

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CANTON, NEW YORK**



**COURSE OUTLINE**

**BSAD 319 - Professional Ethics**

**Prepared By: Dr. Charles Fenner**

**SCHOOL OF  
Business and Liberal Arts  
Spring 2016**

**BSAD 319 - Professional Ethics**

- A. **TITLE:** Professional Ethics
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** BSAD 319
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** Yes
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 Weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall/Spring
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 lecture hours per week.
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course acquaints students with the major frameworks for ethical decision making in the professions based on Kantian, Utilitarian and Aristotelian ethics and the principles of consequence, liberty, opportunity, need and justice. The course examines ethical questions that can arise in the professional practice, the relationship between professionals and clients, as well as, the connection between ordinary and professional morality. Students will analyze and synthesize ethical theories that affect thinking, policy formulation, and professional conduct.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-COURSES:** English 101 and junior level status; or permission of the instructor
- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**  
By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<b><i>Course Objective</i></b>	<b><i>Institutional SLO</i></b>
a. Compare and contrast Kantism, utilitarianism, feminist and virtue-based ethical decision making	2. Crit. Thinking 3. Prof. Competence
b. Compare and contrast the duty of employees and the rights of employers	2. Crit. Thinking 3. Prof. Competence
c. Use contemporary economic and political theory to solve ethical issues in the workplace and life.	1. Communication
d. Use ethical theory to solve ethical issues arising from everyday experiences.	4. Inter-intrapersonal skills
e. Clarify the difference between ethics and the law	2. Crit. Thinking
f. Examine standard understandings of corporate environmental responsibility	2. Crit. Thinking

- K. **TEXTS:** None. Lectures provided by instructor
- L. **REFERENCES:** Desjardins, Joseph Introduction to Business Ethics. 4th Edition. McGraw-Hill. Boston, MA. © 2013
- M. **EQUIPMENT:** Technology Enhanced Classroom
- N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F
- O. **MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:** Quizzes, Case Studies, Exams, Debates
- P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

## DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE

### I. Ethics and the Individual

- A. The Origin of Rights
- B. When Life Begins and Rights
- C. Positive Rights/Negative Rights
- D. The Bill of Rights and the Individual
- E. Intrinsic and Instrumental Values
- F. Kohlberg's Moral Development
  - 1. Altruism
  - 2. Egoism
- G. Diffusion of Responsibility

### II. Ethics and Decision Making

- A. Kantian Ethics
- B. Consequential Ethics
- C. Aristotelian Ethics
- D. Feminist Ethics

### III. Ethics and Work

- A. The Definition of Property
- B. Intrinsic and Instrumental Work
- C. Distributive Justice

### IV. Ethics and the Workplace

- A. Employer Rights
  - 1. At-will Employment
  - 2. Wealth Creation
  - 3. Surveillance of Employees
  - 4. Use of Medical Information
- B. Employee Rights
  - 1. Due Process
  - 2. Possessing our Bodies
  - 3. Free Speech
  - 4. Safety
  - 5. Collective Bargaining
- C. The Balance of Power
- D. Employee Handbooks/Contracts
- E. Affirmative Action/Quotas

## V. Ethics and the Marketplace

- A. Price
- B. Product
- C. Promotion

## VI. Ethics and Society

- A. The Collective Life
- B. The Responsibilities of the Citizen
- C. Our Obligations to the Less Fortunate

## VII. Ethics and the Corporation

- A. Shareholder vs. Stakeholder
- B. The Environment
- C. International Issues