

**MGMT 4940/5940**  
**European Business Ethics**  
**Summer 2020**

**I. Instructor Information**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>E-mail Address</u>
Andrea Holtan	(206) 683-5093	holtana@seattleu.edu
Nathan Colaner*	(206) 296-5628	colanern@seattleu.edu
Hartley McGrath	(206) 245-6999	hartleymcgrath@gmail.com

\*Lead instructor for “European Business Ethics”

**II. Course Schedule**

**In Seattle:**

May 11 (Monday)	3:30 – 5:30	TBA on SU Campus
June 8 (Monday)	3:30 – 5:30	TBA on SU Campus
July 20 (Monday)	3:30 – 5:30	TBA on SU Campus
August 17 (Monday)	3:30 – 5:30	TBA on SU Campus

**In Sansepolcro:**

We will have between six to eight 2-hour seminar sessions in Sansepolcro, to be arranged in coordination with the other course being offered. Our sessions will be scheduled so as not to conflict with other course meetings.

Meetings are TBD based on the itinerary:

- September 2 Meet in Sansepolcro at the Hotel Palazzo Magi Lobby at 3:00 pm. We recommend you check in by 2:00 or earlier. Dinner at 7:45
- September 3 After breakfast check-in and classroom sessions. Afternoon group activities. Dinner at 7:45.
- September 4 After breakfast check-in and classroom module. Mixed group work throughout the day, with free time. Dinner at 7:45
- September 5 After breakfast check-in and classroom module. Mixed group work throughout the day, with free time. Dinner at 7:45
- September 6 Personal Day
- September 7 After breakfast check-in and classroom module. Mixed group work throughout the day, with free time. Dinner at 7:45

- September 8 After breakfast check-in and classroom module. Mixed group work throughout the day, with free time. Dinner at 7:45
- September 9 After breakfast check-in and classroom module. Mixed group work throughout the day, with free time. Dinner at 7:45
- September 10 After breakfast check-in and classroom module. Mixed group work throughout the day, with free time. Dinner at 7:45
- September 11 After breakfast check-in and classroom module. Mixed group work throughout the day, with free time. Dinner at 7:45
- September 12 After breakfast check-in and classroom module. Mixed group work throughout the day, with free time. Dinner at 7:45
- September 13 After breakfast check-in and classroom module. Mixed group work throughout the day, with free time. Closing celebration and dinner at 7:45.
- September 14 After breakfast check-in and closing activity (until about 10:30). Bus from Sansepolcro to Rome (or collaborate on Taxi hires). Return to Seattle or to points beyond in Europe (flight timing will likely require spending a night in Europe for return flights to Seattle).

### **III. Course Description**

This course is about comparing and contrasting how ethical reasoning in a business context may vary between cultural contexts. There are three distinct parts to this course: four class sessions on the campus of Seattle University, the business site visits in Italy, and the presentations. While in Seattle, we will consider the various ways that ethics is (and is not) incorporated into business organizations. We will also examine several common issues in business ethics, divided by stakeholder. While in Seattle, students will prepare the first half of a presentation around a specific ethical issue that has been faced by a specific American business. Then in Italy, each student will use the business site visits to understand how the issues in question have been approached by European businesses. The subsequent presentation will then consist in a detailed comparison and contrast of traditional American business ethics and European business ethics.

### **IV. Learning Outcomes**

- To gain an understanding and appreciation for different cultures and customs.
- To develop the skills to approach situations from an ethical and moral position.
- To measurably increase self awareness and social awareness in different cultures, and develop more effective self management and relationship management skills.
- To become more effective communicating with clients and colleagues, and prospective clients and future colleagues from varying cultures and backgrounds.
- To develop strategies and tactics for influencing the organizational culture to foster authentic data flow (communications) among members of the organization.
- To learn skills and strategies for working in multi-cultural group settings.
- Develop effective skills in providing feedback to colleagues and associates.
- Develop and practice effective presentation skills.

## V. Student Responsibilities

- | <u>Dates</u> | <u>Progress</u>                                                                                                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • May 11     | Discussion of competing conceptions of business ethics                                                                      |
| • June 8     | Discussion of paper topics, identification of possible co-presenters                                                        |
| • July 13    | Selection of co-presenter, selection of paper topic, rough outline of ideas and scope of paper, likely sources of materials |
| • August 17  | Final draft of full outline and sources of materials                                                                        |

Before our 3rd meeting, find a co-presenter and identify and define the focus and scope of your presentation. Prepare a one-page document that presents your topic and the specific elements and boundaries of your proposed explorations. Identify preliminary resources that you are planning to use to develop your study.

Prepare for a 60-minute seminar discussion on your topic, to be presented in Italy during one of our meetings there. You are free to conduct your 60 minutes in whatever manner you deem most effective, but the recommended process is to prepare a 30 minutes presentation on a general business ethics issue before we leave for Italy. Then, through your visits to local businesses in Italy, you will complete your presentation with a compare and contrast of what you have learned on the ground.

We will establish a tentative schedule of presentations at our final meeting before we depart for Italy.

Select materials that you believe will adequately prepare your colleagues for the presentation and discussion you will lead during one of our class meetings in Italy. This might consist of an article or two, or excerpts from books, or even a paper of your own that conveys what you would like your fellow students to read before conducting your session. Total pages of reading should number at least 5 but not more than 10 (ball-park guidelines -- copy what is appropriate for your presentation)

## VI. Grading

We will weigh equally three contributions to our course experience:

1. **Your group presentation** in Italy
2. **Your support for your colleagues' presentations** in Italy (e.g., reading handouts prior to each seminar, contributing to the seminar discussions, attendance)
3. **Your final, individual essay, based on your group presentation**