



FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER  
UNIVERSITÄT  
ERLANGEN-NÜRNBERG

PHILOSOPHISCHE FAKULTÄT  
UND FACHBEREICH THEOLOGIE

Institute of Business and  
Economics

Kochstr. 4 (17), 91054 Erlangen

Tel.: +49 (0)9131/85-23027

Fax.: +49 (0)9131/85-22060

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Master Program Development Economics and International Studies

## International Business Ethics I (IBE I)

Lecture and Tutorials

Summer Term 2021

**(Last update: March 29, 2021)**

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

After the financial crisis and recent corporate scandals at Wirecard, Volkswagen, Sanlu, Deutsche Bank, and many others, the call for ethical management of businesses, especially multinational corporations, has increased dramatically. In this course, we will look at the broad area of business ethics. As a theoretical foundation, ethical theories will be considered, and concepts like sustainability, corporate social responsibility, and corporate citizenship will be analyzed.

Moreover, in the age of globalization, climate change, and grand challenges as the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, business increasingly takes place in an environment where political and cultural boundaries that challenge corporate values are constantly crossed. Businesses are constantly confronted with issues such as environmental depletion, poverty, child labor, bribery and corruption, ethnic and religious discrimination, censorship and privacy issues, fair trade, and consumer boycotts, to mention a few. Thus, we will address, e.g., the challenges that organizations are confronted with when trying to do business ethically, what it takes to be a good corporate citizen, and how companies can deal with stakeholder demands.

Students acquire basic knowledge of ethics and business ethics. They are made familiar and learn how to address the challenges that organizations face when trying to do business ethically, be a good corporate citizen, and deal with stakeholder demands.

### COURSE DESIGN AND ASSIGNMENTS

The course is divided into a lecture that will present the main content and an exercise or tutorial. The quality and outcome of both the lecture and the tutorials depend on the participation of students. It is expected that students work on their own through the modules and actively take part in live Q&A sessions.

In the tutorials, scientific texts will be analyzed, and cases will be discussed. These materials are also relevant for the examination. Therefore, we expect students to read the respective materials in advance of every session and participate actively in online discussions.

## **VENUE AND TIME**

Due to the current developments of the COVID-19 pandemic, significant efforts have been made to digitalize teaching and tutorials until face-to-face gatherings become possible. Our online teaching concept includes a mix of synchrony activities (using Zoom) and asynchrony materials (Webcasts, Videos, Test) available on StudOn.

### **Lecture:**

The lecture is divided into modules that include the contents and materials proposed to learn and reflect on various theoretical discussions concerning international business ethics. These modules include mainly short screencasts, and they will be available on StudOn for asynchronous work.

Additionally, there will be some online synchronous sessions on Zoom for questions and answers related to the theoretical topics included in the modules.

**The lecture will begin with a kick-off session on Monday, April 19, 2021, at 14:15 – 15:45 on Zoom.**

### **Tutorials:**

The tutorials include self-evaluation tests oriented to provide feedback on the theoretical part of the course. The self-evaluation tests will be available on StudOn for asynchronous work.

Additionally, there will be synchronous tutorial sessions each week on Zoom to discuss case studies and essential scientific papers related to international business ethics.

**The tutorial will begin on Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at 14.15 – 15.00 on Zoom.**

## **REGISTRATION AND ACCESS TO MATERIALS**

To be able to access the materials of the lecture and tutorials available on StudOn it is necessary that you first register on MeinCampus for the lecture International Business Ethics I (IBE I). Registration is open until May 14, 2021. For the registration, follow this link: <https://www.campus.uni-erlangen.de/>

Once you are registered on MeinCampus you will be able to access the StudOn website of the course.

To access the materials then follow this link:



<https://www.studon.fau.de/crs3680503.html>

## REQUIREMENTS

Students should have a basic knowledge of economics and business administration. Having taken previous courses on ethics or business ethics is not required.

## EXAMINATION AND GRADE SCHEME

The grade consists of a written test with a duration of 60 minutes.

The planned date for the examination is on Monday, July 19, 12:30 – 13:30 h. in Gr. Hörsaal, Bismarckstr. 1a, 91054 Erlangen, Germany, Room number: 00.014.

More information regarding covid-19 related regulations for hygiene and health will be communicated timely on StudOn.

## IMPORTANT LINKS

Please be sure to frequently consult the different sources of information that include updates regarding the university's activities in times of the corona crisis: <https://www.fau.eu/corona/>

Homepage of the Institute of Economics: <http://www.economics.phil.uni-erlangen.de>

Library of the Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU): [www.ub.uni-erlangen.de](http://www.ub.uni-erlangen.de)

## CONTACT

**Prof. Dr. Matthias S. Fifka**  
**Institute of Economics and Business**  
**Chair for Strategic and Values Oriented Management**  
[matthias.fifka@fau.de](mailto:matthias.fifka@fau.de)  
Kochstr. 4 (17), 91054 Erlangen, Germany, Room 1.033

**Dr. Cristian R. Loza Adai**  
[cristian.loza.adaui@fau.de](mailto:cristian.loza.adaui@fau.de)  
Kochstr. 4 (17), 91054 Erlangen, Germany, Room 1.031  
Tel: +49 9131 85-22059