1   Module overview

1.1 Introduction

We have introduced UWLFlex – our new, online, flexible learning platform.

UWLFlex has been designed to complement face-to-face learning and build on our reputation for excellence in teaching, learning and student support. We will be able to deliver a University experience that is more collaborative, active, and relevant for an increasingly digital world thus enabling us to provide you with an improved student experience. UWLFlex will provide you with an enhanced range of online tools, to help facilitate your learning whether this takes place primarily on site or online.

1.2 Module summary content and aims

This module looks at the theory and practice of Business Ethics, Corporate Governance, and Corporate Social Responsibility. This module is to deepen your understanding of current debates on the conduct of business in a challenging global environment. The module engages with ethical theory in a business context.

The module seeks to critically examine current debates on the nature of the enterprise and its role and impact on society. The implications of creating and sustaining an ethical approach to entrepreneurial activities are identified and examined and approaches to the management of business ethics appraised. Different ethical theories are used to undertake this analysis.

Contemporary concerns relating to the need for effective corporate citizenship and governance structures are addressed and discussed, together with the causes of emerging calls for improved corporate accountability and social responsibility.

To understand how organisations, formulate and implement ethical stances, it is necessary to analyse both relevant ethical theory and contemporary frameworks for governance structures and processes. The module examines influential ideas and philosophies of ethical behaviour, current developments, governance issues, and the growth of codes and agreements guiding corporate social responsibility.

This challenging and engaging subject reflects on some key contemporary business issues and to developing an understanding of ethical perspectives. It is hoped that you find this module useful, interesting and a source of inspiration and practical support in your business career.

The aims of the module are to:

- Critically analyse the drivers of enterprise and wealth creation from the perspective of their ethical implications.

- Investigate changing approaches and attitudes to sustainability and corporate social responsibility.

- Critically evaluate frameworks for the discussion of business ethical issues and the use of tools for managing business ethics.

- Examine the impact of globalisation on enterprise.

- Evaluate diverse ethical models and theories (normative and descriptive).

- Debate the role of alternative approaches: 'values' and "virtues" in business leaders.

We will use BlackBoard (BB) to support you in the module. Documents are loaded throughout the module to support group study and learning styles. Module Study Guide Business Ethics – Jan 2020 6 Appointments with teaching staff can be arranged at mutually convenient times. Please e-mail for an appointment outside of normal class times.

Expectations

Specific expectations students can have of tutors:

- Drop-in support by emailing the tutors, and if needed, drop-in support will be provided online via email during office hours.

- Constructive formative feedback will be provided. See details on Section 2.1 and also on BB.

- Lecture slides, seminar activities and any relevant solutions, if appropriate, will be made available on BB.

Specific expectations tutors will have of students:

- Attend all classes and arrive at classes punctually.

- Lectures are expected to watch lectures, attend seminars and undertake further readings attached to all the sessions and behave professionally.

- Actively participate and engage in class activities.

- Inform tutor via email in advance when not able to attend any classes.

1.3 Learning outcomes to be assessed

By the end of this module you will be able to:

LO 1. Analyse stakeholder perspectives on business behaviour.

LO 2. Evaluate the importance of business ethics at an academic level and its managerial implications.

LO 3. Identify and evaluate the most relevant normative and descriptive business ethics theories.

LO 4. Investigate and evaluate approaches to sustainability and corporate social responsibility.

LO 5. Make informed judgements of business ethics dilemmas.

LO 6. Access and use a wide variety of learning resources in the subject area.

1.4 Indicative Contact Hours

Teaching Contact Hours	42 hours
Independent Study Hours	158 hours
Total Learning Hours	200 hours

2 Assessment and feedback

Students will be given assignment briefs which will detail the questions to be answered and how to submit their work. Feedback will be given three weeks after the submission deadline.

2.1 Summative assessment grid

Type of Assessment	Word Count or equivalent	Threshold (if Professional Body-PSRB applies)	Weighting	Pass Mark	Indicative Submission week	Method of Submission & Date of Feedback (refer to BB)
Coursework Portfolio (**Task 1** & **Task 2**) See details	**3,000 in total** (500+2500) (+/- 10%)	N/A	100%	40%	Week 14	Via Turnitin Feedback will be provided within 15 working days of submission deadline.

2.2 Learning materials

The reading list for this module is available in our library and in the module area and online library. Further reading materials, videos, case studies where appropriate will be given to you by your Lecturer including links and how to download all relevant materials. Remember to log into Blackboard regularly for all the latest information and announcements.

You are reminded that the College applies penalties to students who commit an academic offence, in which case the Academic Offences Regulations will be used to deal with any cases of academic misconduct including examination offences, plagiarism, use of ghost writing services and other means of cheating to obtain an advantage.

You can access the college's academic misconduct policy here

Remember to log into Blackboard daily to receive all the latest news and support available at your module sites!

Subject guides are also available to help you find relevant information for assignments, with contact details of the Academic Support Librarian for your School.

Essential Reading

Crane, A., Matten, D., and Glozer, S. (2019) "*Business Ethics: Managing corporate citizenship and sustainability in the age of globalization*" 5th Edit, UK: Oxford University Press.

Domenec, M. (2019) "*Business Ethics in Action: Seeking human excellence in organizations*" 2nd Edit, Electronic Books.

Crane, A., and Matten, D. (2016) "*Business Ethics*" 4th Edit, UK: Oxford University Press.

