



## COURSE SYLLABUS

### HONORS SEMINAR VI: AESTHETICS, VALUES & AUTHORITY

#### DYNAMIC TENSIONS (PART II)<sup>1</sup>

Professor: Michelle A. Romero  
Office Hours: By Appointment  
Contact: [micalva@fiu.edu](mailto:micalva@fiu.edu)

IDH 3035 U41 (Spring 2019)  
Thursdays 5:00pm-7:40pm  
Student Academic Success Center (SASC 302)-MMC

#### COURSE DETAILS

##### DESCRIPTION

This class focuses on the dynamic tensions between business, law and morality. Often times, our personal values are at odds with (1) what is asked of us or (2) what we are presented with, in the workplace. Lawful, profitable actions may lead to unethical results. The law does not address every situation, and neither do company policies. Can someone “cross the line” without actually “crossing the line?”

Professionals (of any industry) cannot make sound business decisions without considering legal or ethical implications because unethical behavior may create legal risks. Hence, we will attempt to reconcile these issues by discussing and analyzing current events, cases, corporate governance policies, compliance programs and the overall social responsibility of organizations and individuals.

You will be encouraged to think about the effects of your decisions and the decisions of others on business and society. Simultaneously, you will be learning relevant business and legal concepts, honing your critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills—all helping you develop as a leader.

##### OBJECTIVES

- To equip students with a framework to be able to identify, analyze and resolve ethical issues in business decision-making
- To assist students in developing ethical management and leadership skills by understanding how to make principled and effective decisions in the workplace
- To provide students with an opportunity to critically examine their morals

##### LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Communicate effectively and persuasively in oral presentations and written documents
- Demonstrate analytical problem-solving skills, critical thinking and ethical reasoning
- Read legal/regulatory documents and analyze case studies from leading business schools
- *Global Awareness*: demonstrate knowledge of the interrelatedness of local, global, international and intercultural issues, trends and systems
  - Demonstrate knowledge of the interrelated global dynamics (e.g., social-cultural, political, economic) that shape aesthetics, values, and authority in diverse cultural contexts

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<sup>1</sup> This upper division class has been designated as a Global Learning (GL) course. For more information, visit: <https://goglobal.fiu.edu>.

- *Global Perspectives*: develop a multi-perspective analysis of local, global, international and intercultural problems
  - Analyze the multiple global forces that shape their understanding of aesthetics, values, and authority (e.g., economic, political, sociological, technological, cultural)
- *Global Engagement*: demonstrate a willingness to engage in local, global, international and intercultural problem solving
  - Develop solutions to local, global, international, and/or intercultural problems related to aesthetics, values and authority

### **FORMAT**

This is a face-to-face course, where class preparation and participation are essential. You are responsible for all assigned readings (unless instructed otherwise), regardless of whether we spend time in class discussing. In a typical class, a student will be asked to start us off by answering a question, discussing an issue or summarizing the assigned reading. After a few minutes of initial discussion/analysis, we will open the dialogue to the rest of the class. As a group, we will then try to complete the analysis and address the issues presented. With follow-up questions, you will be able to defend and refine your reasoning, as well as hone your verbal skills.

Because of the interactive nature of this course, you will find it difficult to participate in meaningful class discussions if you fail to read the materials carefully prior to class.

On occasion, I will post additional readings, resources or exercises in Canvas, or distribute handouts in class. Canvas will be used as a central repository for data and for submitting assignments. You will also be able to monitor your grades via the gradebook.

### **REQUISITES**

***Pre-Requisites***: You must be enrolled in the Honors College, be eligible to take upper division Honors coursework and have taken Honors Seminar VI: Aesthetics, Values & Authority-*Dynamic Tensions* (Part I).

***Co-Requisites***: None.

### **MATERIALS** (same from prior semester)

- **Textbook**: *Business Ethics: Ethical Decision Making & Cases* by Ferrell & Fraedrich (12<sup>th</sup> ed. 2019) ISBN: 13: 978-1-337-61445-0 (MindTap Management)
  - **Optional**:
    - ISBN: 13: 978-1-337-73820-0 (MindTap & print copy of text)
    - ISBN: 13: 978-0-357-70000-6 (Cengage Unlimited)
- **Supplement**: Harvard Business Publishing Coursepack (purchase using link below)
  - <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/import/562971>

<b>COURSE POLICIES</b>
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### **COMMUNICATION**

Communication is key! Please keep me apprised of any issues or anticipated problems regarding attendance, assignments and the like.

I will use your FIU e-mail or Canvas to communicate with you regularly and expect that you will frequently monitor these accounts.

**IMPORTANT**: Visit your Account Profile in Canvas to add your photo and adjust your Settings to include your FIU e-mail and mobile number for class communication.

