



Grande Prairie Regional College – Department of Business and Office Administration
BA 2000 A3 – Contemporary Issues in Business
Winter 2020 Course Outline

Credits: 3

Hours: 60 hours, 15 weeks (3-1-0)

Description: Through a seminar approach, this course explores the many ethical dimensions of business and includes a major group project for which class time is allotted.

Pre-requisite: Business Admin Certificate or consent of the instructor

Transferability: BA 2000 can be used to fulfill the requirements of a Business Administration Diploma which may be accepted as part of a block transfer arrangement. In addition, the following AB universities transfer BA 2000 as

- Athabasca University: ADMN 2XX (3)
- Concordia University of Edmonton: BUS 2xx (3)
- MacEwan University: BUSN 2xx (3)

(Transfer info retrieved from www.Alis.Alberta.ca on December 20,, 2019)

Instructor: Carolyn Vasileiou

Contact: Room C 201 – 780-539-2221 – cvasileiou@gprc.ab.ca

Office Hours: Mon. 12-1:30 pm and Thurs. 10–11:30am or by appointment

Texts: Jimenez, Guillermo C. and Pulos, Elizabeth (2016). *Good Corporation, Bad Corporation: Corporate Responsibility in the Global Economy*. Geneseo, NY: Open SUNY Textbooks.
(This is a free, open source textbook. The link to the PDF download is on the BA 2000 Moodle site.)

Course Objectives:

- To enhance research/observation skills
- To develop critical/creative thinking skills
- To gain an appreciation of ethical implications of business policy
- To garner an appreciation of globalization processes
- To improve presentation and facilitation skills
- To serve as a capstone marketing experience integrating knowledge from other courses and disciplines
- To experience a major project involving “real life” risks and opportunities
- To enhance project management skills
- To enhance team skills



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Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to

- Demonstrate competency in critical thinking by effectively researching, debating and presenting the complexities of a number of business issues from a variety of perspectives
- Make a substantial organizational and strategic contribution to the development of the Business Conference
- Demonstrate effective teamwork skills through the organization of the Business Conference
- Demonstrate good writing and presentation skills

Grading:	20%	Reaction Papers (2 x 10%)
	30%	Quizzes (2 x 15%)
	15%	CSR Topic Presentation
	15%	Business Conference Execution (due Mar. 17)
	20 %	Course Summary Report – (due during the Exam period)

Final Grade: This course will use the standard GPRC grading scheme

A+	4.0	90-100	Excellent
A	4.0	85-89	
A-	3.7	80-84	First Class Standing
B+	3.3	76-79	
B	3.0	73-75	Good
B-	2.7	70-72	
C+	2.3	67-69	Satisfactory
C	2.0	64-66	
C-	1.7	60-63	
D+	1.3	55-59	Minimal Pass
D	1.0	50-54	
F	0.0	0-49	Fail

Evaluations:

No rewrites will be given on missed quizzes. Turnitin, plagiarism software, may be used in this class.

Unauthorized late assignments, if accepted, will have a 10% per day late penalty applied to the assignment grade. If you believe that you have a legitimate reason for handing in an assignment or other deliverable, please contact the instructor beforehand.



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Course Schedule:

Week 1 – Jan. 6 and 8

- Introduction and Course Outline
- Business Conference Orientation
- Introduction to CSR and Business Ethics
- Read: Text Ch. 1 and p. 27-29
- Read: Ethics material on Moodle

Week 2 – Jan. 13 and 15

- Business Conference Organization
- Video 1 – *The Big Short*
- Read: *Big Short* Primer on Moodle

Week 3- Jan 20 and 22

- Business Conference Organization
- Climate Change
- Presentation: Instructor Demo - Climate Change
- Read: Text Ch. 3

Week 4 – Jan 27 and Jan 29

- Business Conference Status Reports
- GMOs and Social Entrepreneurship
- Read: Text Ch. 4 and Ch. 5
- Presentation: **Group 1 GMOs (Jan. 27)**
- Presentation: **Group 2 Social Entrepreneurship (Jan. 29)**
- Due: **Reaction Paper 1 (Jan. 27)**

Week 5 – Feb 3 and 5

- Business Conference Status Reports
- Fair Trade and Sweatshops
- Read: Text Ch. 8 and Ch. 9
- Presentation: **Group 3 Fair Trade (Feb. 3)**
- Presentation: **Group 4 Sweatshops (Feb. 5)**

Week 6 – Feb 10 And 12

- Business Conference Status Reports
- Controversial Products
- Read Ch. 6
- Presentation: **Group 5 Controversial Products (Feb. 10)**
- Due: **Quiz 1 (Feb. 12)**

No Classes - Reading Week – Feb. 17-21



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Course Schedule (continued):

Week 7 – Feb. 24 and Feb. 26

- Business Conference Status Reports
- Video 2 – *TBA*

Week 8 – Mar. 2 and 4

- Business Conference Status Reports
- Corruption
- Read: Text Ch. 10
- Presentation: **Group 6 Corruption (Mar. 4)**

