

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
M.Com. (GENERAL) DEGREE PROGRAMME
SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2023-2024

First Year

Elective – III A

Semester II

Course Code	Title of the Course	Category	L	T	P	O	Credits	Inst. Hours	Marks		
									CIA	External	Total
413E2A	BUSINESS ETHICS AND CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY		4	-	-	-	3	4	25	75	100

Learning Objectives	
1.	To understand the concept and importance of business ethics
2.	To enable ethical decision making based on various theories
3.	To gain knowledge on moral issues relating to business, marketing, advertising, finance, HR and environmental protection
4.	To understand the concepts of corporate sustainability
5.	To analyse sustainability information and prepare reports

Course Units

UNIT I	(12 hrs)
Introduction to Business Ethics	
Business Ethics- Meaning and Definition of Business Ethics - Nature of Business Ethics - Role and importance of Business Ethics and values in Business - Causes of unethical behaviour - Ethical issues.	
UNIT II	(12 hrs)
Ethical Theories	
Ethical Decision Making -Decision Making (Normal Dilemmas and problems) - Application of Ethical Theories in Business - Traditional Ethical Theories - Utilitarianism, - Ethical Egoism - Ethics of Duties - Normative Theories of Business Ethics - Stakeholder Theory - Stockholder Theory - Lawrence Kohlberg’s Theory Model Development.	

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Unit III

(12 hrs)

Moral Issues in Business

Moral Issues in Business - Importance of moral issues and reasoning - Whistle Blowing- Kinds of Whistle Blowing - Ethical issues in functional areas of business.

Marketing and Advertising - Truth in Advertising- Manipulation – Coercion-Trade Secrets- Corporate disclosure-Insider trading.

Finance -Fairness' and efficiency in Financial Market – Greenmail-Golden Parachute.

HR: Workers Rights and Duties - Work place Safety - Sexual Harassment-Equal Employment Opportunity- Preferential hiring.

Environmental Protection - Safety and acceptable risk- Environmental Harm, Pollution and its Control– Product Safety and Corporate Liability.

UNIT IV

(12 hrs)

Corporate Sustainability

Corporate Sustainability - Concepts of sustainability - Social, Environmental and Economic dimensions -Sustainability in a business context.

Principles of Sustainable Development: History and emergence of the concept of Sustainable Development - Definitions, Environmental issues and crisis, Resource degradation, Greenhouse gases, Desertification, Social insecurity, Industrialization, Globalization and Environment.

UNIT V

(12 hrs)

Sustainability Reporting

Sustainability Reporting - Investors, customers, government and media- Disclosing sustainability information – report and website - Transparency and Accountability - One Report movement – Financial and non-financial together - Triple bottom line concept for Sustainable Business - Sustainability Reporting: Flavour of GRI, BRR, BRSR.

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Course Outcomes

Students will be able to:

CO No.	CO Statement	Knowledge level
CO 1	Apply the concepts of business ethics in practice	K3
CO 2	Demonstrate ethical decision making by applying various theories	K2
CO 3	Evaluate moral issues relating to business, marketing, advertising, finance, HR and environmental protection	K5
CO 4	Explain the concepts of corporate sustainability	K2
CO5	Construct reports disclosing sustainability information	K3

Books for study:

1. Muraleedharan K P and Satheesh E K (2021), "Fernando's Business Ethics and Corporate Governance", 3rd Edition., Pearson India Education Services Pvt. Ltd, Noida
2. John G. Cullen (2022), "Business, Ethics and Society: Key Concepts, Current Debates and Contemporary Innovations", Sage Publications Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi
3. Khanka S S (2013), "Business Ethics and Corporate Governance (Principles and Practice)", 1st Edition, S.Chand & Co. Ltd., New Delhi

Books for reference:

1. ICSI Study Material, "Governance, Risk Management, Compliances and Ethics", New Delhi
2. David Chandler (2016), "Strategic Corporate Social Responsibility: Sustainable Value Creation", 4th Edition., Sage Publications Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi
3. Mandal S K (2017), "Ethics in Business and Corporate Governance", 2nd Edition., McGraw Hill Education, India

Web references:

1. <https://www.icsi.edu/media/website/BUSINESS%20MANAGEMENT%20ETHICS%20&%20ENTREPRENEURSHIP.pdf>
2. <https://dceutkal.ac.in/Syllabus/BECG-MBA.pdf>
3. <https://sdgs.un.org/topics/desertification-land-degradation-and-drought>
4. https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/documents/1387bp_ccInNSDS.pdf
5. <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/9435>

Note: Latest edition of the books may be used

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Mapping of course outcomes with POs and PSOs

	POs						PSOs		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3
CO1	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	1	3
CO2	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	1	3
CO3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	1	3
CO4	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
CO5	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3

High – 3

Medium – 2

Low – 1