

# BUSINESS ETHICS ONLINE

## SPRING 2024

### INSTRUCTOR

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Daniel John Sportiello, Ph.D.  
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### OFFICE HOURS

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Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays,  
2:00 PM–2:50 PM, and  
Tuesdays and Thursdays,  
9:30 AM–10:15 AM

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

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Perceive, analyze, and assess systems of values. Maintain ethical standards in a professional environment.

### COURSE OUTCOMES

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This course asks you to do all of these:

- Identify key factors in ethical reasoning and improve moral problem-solving ability.
- Improve recognition of the traits that enable effective work as ethical members within organizations.
- Appreciate and promote ethical reasoning as an effective method of accomplishing goals, relating well to employees or co-workers, and resolving conflict within organizations, which will help students lead various types of groups more effectively.
- Improve critical thinking skills, clarity of expression, organization of thought, and persuasive writing skills.

Note that, to measure your attainment of these outcomes, you must do certain assessments.

### ASSESSMENTS

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Your final grade will be determined by your performance on six quizzes, in three discussions, on three tests, on a reflection, and on an exam:

- Six quizzes will determine fifteen percent of your final grade. You must submit each quiz on Canvas prior to the end of the relevant day.
- Three discussions will determine fifteen percent of your final grade. You must contribute to each discussion on Canvas prior to the end of the relevant day.
- Three tests will determine thirty percent of your final grade. You must submit each test on Canvas prior to the end of the relevant day.

- A reflection will determine fifteen percent of your final grade. You must submit this reflection on Canvas prior to the end of the relevant day.
- An exam will determine twenty-five percent of your final grade. You must submit this exam on Canvas prior to the end of the relevant day.

Note that, if you fail to do an assessment by the time that it is due—for any reason—then you may receive a grade of zero on that assessment. Because of this, you should not wait until the last minute to do any assessment! Note also that, to do well in these assessments, you must do certain readings.

## READINGS

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These readings are available in the bookstore—though you are free to buy them elsewhere:

- Manuel G. Velasquez. *Business Ethics: Concepts and Cases*. Eighth edition. New York: Pearson Education, 2018. ISBN: 978-0133842616.

Any other readings are available on Canvas.

## BENEDICTINE VALUES

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All six of our [Benedictine Values](#) are implicated in this course. At its heart, though, is Hospitality—that is, a sort of vulnerability to the ideas of others.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

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It should go without saying that academic dishonesty of any sort is wrong. Worse than that, though, academic dishonesty reveals a serious confusion regarding the reasons that one is in a course in philosophy—or, for that matter, at a university—in the first place. Such dishonesty is occasion for as much pity as anger.

Presenting the work of another as your own is academically dishonest. Whenever you copy the words of another, therefore, you must place those words within quotation marks and cite their source. (This goes for the words of any artificial intelligence, by the way!)

As a deterrent, let me promise that I will prosecute every instance of academic dishonesty. But do not misinterpret this promise: if you feel that you do not understand something well enough to explain it in your own words—whether in this course or in any other—then come to me for help. We will work together to overcome whatever difficulty stands in your way.

## COURSE INFORMATION

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This course, PHI 572 01 00 DE, meets for five weeks on Canvas. It is worth three credits, is required for the MAMBA, and is graded according to the usual scale. (Note that there won't be any rounding.)

#### STATEMENT ON WORKLOAD

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Since this is a three semester-credit graduate-level course lasting five weeks, students can expect to spend a minimum of nine hours a week instructional time and another eighteen hours a week studying outside of instructional time.

#### STATEMENT ON EXCUSED ABSENCES

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The University has a policy on excused absences related to sponsored or sanctioned activities and events. The policy is available for review [online](#). Students participating in such activities and events are expected to review this policy and comply with it. As long as appropriate prior notification is given according to this policy, students and faculty reach a mutual agreement concerning make-up work, and students complete the work in question, faculty shall not penalize a student for missing a class or exam when they were granted an excused absence from the university. Any questions concerning the policy may be referred to the course instructor who may refer the question to the athletic director, the student activities director, or academic affairs for an answer.

#### STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC HONESTY

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Students are expected to read the University of Mary's [Academic Honor Code and Honor System](#) and abide by all the standards of conduct and requirements contained therein. When a student is in doubt about whether or not an action might constitute an Academic Honor Code violation, he or she should request clarification from the instructor *before* the action in question is undertaken.

#### STATEMENT ON REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

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The University of Mary, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and in the spirit of our mission, offers support for disabled students who provide the required documentation. Students with disabilities who need accommodations should apply to the [Office of Student Accessibility Services](#). For further information, contact Dr. Lynn Dodge, coordinator of Student Accessibility Services, in the Student Success Center. You can reach her at 701-355-8264 or [ljdodge@umary.edu](mailto:ljdodge@umary.edu).

#### COURSE COMMUNICATION CHANNEL

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Students should communicate any questions or concerns relating to this course to the following individuals in the order listed below. To learn more about the University of Mary's process for responding to academic concerns, students should read its policy, which is available for review [online](#).

Dan Sportiello, Associate Professor of Philosophy > Vacancy, Associate Dean of Arts and Letters > Vacancy, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences

1	Monday	March 18	Introduction		
	Wednesday	March 20	Basic Principles	<i>Ethics</i> , § 1	Quiz 1
	Friday	March 22	Basic Principles	<i>Ethics</i> , § 2	Quiz 2
2	Monday	March 25	Basic Principles		Discussion 1
	Wednesday	March 27	Basic Principles		Test 1
	Friday	March 29	No Class		
3	Monday	April 1	No Class		
	Wednesday	April 3	The Market and Business	<i>Ethics</i> , § 3	Quiz 3
	Friday	April 5	The Market and Business	<i>Ethics</i> , § 4	Quiz 4
4	Monday	April 8	The Market and Business		Discussion 2
	Wednesday	April 10	The Market and Business		Test 2
	Friday	April 12	Ecology and Consumers	<i>Ethics</i> , § 5	Quiz 5
5	Monday	April 15	Ecology and Consumers	<i>Ethics</i> , § 6	Quiz 6
	Wednesday	April 17	Ecology and Consumers		Discussion 3
	Friday	April 19	Ecology and Consumers		Test 3
6	Monday	April 22	Applications		Reflection
	Wednesday	April 24	Applications		
	Friday	April 26	Conclusion		Exam