

Business Ethics: Philosophy, compliance and social responsibility of firms

Séminaire (18 heures)

Enseignants

Geert Demuijnck (geert.demuijnck@edhec.edu)

Matthieu Caron (matthieucaron@sciencespo-lille.fr)

Présentation du séminaire

Part 1 (Geert Demuijnck) : Over the last decades, expectations about corporate behavior and management have dramatically evolved. Nowadays, clients and other stakeholders not only expect reliable goods and services. They also look at the way in which these products are made and delivered and impact on the environment. In this class we will analyze aspects of responsible business and responsible management. Topics like the scope of (ethical) responsibility of corporations with respect to the stakeholders or the challenge of sustainable business practices will be approached partly from a theoretical perspective, but also in part from a practical, i.e. a managerial and an implementation perspective.

Part 2 (Matthieu Caron) : After the first part of the course addressed the philosophical aspects of business ethics, this second part reviews the history of business ethics and then exposes the different levels of integration of business ethics into the within corporate strategy : compliance (minimal integration), corporate social responsibility (intermediate integration), overhaul of governance (maximum integration).

Plan des séances

Part 1

Séance 1. What is ethics ? How does it apply in business

- Moral relativism versus universalism
- Legal positivism and business ethics

Séance 2. The scope of business ethics

- The conflict with profit : different scenarios
- How to deal with ethical dilemmas in business

Séance 3. Management perspectives on business ethics

- Behavioral ethics
- How to create a responsible corporate culture

Part 2

Séance 4. History of business Ethics

Séance 5. Compliance : the protection of the company against risks

Séance 6. Corporate social responsibility : the conservation of the company to sustainable development

Séance 7. Overhaull of corporate governance : the in-depth transformation of the compagny

Travaux et évaluation

Students will have to produce a slideshow of ten slides on a European company that is very advanced in terms of business ethics

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- François Lépineux et alii., *La Responsabilité sociale des entreprises. Théories et pratiques*, Dunod, 2016.
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2022-2023

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