

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Course information

<b>Name</b>	Business Ethics
<b>Code</b>	DOI - IND - 682
<b>Degree</b>	Master in the Electric Power Industry from the Universidad Pontificia Comillas
<b>Taught in</b>	Master in the Electric Power Industry [First Course]
<b>Level</b>	Master Official Postgraduate
<b>ECTS credits</b>	1,0 ECTS
<b>Type</b>	Elective

### Instructor

<b>Name</b>	Ignacio Ramos Villar
<b>Department / Area</b>	Departamento de Derecho Económico y Social
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## **DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE COURSE**

### **Contextualization of the course**

#### **Contribution to the professional profile of the degree**

The course aims to contribute to the understanding of the ethical dimension of the problems engineers and executives have to face through managing organizations. Society increasingly requires professionals to be capable of facing and satisfactorily solving situations which encompass dilemmas and implications of an ethical-professional nature, which will not only affect them personally or professionally, but also have consequences that go beyond their own personal lives.

To deal with these situations, it is insufficient to simply possess ethical sensitivity, which occasionally implies mere subjective intuitions. One needs to be able to assess, with responsibility, the implications of certain situations and the consequences of possible actions. Thus, together with the technical training specific to their respective specializations (or majors), it is indispensable for the future engineer to be trained to soundly and responsibly tackle the ethical implications of his/her activity.

## **Competences - Learning Outcomes**

### **Competences**

#### **Basic Competences**

CG03.- Know how to evaluate and select the appropriate scientific theory and the precise methodology of their fields of study to formulate judgments based on incomplete or limited information including, when necessary and pertinent, a reflection on social or ethical responsibility linked to the proposed solution in each case.

#### **Specific Competences**

CE21. Reflect on the need to find sustainable development strategies from an environmental, social and economic point of view and understand the importance of considering business dynamics from an ethical and responsible perspective.

### **Learning outcomes**

- RA1. To understand the importance and need of including the ethical and responsible dimension in business management. Reflection about the company's mission statement.
- RA2. To foster ethical values throughout the company to be aligned to individual and organizational behavior and to the triple bottom line.
- RA3. To identify conflict situations and dilemmas to be managed in the daily business performance, and how to solve them.
- RA4. To rethink the company purpose in the present socio-economic context, focusing the specifications of the electric power industry.
- RA5. To learn how to manage a company, according to ethical and responsible standards.

## BLOCKS AND CONTENTS

<b>Contents - Blocks</b>	
Samples of best practices	
Management and implementation of CSR	
Review of the strategy of the company. From planning to execution	
Fundamentals of CSR.	
Levels of CSR. Motivations to align business strategy to CSR. Stakeholders' vs company's benefits.	
Wider basis of business: from stakeholder theory to CSR	
The role of business in the society: mission, vision and values statement. Multi-stakeholder approach to business management: the CSR.	
Management and implementation of CSR.	
Reviewing the strategy of a company. From planning to execution.	
The importance of ethics management in organizations.	
Exploring the alternatives of a company not being ethical. The ethics of businesses. Definitions, fundamentals and benefits. Components of a Business Ethics Plan: the Code of Ethics.	

## TEACHING METHODOLOGY

<b>General methodological aspects</b>	
This course addresses three intertwined areas of learning: 1st - Knowledge 2nd - Analytical skills 3rd - Self-reflection	
<b>In-class: activities</b>	<b>Competences</b>
Lectures and class discussion (10 hours in total): Presentation of the main concepts and procedures by the instructor and, in many times, by professionals from the power sector. They will include dynamic presentations, scenarios, and the participation and interaction with students. 1. Class discussions (4 hours) 2. Lectures (6 hours)	CG03, CE21
<b>Out-of-class: activities</b>	<b>Competences</b>
Reading of articles and individual or group written assignments, for which individual reading and studying will be required (20 hours)	CG03, CE21

### STUDENT WORK-TIME SUMMARY

#### IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Lectures and class discussions: presentation of the main concepts and procedures by the instructor and, in many times, professionals from the power sector. They will include dynamic presentations, scenarios, and the participation and interaction with students.

10.00

#### OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Reading of articles: reading of scientific article which will be encomended to the students and presented during the course, for which individual and/or group work work and study will be required.

20.00

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING CRITERIA

Assessment activities	Grading criteria	Weight
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendance and active participation in class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The attendance of the sessions is compulsory, having read before the required readings. At the beginning of the sessions indicated, the student has to present the corresponding assignments.</li> </ul>	<b>30</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual and team papers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding the theoretical concepts.</li> <li>Application of these concepts to problem-solving.</li> <li>Critical analysis of numerical exercises results.</li> </ul>	<b>40</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final team paper.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding the theoretical concepts.</li> <li>Application of these concepts to problem-solving.</li> <li>Critical analysis of numerical exercises results.</li> </ul>	<b>30</b>

## Grading

Class attendance is mandatory according to Article 93 of the General Regulations (Reglamento General) of Comillas Pontifical University and Article 6 of the Academic Rules (Normas Academicas) of the ICAI School of Engineering. Not complying with this requirement may have the following consequences:

Students who fail to attend more than 15% of the lectures may be denied the right to take the final exam during the regular assessment period.

Students who commit an irregularity in any graded activity will receive a mark of zero (0) in the activity and disciplinary procedure will follow (cf. Article 168 of the General Regulations (Reglamento General) of Comillas Pontifical University).

A retake exam only for students whose final score is below 5,00 (out of 10,00 points) will take place 2 weeks after the end of the lecture period. It will be a written exam and will include all the subject contents. Attendance and participation in class, or individual and team papers, will not be considered in this case.



**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**2020-2021**

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES**

### **Basic bibliography**

- Bilbao, G.; Fuertes, J.; Guibert, J.M. Ética para Ingenieros. Desclée De Brower. 2006.
- Etxeberria, X. Ética básica. Universidad de Deusto. 1998.
- Etxeberria, X. Temas básicos de ética. Desclée De Brower. 2002.
- Hortal, A. Ética general de las profesiones. Desclée De Brower. 2002.
- Hortal, A. Ética profesional y universidad. Universidad Católica Andrés Bello. 2007.

### **Complementary bibliography**

- Camacho, I.; Fernandez, J.L.; González, R.; Miralles, J. Ética y Responsabilidad Empresarial. Desclée, 2013.
- Harris, Ch.E.; Pritchard, M.S.; Rabins, M.J.. Engineering Ethics. Concepts and Cases. Wadsworth. 4th ed. 2009.
- Martin M.W.; Schinzinger R.. Introduction to Engineering Ethics. McGraw-Hill Higher Education. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. 2010.
- Johnson, D.G.; Wetmore, J.M. Technology and Society: Building our Sociotechnical Future (Inside Technology). MIT Press. 2008.
- Kallman, E.A.; Grillo, J.P. Ethical Decision Making & Information Technology: An Introduction with Cases. McGraw-Hill. 1996.