LGST 920: Ethics in Business and Economics
Spring 2007

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Office: JMHH 665

Time: Tuesday 2.00-5.00pm
Place: TBD
Office hours: TBD

OVERVIEW
This course explores the analysis of ethical issues in business and economics with an emphasis on the theoretical foundations for such analysis. The course begins with prominent contemporary accounts focused specifically on ethical issues in business. These include stakeholder theory and integrative social contracts theory as well as accounts grounded in Aristotle and Kant. Debates about the relationship between such accounts and broader debates in moral and political philosophy are also considered. The course then explores one approach to situate ethical analysis of business within contemporary moral and political philosophy. Given the centrality of economics to the study and practice of business, this approach involves the ethical analysis of economic theory. Topics of analysis include rationality, welfare, and efficiency. The last part of the course investigates ways in which in the analysis of ethical issues in business and economics is informed by key concepts and debates in contemporary moral and political philosophy. Issues include ownership, compensation, employment, trust, professional responsibility, corporate responsibility, and unconscionability.

TEXT AND MATERIALS
The one text for the course is:

For additional background, you may want to purchase:

Readings not available online through Van Pelt will be made available through Wharton Reprographics and the webCafé room for the course (http://webcafe.wharton.upenn.edu/lgst/).

ASSIGNMENTS
One assignment is to introduce the material for at least one class session (10% of course grade). The introduction should provide a critical assessment of the readings and direct us to what you take to be the important questions for discussion. The course also involves two short papers (each for 20% of course grade) and an article-length final paper to be submitted during exam period (50% of course grade).

CONTACTING ME
Should you have any questions or concerns about the class, please do not hesitate to see me. No appointment is needed to meet during office hours; you should feel free to drop by. If you are not able to meet during office hours, please email me to arrange an alternative meeting time.
# Reading List and Calendar

Please note: Required readings will be distinguished in advance.

## Prominent Accounts about Ethics in Business

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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* Available online through Van Pelt.
**January 23**

**Corporate Social Performance and Corporate Financial Performance**  

**January 30**

**Prescription and Description**  

### RELATING ETHICS AND ECONOMICS

**February 6**

**Paper Due**  
**Rationality**  

**February 13**

**Preference, Utility, and Welfare**  

* Available online through Van Pelt.
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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 6</td>
<td><strong>Spring Break</strong></td>
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<th>April 17</th>
<th><strong>Corporate Responsibility</strong></th>
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