

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA
Milgard School of Business

TCORE 113: Business and Society

Winter 2014

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Office Hours: Friday 11-1:00 pm

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and by appointment

Required Materials:

Steiner, G. and Steiner, J. (2012). *Business, Government and Society: A Managerial Perspective, Text and Cases* 13e .McGraw Hill, New York, NY.

Course Description

Business and Society is designed to facilitate a better understanding of the complex relationship between private enterprise and society at large. The course will focus on the obligations that business has to its stakeholders. The approach taken is interdisciplinary with an emphasis on history, economics, philosophy, political science and sociology. The primary orientation, however, is management with an emphasis on strategic management in the context of social responsibility and ethics. The objectives of the course therefore include the following:

- Develop an understanding of businesses' role as a member of society as well as the various perspectives in regards to the role that business *should* have in society
- Create an appreciation for the historical aspects of business models in the creation of ethically sound business decisions
- Understand the influence that government has in regulating the activities of private enterprise
- Appreciate the reciprocal nature of business, society, government and the environment
- Develop a better understanding of the ethical responsibilities that corporations have to their consumers

Course Competency and Development

There are many competencies that this course is designed to address.

A ***global perspective*** is the first competency that will be developed. Students study numerous multi-national corporations, citizen groups and governments to gain an appreciation for the differing circumstances, values and norms throughout the world. Additionally, students will better appreciate the reciprocal nature of business, government, society and the physical environment.

Communication is the second competency that will be developed. Students will develop their written communication skills through a variety of thought-provoking essay assignments and research-oriented reporting. Verbal communication skills will be developed through both formal and extemporaneous oral presentations.

Diversity is the third competency that will be developed. Students will work in small, diverse teams to generate multiple strategies to analyze and interpret complex issues. Additionally, students will learn of the best practices utilized by American corporations to value and leverage an increasingly diverse workforce.

Problem solving is the fourth competency that will be developed. In order to interpret a variety of complex and often competing philosophies of business, students will develop a greater ability to analyze situations critically and evaluate possible solutions and potential implementation strategies. Further, an on-going dialogue of ethical decision-making and models of corporate citizenship will be debated and discussed.

Course Methodology

Through the integrated use of academic materials, professionally produced video documentaries and current case studies, this class will provide students with a fundamental appreciation for the a myriad of societal concerns affecting them in the 21st century.

Grading and Evaluation

Attendance/Class Participation	10%
Quizzes (3 total)	30%
Team Oral Presentation	10%
Case Study Questions (Best 3 out of 5)	15%
Final Exam	20%
Video Discussions	15%

Class Participation

We will have many opportunities for experiential learning through class activities. Your involvement in these is required to achieve the greatest level of success as a communicator. Attendance will allow the students to earn “credit” for a variety of in-class activities.

Additionally, your input during class is of the utmost of importance. Student’s will be rewarded for aiding the class discussions by asking questions which drive the conversation forward, and/or seeking clarification to better understand the topic at hand. Additional areas of participation include the offering examples of personal experience or the referencing of outside current readings found in the academic literature.

Quizzes

There will be three objective examinations that cover the assigned readings in the text book. Information from the cases assigned will not be part of the exams.

Team Oral Presentation

All students are required to complete a team oral presentation. There are no make-ups for this assignment unless there are extreme circumstances. If you have a scheduling conflict on the day that your team is to present, then please notify me immediately so that other arrangements can be made if at all possible.

Case Study Questions

Case study questions are due at the beginning of the class on the date assigned. All papers should be type written and one to two pages (single-spaced) per assignment. The grading will be a check system. A "X+" is given to excellent work which *exceeds* the requirements, an "X" will be assigned to work which *meets* the requirements of the assignment only, and an "X-" will be assigned to work which is *less than acceptable*. Generally speaking the scores that are assigned to each category are as follows: “X+” = 100%, “X” = 75%, “X-” = 50%.

Late Paper Procedures and Policies

All papers and assignments are due in the beginning of the class on the day indicated. Except under extreme circumstances, grades on late papers and assignments will drop one letter grade (10%) per day late. If you are unable to attend class on the day an assignment is due, please email the assignment as an attachment to Prof. Shankus' email address:

ezent@u.washington.edu This will serve only as a date stamp. The original should be brought to class the following session with the words "NOT LATE" printed on the top of the paper. Students alone are responsible for printing out the hard copies of assignments.

