THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER
Course Syllabus

PHIL 3344: Ethical Leadership
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Textbook

Ethical Leadership, Second Edition Robert M. McManus, Stanley J. Ward, Alexandra K. Perry

Course Description

A study of moral philosophy as it applies to leadership and issues in the workplace

Course Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to…
1. 1.   explain the core ethical principles of Western moral philosophy
2. 2.   evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various ethical theories
3. 3.   apply ethical theories to issues in the workplace
4. 4.   describe a model of normative leadership theory
5. 5.   explain professional case studies in terms of their morally salient features
6. 6.   defend a point of view on a moral issue
7. 7.   list the characteristics of an ethical organization
8. 8.   list the character traits of a good leader

Grading

Initiator Post Assignments (4@100 points each)	400 points
Response Post Assignments (3@50 points each)	150 points
Quizzes (16@10 points each)	120 points (lowest four dropped)
TOTAL:	670 points

A=90-100%, B=80-89%, C=70-79%, D=60-69%, F=less than 60%

Assessment:

Discussion Board Assignment: For each discussion board, students will answer a question from the end of the chapter and support their answer with the case study and concepts

from the chapter (see discussion board for more details). The initiator post should contain a clear point of view if the question requires it. After posting an initiator post, the student will be able to view and reply to the posts of other students in the class. Students must make a minimum of 6 contributions to each discussion board: 1 initiator post + 5 response posts = 6 total posts (minimum).

INITIATOR POSTS: You'll write one initiator post for each board. An initiator post is one that starts a thread. A good post will offer a clear, well-supported answer to just one of the question options. If the question requires it, the answer will also contain your point of view (opinion).

The post must be <u>at least</u> 300 words. There's no maximum word count, but keep in mind that grades are not based on quantity of words but on demonstrated comprehension and critical thinking. The grading rubric below shows exactly what is expected.

Initiator posts must contain at least three direct quotes from the textbook followed by parenthetical citations, such as: (McManus, 46).

If you only use course material to quote from, quotation marks and parenthetical citations are enough, for example: "yada, yada" (McManus, 46). If students use even one outside source – like the excellent Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy – a reference list for *all* sources must be included at the end of the post and must follow Chicago Manual of Style (CMS). See here for Chicago style examples, and see below for how proper citations affect the grade. Again, I expect at least three direct quotes from the textbook.

You must post first in order to view other posts. The edit function will be disabled. If you want to edit after posting, you may reply in the thread with corrections or request that I delete the post. There must be a very good reason for deletion. For grading purposes, I consider your first post to be the initiator post even if it is blank or incomplete.

Late initiator posts can be turned in for a lower grade before the board officially closes. A late penalty of half a letter grade per day applies in each case unless accompanied by a valid excuse (e.g. a doctor's note that indicates a serious illness).

DISCUSSION BOARD RUBRIC (INITIATOR POSTS)	
0-25 points	Point of view is clear and well-defended, and the post includes a clear and correct application of moral theory, such as Kantianism
0-25 points	At least 3 direct quotes included from the textbook, quotes are relevant and explained

0-25 points	Conveys respect for other points of view even if it takes a contrary position
0-25 points	Grammar is polished. Proper citations are included, and style conforms to Chicago Manual of Style.

RESPONSE POSTS: In addition to the weekly initiator post, you'll write <u>at least</u> five response posts each week (for a total of 6 contributions: 1 initiator post + 5 response posts = 6). A good response post is one that replies to a classmate's post and continues the conversation. To qualify as one of your response posts, the post must be at least 50 words and end with a question.

If at least five of your response posts don't end with a question, **five points will be deducted** from your score.

If your posts aren't spaced out over three days, which means you haven't posted on at least three separate days before the board closes, **ten points will be deducted** from your response post score. The reason for requiring you to be active on three different days is to encourage discussion, which is the purpose of a *discussion* board. For example, to satisfy this requirement, you could post an initiator post on Friday night, two response posts on Saturday, and three response posts on Sunday.

Response posts are due when the board closes. See each discussion board for date and time.

Late response posts will not be accepted. Once the board closes, there are no further opportunities to complete the assignment, so it's advisable to post early to avoid unforeseen events such as last-minute technical problems. Encountering technical issues is not a valid excuse for late work, unless the issue is the university's fault.