## ETIQUETTE

You are required to behave in a courteous manner and maintain a professional demeanor at all times (both in person and virtually). Side conversations in class are disruptive and show a lack of respect for your fellow classmates and for me. Please keep mobile phones on silent or vibrate mode.

## ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

In the Honors College, the term “honor” refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in the Honors College are held to the highest standards of personal accountability. Dishonesty in any form is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at FIU. All Honors students are expected to know what constitutes misconduct and to abide by both [University](#) and [College](#) policies.

Please refer to the following for additional information:

[Code of Academic Integrity](#)

[Student Handbook](#)

## RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students whose religious practices coincide with class requirements or scheduling. Please make sure to notify me *at the beginning of the semester* of which dates you will be absent or any anticipated problems with completing course work.

## ACCESSIBILITY & ACCOMMODATION

If you have a physical, mental or sensory challenge, please contact our [Disability Resource Center](#) (DRC) as early in the course as possible. Upon contact, the DRC will review your request and communicate with me, your other instructors and essential university personnel to make necessary arrangements for you.

## **HONORS COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS**

Registration in this course implies an acceptance of and compliance with Honors College requirements.

### Academic Standing

In order to graduate through the Honors College at FIU, students must earn a minimum number of credits from the point of entry to the Honors College; have at least a “B” average in all Honors courses and a 3.3 Cumulative GPA.

### Engagement (formerly Citizenship)

Beginning Fall 2014, Honors College students must accumulate at least **20 Engagement Points** each academic year (Fall/Spring) by attending Honors College activities. Students attending only one semester (Fall or Spring) must accumulate **10 Engagement Points**.

### Community Service

An important part of being a member of the Honors College is demonstrating leadership by serving the extended community. All Honors College students must complete at least **20 Volunteer Service Hours** per academic year (Fall/Spring). These hours **do not** count toward the **20 Engagement Points** discussed above.

### Portfolios

The Honors College uses a portfolio method to assess student learning outcomes. The portfolio allows for maximum flexibility in gauging student learning. Students decide (with instructor consultation) what “artifacts” or assignments to include for consideration in their portfolios to demonstrate successful achievement of each of the five key student learning outcomes over the course of their Honors experience.

## Honors Education in the ARTS (HEARTS)

The HEARTS program gives Honors College students opportunities to “explore and appreciate different artistic and cultural traditions and modes of artistic expression.” HEARTS also serves as a clearinghouse (and curatorial framework) for students to experience the arts on campus and in the community by providing information about cultural activities and access to performances with free or discounted tickets.

### ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

#### GUIDELINES

All assignments must be submitted by 11:59pm EST on the date due in the corresponding Assignment Dropbox in Canvas, unless otherwise indicated. Please submit in MS Word or PDF format.

Late assignments will be accepted but will incur a late penalty of 10 percentage points for each day or portion thereof that they are late, unless prior arrangements have been made with me.

If you do not already have Adobe Acrobat Reader or Microsoft Office, download them for free [HERE](#).

Carefully proofread *all* assignments before submission. For writing assistance, I encourage you to visit [The Center for Excellence in Writing](#), a full-service writing center providing assistance and feedback to FIU students. I also recommend using [Purdue OWL](#), which houses very helpful writing resources, including citation assistance.

*Assessment details will be discussed in class & provided in Canvas.*

#### ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION

Attendance and active participation are required and will be reflected in your final grade. You are expected to be prepared, on time and to remain for the entire class period. Material *may* be covered in class that is *not* covered in the readings, thus excessive absences *may* negatively affect your ability to do well in this course.

Attendance will be recorded via FIU Check-In:

- Download the FIU Check-In app and sign in with your FIU credentials:
  - [Google Play for Android](#)
  - [App Store for iOS](#)
- Scan the QR code in class via the app—you can start checking in (9) minutes before class is scheduled
- A confirmation message will appear upon successful check-in

Note: You may receive a “No Event Found” message if you check in before the (9) minute mark or if you recently enrolled in the class (you will be able to check in within 24 hours). This brief Student Guide walks you through the process.

If you experience any issues during the check-in process, please contact Educational Technology Services (ETS) at (305) 348-2814 or [etshelp@fiu.edu](mailto:etshelp@fiu.edu).