Plagiarism Policy

A major part of your experience in the class will be reading, synthesizing, and using the knowledge and ideas of others. It is the responsibility of the faculty to help you in this process and to be certain you learn to credit the work of others upon which you draw. To plagiarize is to appropriate and to pass off, as one's own ideas, writing or works of another. Plagiarism is no less of a misconduct violation than vandalism or assault. Ignorance of proper documentation procedures is the usual cause of plagiarism. This ignorance does not excuse the act. Students are responsible for learning how and when to document and attribute resources used in preparing a written or oral presentation.

For more information, please refer to the Academic Honesty: Cheating and Plagiarism document prepared by the Committee on Academic Conduct in the College of Arts and Sciences, UW Seattle: <http://depts.washington.edu/grading/issue1/honesty.htm>

For more information, please refer to the Student Counseling Center web page: http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/student_affairs/counseling/

E-mail Policy

http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/policies_procedures/E-mail_Policy.pdf

Electronic Devices Policy

Electronic devices (including, but not limited to, cell phones, pagers, laptops, and personal digital assistants) may only be used in the classroom with the permission of the instructor. Activities that are non-relevant to the course, such as checking/ sending email, playing games, and surfing the web, are considered disruptive activities when class is in session.

Class Cancellation Policy

I will send an email to all students registered for TCORE 113 on canvas if I need to cancel class. If I should be more than 15 minutes late for class and you have not been notified, you are to assume that class is dismissed for the day.

COUNSELING CENTER (Student Health and Wellness - SHAW)

The Counseling Center offers short-term, problem-focused counseling to UW Tacoma students who may feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities of college, work, family, and relationships. Counselors are available to help students cope with stresses and personal issues that may interfere with their ability to perform in school. The service is provided confidentially and without additional charge to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students. To schedule an appointment, please call 692-4522 or stop by the Student Counseling Center (SCC), temporarily located in Cherry Parkes 206. Additional information can also be found by visiting http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/studentaffairs/SHW/scc_about.cfm/

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (Student Health and Wellness - SHAW)

The University of Washington Tacoma is committed to making physical facilities and instructional programs accessible to students with disabilities. Disability Support Services (DSS) functions as the focal point for coordination of services for students with disabilities. In compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any enrolled student at UW Tacoma who has an appropriately documented physical, emotional, or mental disability that "substantially limits one or more major life activities [including walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working]," is eligible for services from DSS. If you are wondering if you may be eligible for accommodations on our campus, please contact the DSS reception desk at 692-4522, or visit http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/studentaffairs/SHW/dss_about.cfm/

TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTER (TLC)

The Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) offers free academic support for students at all levels. For writing, reading, learning strategies and public speaking needs, please make an appointment online at: <http://rich65.com/uwttlc/> or drop by KEY 202 during drop-in hours: 10-11 and 3-4 (M-Th); 10-11 (F). Writing support is also available at our online writing center at: uwtwrite@u.washington.edu More information about our online writing center is available at: <http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/tlc/writing/onlinewritingcenter.cfm> For math, stats and quantitative needs, assistance is available on a drop-in basis in KEY 202. Please check our

schedule at: <http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/tlc/math/schedule.cfm> For special needs, please contact Ingrid Horakova at: horaki@u.washington.edu

LIBRARY

The UWT Library provides resources and services to support students at all levels of expertise. We guide students through the research process, helping them learn how to develop effective research strategies and find and evaluate appropriate resources. For assistance or to schedule an appointment, visit us at the Reference Desk in the Library, email tacref@u.washington.edu or phone 253-692-4442. For more information about the Library and its services, see <http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/library/>

CAMPUS SAFETY INFORMATION

Escort Service

Safety Escorts are available Monday - Thursday 5:00pm - 10:30pm. They can be reached either through the duty officer or by dialing #300 from a campus phone.

In case of a fire alarm

Take your valuables and leave the building. Plan to return to class once the alarm has stopped. Do not return until you have received an all-clear from somebody "official," the web or email.

In case of an earthquake

DROP, COVER, and HOLD. Once the shaking stops, take your valuables and leave the building. Do not plan to return for the rest of the day. Do not return to the building until you have received an all-clear from somebody "official," the web or email.

For more information, please refer to the Emergency and Safety Plan prepared by the UWT Safety Committee: http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/safety/emergency/Emergency_plan.pdf
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