The discussion board is the focus of the class, the main learning tool (notice the percentage of the grade).

Cases of plagiarism earn an automatic zero on the assignment and a possible F in the course. Plagiarized posts may be sent to UT Tyler Judicial Affairs to receive additional consequences. In short, do your own work, and be careful to give credit to the original author when you quote or paraphrase.

Quizzes: There are sixteen reading quizzes. The topic of each quiz can be found on the quiz page. The quizzes may contain true-false, multiple choice, or short-answer questions. The quizzes are "open book" but timed. Students must work alone and not receive help from the Internet or A.I.

Course Policies:

Late work policy: Assignments must be submitted by the deadline. A penalty of half a letter grade per day up to two letter grades will be assessed for late initiator posts.

This penalty will be waived only under special circumstances (e.g. a serious illness accompanied by a doctor's note). Late discussion board posts are not accepted after the board closes. Late quizzes are not accepted after the quiz deadline passes.

Communication policy: The best way to communicate with the instructor is through UT Tyler e-mail ([sward@uttylerl.edu)](sward@uttylerl.edu) or in Canvas. Students can expect replies within 48 hours excluding weekends and holidays. Students who do not receive a reply within this timeframe should attempt to contact the instructor again. The instructor communicates with the class via Canvas emails and announcements. It is important that students check their email and allow push notifications for class announcements.

Class conduct policy: The subject matter of this class can make some people hot under the collar. This said, all comments and behavior must be classroom appropriate. What does "classroom appropriate" mean? It does *not* mean that students cannot express unpopular opinions. It means practicing reasoning and logical argumentation. It means being civil and listening with respect. Insults, snide comments, name-calling, cutting someone off, derogatory tones, sarcasm, ridicule, cussing, vulgarity, personal attacks, racial slurs, misogynistic remarks, etc. will not be allowed. If you are unsure about what counts as disrespectful, consult the instructor or the Golden Rule. The instructor will act as the final word on what is or is not classroom appropriate. Violators may be ejected from the class.

If you see a post that you believe violates this policy, please contact the instructor or TA as soon as possible so that we can take quick action if necessary.

Cell phone policy (face-to-face sections): Mobile devices can be used in the classroom if it is related to what is going on in class. If you have an electronic textbook or plan to take notes on your device, please let me know early in the semester. They are permissible as long as they don't distract you or your classmates from the lesson.

Arriving late or leaving early policy (face-to-face sections): Arriving on time can sometimes be challenging, but it is better to be late than never. However, late arrivals and early departures can be disruptive. For this reason, please don't make a habit of it. If it becomes a regular issue, points will be deducted from the attendance grade.

Extra credit policy: There is no extra credit in this class.

"It is what it is" final grade policy: Grades are final once the final grade percentage has been calculated in Canvas at the end of the semester. No changes will be made unless the instructor has made a mistake. Grades are not bumped up unless the student is within .5% of the next letter grade. For example, an 89.5% is an A. An 89.4% is a B. The conditions for an "incomplete" are stated in the university handbook: "(a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all course work or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor; and (c) the student presents these reasons prior to the time that the final grade roster is due." The terms and deadline for satisfying an "incomplete" will be set by the instructor.

A.I. policy: AI is permitted only for specific assignments or situations, and appropriate acknowledgment is required. For the readings, you may use AI to better understand what the authors say and what the philosophical ideas mean. On the discussion board, you may use AI to research the topic and brainstorm your answer to the question, but you may not use it to write your posts for you. The posts must be in your own words, aside from the direct quotes you pull from the textbook. For the quizzes, you may not use AI.

Plagiarism policy: Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is taking credit for material that is not your own whether it is copied from a classmate, textbook, or online source (such as ChatGPT). Plagiarism is cheating, and cheating is the way of the Dark Side. If that isn't enough of a deterrent itself, plagiarizing will result in an F on the assignment and a possible F in the course. It could also mean suspension from the school. So, students should be sure to use proper citations and do their own work. If students are not sure whether something constitutes plagiarism, they should contact the instructor to ask about it before submitting the assignment. The penalty will apply whether the act of plagiarism is intentional or not.

[UT TYLER HONOR CODE]

I embrace honor and integrity.
Therefore, I choose not to lie, cheat or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

(By the way, it's really bad karma to cheat in an ethics class.)