

## PHI 2397E – Business Ethics – Final Exam Preparation Sheet

The final exam will be identical to the midterm test in structure, but it will have more questions. It will consist of three sections:

- I. Answer all 6 true or false questions
- II. Answer 8 of 12 short-answer “concept” questions (at least 5-10 lines; complete sentences)
- III. Answer 8 of 12 short-answer “cases” questions (at least 5-10 lines; complete sentences)

The questions will be based on all the readings listed in the syllabus since the Study Break, and, in particular, only on what we focussed on in these readings in class. Sample questions are not being provided here since you have already encountered on the midterm test the style of questions you will be asked on the final exam. Instead, the general themes from each week’s readings that the questions will focus on are listed below in order to help facilitate your studying of the readings. If you have any specific questions about the readings you may come to any of the following office hours:

Wednesday, April 19, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Desmarais 8122, Nigel DeSouza ([ndesouza@uottawa.ca](mailto:ndesouza@uottawa.ca))

Thursday April 20, 9:00 am – 11:00 am, Desmarais 8129, Pamela Lee ([plee089@uottawa.ca](mailto:plee089@uottawa.ca))

Friday, April 21, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Desmarais 8141, Xavier Corsius ([xcors021@uottawa.ca](mailto:xcors021@uottawa.ca))

Friday, April 21, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Desmarais 8120, Patrick Juskevicius ([pjusk069@uottawa.ca](mailto:pjusk069@uottawa.ca))

### Mon Feb 27, Thurs Mar 2      PRODUCT LIABILITY; ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- risk-aversion and the rise of tort law.
- holding businesses liable for defective, dangerous, etc. products that cause harm or for harm they cause to the environment, especially from negligence.
- business’s moral responsibility, and liability, for how they market their products.

### Mon Mar 6, Thurs Mar 9      ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES/GLOBALIZATION

- the tragedy of the commons and the environment.
- the conflict between private interests and public goods: how citizens express their preferences with respect to public goods (health care, protection of the environment) in the political sphere in order to moderate/regulate private interests (businesses, citizens themselves as consumers).
- business’s responsibility to obey environmental laws and not to interfere with the political process by which those laws are passed.
- how the question of whether nation-states should or should not resist globalization has given way to the reality of globalization and the new question of how to regulate businesses at the global level, in part through institutions of global governance.

### Mon Mar 13, Thurs Mar 16      BUSINESS AND GLOBALIZATION

- the challenges developing nations face in securing a fair agreement in the Development Round on trade negotiations and the principles that should be followed to ensure any such agreement is fair.
- the salient features of bribes, how they are similar to and differ from gifts or donations.
- how the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act is an example of a national law that has been used to regulate business internationally.
- the moral responsibilities of businesses doing business in dangerous places.
- business vs. government responsibility for working conditions, worker safety and welfare in globalized business.

Mon Mar 20, Thurs Mar 23      HIRING. FIRING. WHISTLEBLOWING

- how to deal with the problem of hiring discrimination based on physical appearance.
- the features of whistleblowing and whether loyalty to one's employer can be justified as a legitimate factor in weighing the decision to blow the whistle or not.
- valid reasons for terminating employment and the process for doing so.
- the ethics of terminating employment by permanently closing a business.

Mon Mar 27, Thurs Mar 30      WORKPLACE ISSUES: SAFETY, PRIVACY, DISCRIMINATION

- business responsibility for workplace safety.
- the introduction of different levels of penalty (e.g., Bill C-45) depending on the seriousness of the consequences (e.g., loss of life) for having infringed health and safety standards.
- how a globalized world and social media affect public response to workplace disasters.
- workplace safety and sexism.

Mon Apr 3, Thurs Apr 6      EMPLOYMENT EQUITY; LEADERSHIP

- the various forms of sexual harassment in employment and the employer's responsibility to combat them.
- reasonable accommodation in the workplace with respect to prohibited grounds of discrimination (e.g., sex, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, etc.); direct vs. adverse effect (or indirect) discrimination and business's duty to accommodate to the point of undue hardship.
- the degree to which business leaders should pay heed to and should be accountable to their employees in making executive business decisions and whether this depends on whether things go well or things go badly for the business as a result of those decisions.