## ASSIGNMENT SCALE

COURSE REQUIREMENTS	DUE	POINTS	WEIGHT
(2) Case Analyses*	Jan 25 Feb 15	150	15%
Current Events*	weekly	100	10%
Midterm Exam	Mar 7	100	10%
Wiki Project (see Dashboard for <b>mini deadlines</b> )**	Apr 11 presentations	200	20%
MindTap Quizzes & Video Cases	Apr 19	100	10%
COIL Project (see Canvas for <b>mini deadlines</b> ***)	Apr 25 presentations	200	20%
Attendance/Participation	n/a	150	15%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1000</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Satisfies Honors College Portfolio Student Learning Outcome: **Interdisciplinarity and Connectivity**

\*\*Satisfies Honors College Portfolio Student Learning Outcome: **Research Skill**

\*\*\*Satisfies Honors College Portfolio Student Learning Outcome: **Global Learning**

## FINAL GRADE SCALE

LETTER	POINTS	RANGE	PERCENT	LETTER	POINTS	RANGE	PERCENT
A	4.00	951-1000	100%-95%	C+	2.33	767-799	<80%-77%
A-	3.67	900-950	<95%-90%	C	2.00	700-766	<77%-70%
B+	3.33	866-899	<90%-87%	D	1.00	601-699	<70%-60%
B	3.00	832-865	<87%-83%	F	0.00	< 600	< 60%
B-	2.67	800-831	<83%-80%				

## COURSE CALENDAR

**This syllabus is subject to change.** It is your responsibility to regularly monitor Canvas Announcements, Conversations/Inbox and your FIU student e-mail to be aware of any changes. All times expressed in this document, Canvas and the course are in Eastern Standard Time (EST), unless otherwise noted.

DATE	TOPIC	CLASS PREPARATION/ASSIGNMENTS (complete <i>before</i> class unless otherwise noted)
Week 1 THU 1/10	<b>Review Fall 2018 Final Exam</b>  <b>Review Course Syllabus</b>	<i>Welcome Back!</i> <i>Happy New Year!!</i>
Week 2 THU 1/17	<b>Organizational Factors: The Role of Ethical Culture &amp; Relationships</b>	<b>Read:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 7</li> <li>▪ (Case 3) <i>Wells Fargo: The Stage Coach Went Out of Control</i></li> </ul> <b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul>
Week 3 THU 1/24	<b>Organizational Factors: The Role of Ethical Culture &amp; Relationships</b> <i>continued</i>	<b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul> <b>Assignment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Case Analysis #1</i> <b><u>DUE Jan 25 by 11:59pm EST</u></b></li> </ul>
Week 4 THU 1/31	<b>Developing an Effective Ethics Program</b>	<b>Read:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 8</li> <li>▪ (Case 18) <i>Herbalife Reborn</i></li> </ul> <b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul>
Week 5 THU 2/7	<b>Developing an Effective Ethics Program</b> <i>continued</i>	<b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul>
Week 6 THU 2/14	<b>Managing &amp; Controlling Ethics Programs</b>	<b>Read:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 9</li> <li>▪ (Case 9) <i>The NCAA Has Many Balls in the Air</i></li> </ul> <b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul> <b>Assignment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Case Analysis #2</i> <b><u>DUE Feb 15 by 11:59pm EST</u></b></li> </ul>
Week 7 THU 2/21	<b>Managing &amp; Controlling Ethics Programs</b> <i>continued</i>	<b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul>

Week 8  THU 2/28	<b>Globalization of Ethical Decision Making</b>	<b>Read:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 10</li> <li>(Case 1) <i>The Volkswagen Scandal: An Admission to Emission Fraud</i></li> </ul> <b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul>
Week 9  THU 3/7	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b> 5:00-7:00pm SASC 302	
Week 10  THU 3/14	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<i>Spring Break!</i>
Week 11  THU 3/21	<b>Globalization of Ethical Decision Making</b> <i>continued</i>  <b>Ethical Leadership</b>	<b>Read:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 11</li> <li>(Case 2) <i>Uber Hits a Bump in the Road</i></li> </ul> <b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul>
Week 12  THU 3/28	<b>Ethical Leadership</b> <i>continued</i>	<b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul>
Week 13  THU 4/4	<b>Sustainability: Ethical &amp; Social Responsibility Dimensions</b>	<b>Read:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 12</li> <li>(Case 19) <i>CVS: "Fired Up" about Social Responsibility</i></li> </ul> <b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Wiki:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Wiki Dashboard</li> </ul>
Week 14  THU 4/11	<b>WIKI PRESENTATIONS</b>	
Week 15  THU 4/18	<b>Sustainability: Ethical &amp; Social Responsibility Dimensions</b> <i>continued</i>  <b>Semester Wrap-Up</b>  <i>Last Day of Class</i>	<b>Current Event:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Sign-Up Sheet</li> </ul> <b>Assignment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>MindTap Quizzes &amp; Video Cases</i> <b><u>DUE Apr 19 by 11:59pm EST</u></b></li> </ul>
Week 16  THU 4/25	<b>NO FINAL EXAM</b> <b>COIL PRESENTATIONS</b> 5:00-7:00pm SASC 302	<i>THE END!</i>

5/2: Final Grades Available [HERE](#)