Instructor: Professor G. Richard Shell, Thomas Gerrity Professor, Legal Studies, Business Ethics, and Management. For more information, see [www.grichardshell.com](http://www.grichardshell.com).

Course overview: This section of Legal Studies 6110 will leverage my expertise in negotiation, persuasion, leadership, and law (as well as my experience co-founding the MBA Program’s “P3” experience) to help you thoughtfully develop and articulate your unique, personal vision of what it means to be a “responsible” leader in the global business environment. The class is focused on your personal development as a leader in terms of both character and values. Negotiation simulations, group work on problems, personal introspection, and class discussions will help you reflect on how your life so far has prepared you to be a value-based leader no matter where your future career takes you. Please note: This is not a section that uses traditional Harvard Business School case studies to debate issues of corporate social responsibility, such as corruption, climate change, or ESG. If these issues are your priorities for a class such as this, other sections of LGST 6110, 6120, or 6130 can and will provide it.

Classroom conduct: As a courtesy to all, please avoid eating in class. However, beverages are fine. Turn off all your electronic devices and close your laptop during plenary class sessions (use during breaks or group work is fine. If you must have your laptop up during class for learning purposes, see me. I’ll ask you to sit in the front row.

Mandatory Class Attendance and Grading: The design of this course works only if everyone makes class attendance a top priority. See below for details affecting grading. Documented illness is an excellent (and excusable) reason for missing class. Recruiting and personal or family priorities unrelated to your health are not.

FULL ATTENDANCE BONUS: As an incentive to attend class diligently, students who attend all six classes in full (or all five if they register after Class 1 is over) will receive a 5-point bonus on their final grade.

ATTENDANCE PENALTIES. With the exception of the final class (where a 30-minutes in-class test is given), you may have one unexcused absence for all or part of one class. Missing 15 minutes (cumulatively) of a class counts as missing "part of any class." NOTE: this includes missing all or part of
Class 1 if you are registered for the course. As a courtesy to me, please let me know in advance about any class or part of a class you need to skip so I can work around your absence for assigned negotiation and group exercises. There is no penalty other than losing the full-attendance bonus for missing all or part of only one class.

MISSING ALL OR PART OF TWO (OR MORE) CLASSES. Unexcused absences from all or part of two classes (1/3 of the course) results in a 20-point penalty on your final grade, which may result in failure. If you miss all or part of three (or more) classes without a valid excuse, you will fail the class.

Readings, Lecture Slides, Cases, Problem Sets, Exercises, Final Paper Prompt:
- Canvas Tab “Course Materials @ Penn Libraries” contains all the assigned readings for the course. The readings are identified by the Class ## when they are due.
- Canvas Tabs for Slides, Classes, Final Paper Prompt, Syllabus, sample test questions, etc. are located under “Files.” Please consult the Files area as you prepare each class.

ChatGPT, BARD, and other AI writing tools: Use of these systems is barred for Assignments #1 and #2 below, which are very short personal reports not graded on writing quality. The Final Paper Prompt on Canvas provides detailed guidance about AI writing tools for the Final Paper.

GRADING

1. **Diary + Short Paper #1: Virtues and Values Exercise** (10%). After Class 3, you will choose a personal virtue or value to work on all week (greater honesty, more attention to important relationships, limiting social media, healthier lifestyle, etc.). You will then work on this conscientiously for the week between Classes 3 and 4, posting about your efforts on Canvas every day of the week. Finally, the day before Class 4, you will post a 1-page essay on your overall success or lack thereof during the week, identifying your best and worst habits for practicing being your “best self.”

2. **Short Paper #2: Two Moral/Ethical Conflicts** (10%). For Class 5, you will submit on Canvas a 1-2 page reflection describing two moral or ethical conflicts you or (if necessary) someone close to you has directly experienced. Conflict #1 will involve a situation in which, for one reason or another, you did nothing to address the problem. Conflict #2 will involve a situation in which you stepped up to take corrective action (even if this action failed).

3. **Class 6: Readings Test** (30%). The beginning of the final class will feature a closed-book, closed notes, short-answer “Readings Test” lasting 30-40 minutes. Sample test questions are on Canvas.

4. **Final Paper**. (50%) A Final Paper of 8-10 pages length must be posted on Canvas by 11:59 pm exactly one week after the final class. See the “Final Paper Prompt” on Canvas in Files for the details of this important assignment.

CLASS TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

**Class 1 (8/29)**

- **Topics:** Three Levels of Responsibility
- **Negotiation Case:** The Roofing Case (conducted in class)
**Class 2 (9/05)**

**Day 1 of Two-Day Law School**

Topics: Introduction to Law, Private Law of Contracts, Fraud
Three Types of Law in Business

Case Study: An MBA Student Gets a Surprise (Small group discussion)

Negotiation Case: The Exit Interview (conducted in class)

**Class 3 (9/12)**

**Day 2 of Two-Day Law School:**

Topics: Fiduciary Duties, Global Regulatory Law, Insider Trading,
Lawsuit Settlement

Negotiation Case: The Fee Dispute (conducted in class)

Case Studies: Insider Trading Questions

**Class 4 (9/19)**

**Responsibility and Self-Control: What is "Character"?**
(Email entries + Short Paper #1 posted on Canvas before class)

Topics: Impulses and Self Control: “How could I have done that?”
The respective roles of reason and emotions in leadership
behavior and decision making

Case studies Reports on Virtue and Values Exercise
The slippery slope of rationalization: Worldcom's Controller

**Class 5 (9/26)**

**Responsibly in Very Hard Cases: Tough Conflicts**
(Short Paper #2 posted on Canvas before class)

Topics: Personal Ethical and Moral Conflicts
Moral Reasoning in Hard Cases
The “CLIP” Model
“The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas”

Case Studies: Your stories

**Class 6 (10/03)**

**The Values-to-Action Process: The OODA Loop**
(READINGS TEST at the beginning of class)

Topics: Your Personal Strengths, Organizational Strategies for
Speaking Up for Your Values, What is “Whistleblowing”?

Case Studies: Personal Assessment/Challenges + The Theranos Case