Recommended Reading

Collins, D. (2012) "*Essentials of Business Ethics: Creating an Organization of High Ingegrity and Supplior Performance*" https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/book/10.1002/9781118386163.

Chryssides, G., and Kaler, J. (1996) "*Essentials of Business Ethics*" Europe, Middle East and Africa: McGraw-Hill Education.

De George, R. T. (2006) "*Business Ethics*" 6th Edit, Pearson.

Dienhart, J. W. (2000) "*Business, Institutions, and Ethics*" OUP.

Fisher, C., and Lovell, A. (2009) "*Business Ethics and Values*" Prentice Hall.

McGraw Hill. Mallin, C. (2004) "*Corporate Governance*" Oxford University Press.

Mele, D. (2009) "*Business Ethics in Action*" Palgrave.

McIntosh, M. et al (2003) "*Living Corporate Citizenship*" Prentice Hall.

Post, J., Lawrence, A., and Weber, J. (2005) "*Business and Society*" McGraw Hill.

Wicks, A., Freeman, R., Werhane, P., and Martin, K. (2010) "*Business Ethics: A Managerial Approach*" Prentice Hall.

Journals

Journal of Business Ethics

Business Ethics Quarterly

European Journal of Business Ethics

Harvard Business Review

Long Range Planning

3   Things you need to know

3.1 Engagement

Teaching at OBC during the academic year 2021-22 may involve a range of on site and online teaching and learning activities. Whether you are engaging with teaching and learning activities on site or via the college's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), we expect the same level of commitment and engagement from you. If you are unable to attend scheduled on site or online activities or complete activities in the time frames set out, you should let your tutors know. You should aim to stick to assessment deadlines; if you are concerned that you will not be able to complete your assessments on time, you should talk to your tutors. Your engagement, whether online or on site, will be tracked and if we see that you are not engaging, we will get in contact with you. However, we encourage you to let us know if you are having problems so we can work with you to find solutions and get you back on track as soon as possible. Give yourself the best possible chance to succeed by engaging with the full range of learning and teaching activities available to you.

All students should refer to the Attendance and Engagement Monitoring Policy which can be downloaded from here

3.2 Need help, just ask

We recognise that there are times when you may encounter difficulties during your course of study and provisions are made to help you. If you think you will be unable to meet deadlines please talk to us, whether it's your course/module leader, personal tutor or any member of staff, so they can get you the support you need to succeed. You can extend your deadline if you have a good reason why you are not able to submit a piece of coursework on time before your deadline. If an extension is not sufficient and circumstances beyond your control are preventing you from completing your assessment, then you can apply for mitigation.

Please remember late submission without extension or mitigation may result in penalties depending on how late it is, see University Academic Regulations.

As a student of the University of West London you are expected to behave in line with UWL expectations, irrespective of whether your interactions with staff and other students are in person or online. As you will be engaging with others online and with a range of online materials, it is important to consider how to stay safe online and ensure your communications are secure and appropriate. If you have any questions about how to manage your online activities, please contact your module leader.

If you have an issue about the module, you should speak to your Module Leader or Course Leader informally in the first instance. Your Course Representative can also raise your concerns at Course Committees, which take place each semester. If you are unable to resolve it informally, you should refer to our Complaints Procedure which is outlined on our website through this link
https://www.oxfordbusinesscollege.ac.uk/news/how-to-make-a-complaint/

The College will always aim to ensure that issues are resolved informally as quickly as possible to have minimum impact on your studies.

3.3 Getting support for your studies

Throughout your course of study, you will have access to a wide variety of sources of support depending on your individual circumstances and needs. Your first point of call for getting general academic support is your Personal Tutor. As well as approaching your Module Leader with any questions specifically related to your module and your Course Leader with questions on your Course, do contact your Personal Tutor or Partnership Support Link Tutor for academic advice in relation to your studies and your academic development.

Oxford Business College takes pride in its student support, guidance and wellbeing, complemented by our ethos that every student is an individual. Staff are committed to the College's mission statement "to provide each learner with the most positive learning experience".

We ensure that students at the College can expect a supportive and responsive experience from the initial inquiry by completing a course and progression within or outside the College. This demonstrates our commitment to provide support for inclusive, high-standard students and provides students with a foundation for high achievement.

Our students' changing needs and their varied reason for learning guide our approach to providing innovative learning opportunities from entry-level to higher learning that promotes individual progress. Either for personal development & wellbeing, academic progression or career advancement, whilst supporting those facing learning barriers to overcome them and succeed. The College is committed to helping its student's Academic and Professional Development (APD) via examples currently in place, such as personal tutorials, a mentor system and pastoral care.

PERSONALISED SERVICE

Oxford Business College provides a personalised service adapted to the different needs of different students by:

Developing effective individual learning plans

Effective pastoral care. The College has a dedicated Student Welfare Officer and Counsellor, and students may, in addition, meet the Head of academics or Principal to discuss their concerns

Tutorial meetings

A mentor system with a tutor or member of the academic team

Peer mentor

You can read more on our support services via the link below:

https://www.oxfordbusinesscollege.ac.uk/support-wellbeing/

3.4 Module evaluation – have your say!

Towards the end of the module you will be invited to provide some anonymous feedback to the Module Leader through an online survey. This is your opportunity to give some direct feedback about the module through a series of questions and free text. Your constructive feedback will help the Module Leader and teaching team to understand the module experience from your perspective and helps inform the development of the module. At the end of the survey period, a response to the survey will be available so that you can see exactly how your voice has been heard.