

Online lecture Business Ethics and CSR

Winter semester 2020/2021

Name of the course	Business Ethics and CSR
Name of the lecturer	Talvikki (Taitti) Holmstrom
Description of the course	<p>This is an introductory course. The course aims to provide the students an understanding of the basic theoretical concepts in business ethics and corporate social responsibility, and present some practical cases to deepen the understanding of the theory.</p> <p>The course will first introduce the students to a small number of classical business ethics thinkers and the history of business ethics in the late 20th and early 21st century. You will then be presented with different approaches to business ethics (individual, organization, legal framework/societal context).</p> <p>We will also explore the connection between business ethics and corporate social responsibility and examine the key concepts, such as social responsibility, social entrepreneurship, and corporate citizenship. (What does it mean to manage responsibly and how does that relate to sustainability, responsibility, and ethics? How can a business assess its impact on its surroundings?) You will be introduced to case studies of good and bad corporate practices to bring the theory closer to practice.</p> <p>The course aims to answer questions such as</p> <p>What is business ethics? Can business even have an ethical code?</p> <p>Is business ethics the same as corporate social responsibility or are there differences between the two? How are they different?</p> <p>Why do corporates make “bad” decisions? Are these decisions made because there are immoral individuals in charge, or because there are unethical or poor laws in the society?</p> <p>What are some of the examples of best achievements and worst failures in business decision making from an ethical perspective?</p> <p>How can good decision making be supported?</p>
Dates and Time	<p>Every Wednesday from 7th October to 9th December 2020.</p> <p>17.00-18.30 Central European Time</p>
Kind of exam	Rated project work
Prerequisites required	The course does not have any mandatory pre requisites. It is recommended that students have a basic understanding of economics, globalization, organisational structure, organizational reward systems, and/or organizational and political

	decision making. Having completed at least the equivalent of one semester of full time studies is therefore recommended.
Recommended reading	A list of recommended reading and case studies will be provided closer to start date of the course. The reading list is to be treated as additional reference material for those with special interest in the topic. The reading is not mandatory for completing the course but it will help in clarifying some of the concepts and case studies that are presented during the lectures.