty.

Special Accommodations:

Students who require special accommodations should notify the instructor so that the appropriate department can be contacted.

Course Outline of Assignments and Due Dates

Films

Films that you will need in the following order:

Film	Film Analysis Due Dates
<i>Gattaca</i>	
<i>Enron</i>	
<i>Inside Job</i>	
<i>Wall Street Money Never Sleeps</i>	
<i>Runaway Jury</i>	
<i>Flawless</i>	
<i>Emperor's Club</i>	
<i>A Civil Action</i>	