Course title: Ethics in a globalization and sustainability context
Language of instruction: English
Professor: Jeaninne Horowitz Gassol
Professor’s contact and office hours: By appointment
Course contact hours: 45
Recommended credit: 6 ECTS credits
Course prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course
Language requirements: Recommended level in the European Framework B2 (or equivalent: Cambridge Certificate if the teaching language is English, DELE or 3 semesters in the case of Spanish)

Course focus and approach: this course is concerned with the application of ethical theory and behaviour in a global and sustainability context and as such it is multi-disciplinary.

Course description: Globalization and sustainability have become familiar terms that are however at cross purposes. The way globalization has been conducted with an emphasis on the economic sphere—international trade and cross border investment flows, has created a series of crises that threaten the ethical values and beliefs of a sustainable society. Ethics goes beyond what is legal because it is concerned with the ethical reflection of what represents right and wrong behaviour in a complex, dynamic and global environment. In this course we will discuss ethical approaches to global issues that are enhanced by the process of globalization and increasing multiculturalism, e.g., the environment, global citizenship & governance, poverty and inequality, peace and conflict, human rights, health and the effects of technology among others.

Learning objectives: At the end of the course, students will be able to:
- Recognize the complexity of today’s economic and global business setting and its effect on social and environmental issues.
- Appreciate the role of ethics as central in decision making.
- Understand basic ethical theories and apply them to ethical issues.
- Discuss the concept of ethical responsibility.
- Describe different ways of managing business ethics in a global context.
- Apply concepts and frameworks for ethical reasoning to complex global issues.
- Develop a systems perspective to help formulate, analyse, and defend decisions in ethical terms.
- Critically examine one’s personal ethics.

Course workload: readings, lectures, class discussions, exams, student reports, presentations and debates, documentaries, cases studies, invited speaker.
Teaching methodology: Lectures – Students are presented with content, motivated and challenged to reflect on issues. Issues are clarified and expanded upon. 
Class discussions and debates – Analysis of readings, videos, case studies exchange of ideas and cultural perspectives. 
Online Reader – Selection of reading material in different areas of ethics. 
Case Studies – Opportunity to study real life situations and how the actors involved reacted. 
Movies – Documentaries related to global ethical issues. 
Quizzes and reading assignments – Short multiples choice quizzes and assignments forum style on course content. 
Student presentations and debate leading – Students will have the opportunity to promote class discussions and debates on global ethical issues. 
Conference by invited speaker.

Assessment criteria:
Active class preparation and participation: 30% 
Quizzes and reading assignments: 10% 
Team project and roundtable presentation: 40% 
Take-home final exam: 20%

BaPIS absence policy
Attending class is mandatory and will be monitored daily by professors. Missing classes will impact on the student’s final grade as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absences</th>
<th>Penalization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Up to two (2) absences</td>
<td>No penalization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three (3) absences</td>
<td>1 point subtracted from final grade (on a 10-point scale)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four (4) absences</td>
<td>2 points subtracted from final grade (on a 10-point scale)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five (5) absences or more</td>
<td>The student receives an INCOMPLETE (“NO PRESENTADO”) for the course</td>
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The BaPIS attendance policy **does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences**. The student is deemed responsible to manage his/her absences.

Only absences for medical reasons will be considered justified absences. The student is deemed responsible to provide the necessary documentation. Other emergency situations will be analysed on a case-by-case basis by the Academic Director of the BaPIS.

The Instructor, the Academic Director and the Study Abroad Office should be informed by email without any delay.

Classroom norms:
- No food or drink is permitted in class.
- Students will have a ten-minute break after one-hour session.
Weekly schedule
Please note that sessions and required readings may change at the beginning of the course.
Web content reading will be posted in Aula Global.
Last revision: April 2021.

WEEK 1

Session 1 Introduction: Why Global Ethics?
The objectives, methodology, content and organization of the work are presented in detail.

Session 2 The individual responsibility. We will examine the importance of personal responsibility in global ethics. We will discuss determinism and free will concepts.

Required readings:

WEEK 2

Sessions 3 Philosophies of Ethics and Ethical Dilemmas.
We will study the philosophical basis of ethics and will look at what are ethical dilemmas and how to deal with them.

Required readings:
Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics. Authors: Frank Aragbonfoh Abumere, Douglas Giles, Ya-Yun (Sherry) Kao, Michael Klenk, Joseph Kranak, Kathryn MacKay, Jeffrey Morgan, Paul Rezkalla, George Matthews (Book Editor), and Christina Hendricks (Series Editor). Open Download, The Rebus Press.
Ethics in Internet Encyclopedia of philosophy

Session 4 Business, economics and ethics: We will analyse the relationships between ethics and economics from different perspectives.

Required readings:

Annett, Anthony. 2018. Restoring Ethics to Economics. FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT.


**Recommended Readings:**


**WEEK 3**

Session 5 Globalization and Sustainable Development. The issues and challenges of globalization and the concept of sustainable development are analysed.

**Required readings:**


**Recommended Reading**


**Session 6** Teamwork project organization and guidance.

**WEEK 4**

Session 7 International Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility. The issue of international governance as well as the rise for corporate social responsibility will be addressed.

**Required readings:**


**Recommended Readings:**

Session 8 Ethical leadership and organizational culture. Goals, Processes, Success Through a case study depicting a Wall Street financial analyst facing a dilemma in mountaineering, we study how each of our behaviours combines a process and a goal. The ethics of whistleblowing will also be addressed

**Required readings:**

**WEEK 5**

Session 9 Global Labour Markets: Exploitation or Development? We will address the issues raised by competitiveness and businesses trying to cut costs.

**Required readings:**
http://www.independent.org/publications/working_papers/article.asp?id=1369

Session 10 The Ethics of Marketing Practices. We will analyse the ethics of marketing; how far can businesses go when trying to sell their products or services. What is their responsibility versus the responsibility of consumers?

**Required readings:**
WEEK 6

Session 11 The ethics of global health and ethics. We will discuss ethical issues that arise from global health in light of the recent Covid-19 pandemic. We will hold a debate around the behaviour of Pharma during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Required readings:**

Session 12 The ethics of financial markets. What caused the 2008 worldwide financial crisis? We will analyse the world of finance from an ethical perspective.

**Resource documentary:** Inside Jobs

**Required readings:**

WEEK 7

Session 13 The ethics of water. Is water a social or an economic good? We will analyse the use and management of water resources from an ethical global perspective.

**Resource documentary:** Blue Gold

**Required readings:**


Session 14 Team project roundtables

Week 8

Sessions 15 and 16 Team project roundtables

Week 9

Sessions 17 and 18 Team project roundtables

Week 10

Session 19 General discussion of the Team projects

Session 20 Final considerations