

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

Course Syllabus

PHIL 3344: Ethical Leadership

Fall 2026 — Online 2 Session (7 Weeks) | October 12 – November 29, 2026

1. Instructor Information

Instructor: Stanley J. Ward, Ph.D.

Office: Online Only

Phone: 920.948.5323

E-Mail: sward@uttyler.edu

2. Office Hours

Held by appointment on Tuesdays and Fridays. Additional meeting times are available by request.

Schedule an appointment: <https://calendly.com/stanleyjward/office-hours-students>

Students may also reach the instructor by e-mail or through Canvas; replies can be expected within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays.

3. Teaching Assistant / Grader

Name: Leonel Botello

E-Mail: lbotello2@patriots.uttyler.edu

4. Course Overview

A study of moral philosophy as it applies to leadership and issues in the workplace. This accelerated 7-week online course moves through foundational ethical theories and models of ethical leadership using short presentations from the textbook authors and discussion-based engagement with the course textbook.

5. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain the core ethical principles of Western moral philosophy
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various ethical theories
- Apply ethical theories to issues in the workplace
- Describe a model of normative leadership theory
- Explain professional case studies in terms of their morally salient features
- Defend a point of view on a moral issue
- List the characteristics of an ethical organization
- List the character traits of a good leader

6. Required Textbook

Ethical Leadership, Second Edition. Robert M. McManus, Stanley J. Ward, and Alexandra K. Perry. Edward Elgar Publishing.

No additional recommended readings are required for this course.

7. Special Course Notes

- This is a fully online, asynchronous course delivered through Canvas. There are no scheduled synchronous meetings, on-campus requirements, field trips, or proctored exams.
- Students must have reliable internet access and check Canvas and UT Tyler e-mail regularly; push notifications for Canvas announcements are strongly recommended.
- Because this is a 7-week accelerated session, the course moves at roughly double the pace of a standard 14–16 week semester. Students should plan for a substantial weekly reading and writing load.

8. Assignments, Weights, and Grading Scale

Grades in this course are based on the following components, totaling 670 points:

Assignment	Points
Initiator Post Assignments (4 @ 100 points each)	400 points
Response Post Assignments (3 @ 50 points each)	150 points
Reading Quizzes (16 @ 10 points each; lowest 4 dropped)	120 points
TOTAL	670 points

Initiator Post Assignments: For each of the four assigned discussion boards, students post an original, well-supported response (minimum 300 words) to one of the end-of-chapter discussion questions, including at least three direct quotes from the textbook with parenthetical citations (e.g., (McManus, 46)). Any outside sources require a Chicago Manual of Style reference list. Each board also requires a minimum of five response posts (see below), for six total contributions per board.

Response Post Assignments: On three assigned discussion boards, students engage classmates' posts with at least five substantive response posts (minimum 50 words each, ending in a question), spread across at least three separate days before the board closes.

Reading Quizzes: Sixteen open-book, timed quizzes (true-false, multiple choice, and/or short answer) covering the assigned chapters. The four lowest quiz scores are dropped. Students must work alone without help from the internet or AI tools.

Grading Scale:

Grade	Percentage
A	90–100%
B	80–89%
C	70–79%
D	60–69%
F	Below 60%

9. Late Work and Make-Up Policy

- Late initiator posts may be submitted for a reduced grade before the discussion board closes; a penalty of half a letter grade per day (up to two letter grades) applies unless accompanied by a valid excuse, such as a doctor's note documenting a serious illness.
- Response posts are due when the discussion board closes and are not accepted late under any circumstances, including technical issues that are not the university's fault.
- Late quizzes are not accepted after the quiz deadline passes.
- There is no extra credit in this course.

- Once a final grade percentage has been calculated in Canvas, grades are final and will not be changed unless the instructor has made an error. Grades are rounded up only when a student is within 0.5% of the next letter grade (e.g., 89.5% rounds to an A; 89.4% does not).
- Incompletes follow the UT Tyler policy: the student must be making satisfactory progress, be unable to complete coursework due to unusual circumstances beyond personal control and acceptable to the instructor, and present these reasons before the final grade roster is due. Terms and deadlines for completing an "incomplete" are set by the instructor.

10. Attendance Policy

This course has no fixed meeting times, so attendance is measured through weekly participation. Students are expected to log in to Canvas and contribute to each discussion board across a minimum of three separate days per week, consistent with the response post requirements above. Consistent non-participation may be treated as non-attendance for university reporting purposes.

11. Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

All discussion boards close at 11:59 p.m. Central Time on the Sunday listed unless otherwise announced in Canvas. This calendar is subject to adjustment; any changes will be announced via Canvas.

Week / Dates	Topics & Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1 <i>Mon, Oct 12 – Sun, Oct 18</i>	Ch. 1 Introduction to Ethical Leadership: A Primer Ch. 2 Kantianism	DB1 Initiator Post (Kantianism) due Oct 18 Quizzes 1–2 (Ch. 1–2)
Week 2 <i>Mon, Oct 19 – Sun, Oct 25</i>	Ch. 3 Utilitarianism Ch. 4 Virtue Ethics	DB2 Response Board (Utilitarianism/Virtue Ethics) due Oct 25 Quizzes 3–4 (Ch. 3–4)
Week 3 <i>Mon, Oct 26 – Sun, Nov 1</i>	Ch. 5 Ethical Egoism Ch. 6 Care Ethics	DB3 Initiator Post (Egoism/Care Ethics) due Nov 1 Quizzes 5–6 (Ch. 5–6)
Week 4 <i>Mon, Nov 2 – Sun, Nov 8</i>	Ch. 7 Universal Ethics Ch. 8 Cultural Relativism Ch. 9 Divine Command Theory	DB4 Response Board (Ch. 7–9) due Nov 8 Quizzes 7–9 (Ch. 7–9)
Week 5 <i>Mon, Nov 9 – Sun, Nov 15</i>	Ch. 10 Social Contract Theory Ch. 11 Justice as Fairness Ch. 12 The Common Good	DB5 Initiator Post (Ch. 10–12) due Nov 15 Quizzes 10–12 (Ch. 10–12)
Week 6 <i>Mon, Nov 16 – Sun, Nov 22</i>	Ch. 13 Authentic Leadership Ch. 14 Servant Leadership Ch. 15 Followership Ch. 16 Transformational Leadership	DB6 Response Board (Leadership Theories) due Nov 22 Quizzes 13–14 (Ch. 13–16)
Week 7 <i>Mon, Nov 23 – Sun, Nov 29</i>	Ch. 17 Adaptive Leadership Ch. 18 Toxic Leadership Ch. 19 Conclusion	DB7 Initiator Post (Ch. 17–19, FINAL) due Nov 29 Quizzes 15–16 (Ch. 17–19)

12. UT Tyler AI Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the

guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

Category of Use for This Course: AI is permitted only for specific assignments or situations, and appropriate acknowledgement is required.

For the assigned readings, students may use AI tools to help clarify what the authors are saying and to better understand the philosophical ideas presented. On discussion boards, students may use AI to research the topic and brainstorm ideas, but posts must be written in the student's own words, aside from the direct textbook quotes required by the assignment. AI use in this context does not need to be cited, but the post itself may not be AI-generated. For reading quizzes, AI tool use is not permitted under any circumstances. Using AI outside these parameters constitutes a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code and will be treated as plagiarism.

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.