Week 9 – Mar. 9 and 11

- Business Conference Status Reports
- Due: **Reaction Paper 2 (Mar. 9)**

Week 10 – Mar. 16 and 18

- Business Conference Prep
- Due: **Business Conference (Mar.17)**

Week 11 – Mar. 23 and 25

- Business Conference Debrief

Week 12 – Mar. 30 and Apr 1

- Politics and Animal Rights
- Read: Ch. 11 and Ch. 12
- Presentation: **Group 7 (Mar. 30)**
- Presentation: **Group 8 (Apr 1)**

Week 13 – Apr 6 and 8

- Final Project Prep
- Due: **Quiz #2 (Apr. 8)**

Final Project–T.B.A. – Apr. 15 -25 (scheduled by the Registrar)

*The above schedule may be revised at the discretion of the instructor based on class requirements.



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STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes, arrive on time, and remain for the duration of the activities. Arriving late or leaving early is disruptive to the entire class. Frequent tardiness may be treated as an absence..

Cell Phones

The use of cell phones during class time is unprofessional and distracting to the instructor and fellow students. Texting during class is therefore strictly prohibited. Cell phones must be either turned off or set to silent mode and placed out of site.

Recording

Recording lectures or taking photos in class is prohibited unless advance permission is obtained from the instructor and any guest presenter(s). In the event permission is granted, such recordings may only be used for individual study, and may not be reproduced, transferred, distributed or displayed in any public manner.

Student Conduct

As a student, it is your responsibility to read, understand and comply with the college's academic policies, which are reviewed regularly, updated and posted on our college website. If you have any questions regarding these policies, please contact Student Services.

Academic Grievance

If you feel the actions of an academic staff member are affecting your academic standing, you are encouraged to seek advice and follow the procedures detailed in the Student Academic Grievance Policy. All discussions regarding your concerns are bound by a code of professional ethics that demands confidentiality unless you specifically give permission in writing for the information to be shared.

Normally, you will be encouraged to approach the instructor to share your concern. If satisfaction is not achieved as a result of the discussion with the instructor, you are encouraged to carry the concern to the Chair of the Department. The Chair will normally meet with you and the instructor to facilitate a timely resolution to the issue. You may request the presence of an advocate at this stage or at any other stage in the grievance process.

If your concerns are not resolved by these informal processes, the Chair of the Department will ask you to prepare a written statement of the grievance which clearly indicates the outcome you expect and the appropriate Academic Dean shall try to negotiate the resolution. This step normally moves your concern into the formal grievance processes. At this stage you will want to ensure that you have a complete copy of the Student Academic Grievance Policy.

Students have the right to fair and equitable procedures for resolving matters affecting academic standing. The Student Academic Grievance Policy is available on the College website at www.gprc.ab.ca.



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Copyright

Students must obey the Canadian Copyright Act. If you require specific information about copyright, please consult the Library Digital Production Technician or the Library Reference person on duty. GPRC's policy and guidelines for academic use of copyright-protected works may be found on the Library website.

Academic Dishonesty

The College expects intellectual honesty from its students. Intellectual honesty demands that the contribution of others be acknowledged. To do less is to cheat. Intellectual dishonesty undermines the quality of academic activity and accordingly, the College has adopted appropriate penalties for student misconduct with respect to plagiarism and cheating. Penalties are levied according to the degree of the infraction. If you are unsure whether a particular course of action might constitute plagiarism, you are advised to consult with the instructor.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism means submitting work (words, ideas, images, or data) in a course as if it were their own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly, plagiarism exists when:

- the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the student (this includes having another person impersonate the student or otherwise substitute the work of another for their own in an assignment, examination, or test)
- Parts of a student's work are taken from another source without reference to the original author. This includes ideas, words, and images appearing in print, digital, graphical, internet, audio and video formats
- students submit or present the work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with the student) without the prior agreement of the instructor
- Clinical or laboratory reports are falsified or fabricated.

While it is recognized that academic work often involves reference to ideas, data and conclusions of others, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.



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Instructors may choose to use online plagiarism detection services. When students submit a paper, it is understood that they are consenting to such a procedure and that they cannot claim any copyright violation should such paper be uploaded to an online plagiarism detection database.

Cheating

Cheating on tests or examinations includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as **speaking to other students or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever**
- bringing into the examination room a textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner or instructor
- writing an examination, or part of it, outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so
- consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so
- leaving answer papers exposed to view, or any attempts to read other students' examination papers
- tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor
- Impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment.
- **Absolutely no examination materials may be removed from the examination room.** All papers, answer forms and examination question sheets must be returned to the instructor. If students leave the examination room for any reason unacceptable to the instructor, they must hand in all examination materials and it will be assumed that the examination is completed.

If students voluntarily and consciously aid another student in the commission of one of these offenses they are also guilty of misconduct. Any attempt to commit academic misconduct will bear the same consequences as if the act occurred. A student who assists another student in an act or attempted act of misconduct will also be considered to have committed an offense.