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| CC 302 | Legal and Ethical issues in business | 4L:0T:0P | 4 Credits |
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Course Description:

This course provides a comprehensive exploration of the key legal concepts, regulations, and ethical dilemmas that businesses face across various sectors. Through lectures, case studies, and interactive discussions, students will develop the ability to critically analyze legal scenarios and ethical issues, and make informed decisions that align with both legal requirements and ethical business practices.

Course Objectives:

1. The course aims to provide students with the understanding of key legal and ethical issues in the business context of India
2. The course will help students analyze ethical dilemmas in business decisions
3. The course will help the students understand the legal and regulatory aspects of business ethics that concern the financial, competitive and charitable responsibilities of organisations.
4. The course will help the students gain knowledge about the ways in which organizational and individual factors impact business ethics

Course Content:

Unit 1: Introduction to Business Law

Business law – definition, scope, importance of understanding the role of law in business; Elements of a contract – offer and acceptance, consideration, contractual capacity; Essentials of a valid contract; Types of contracts; Performance obligations; Types of contract breaches and remedies; Product liability and consumer protection laws; Business torts; Employment law

Unit 2: Sales and Leases

Formation of Sales Contract: Contracts for Leasing Goods, Title and Risk of loss, Performance and remedies, Warranties and Product liability;

Introduction to Negotiable Instruments, Negotiability, Negotiation and Holders in due course; Liability and discharge, Bank customer Relations/Electronic Fund Transfers.

Unit 3: Introduction to Business Ethics

The definition and importance of business ethics, business ethics in the Indian context; Institutionalization of Business Ethics in the organization, benefits of Ethical Conduct in Business, Ethical Issues and Stakeholder Concerns; Social Responsibility and Regulatory Framework: Corporate social responsibility; Environment & business;

Model curriculum for UG Degree in BBA

Issues related to Business Ethics in marketing, finance & human resource functions. Ethical responsibilities of multinational corporations; Ethical dilemmas facing businesses globally including issues related to discrimination, human rights, environmental impact, and intellectual property.

Unit 4: The Ethical Decision-making process

Philosophical approaches to ethical decision making; Ethics & Religious approaches; Moral & Legal aspects of ethical decision making: Ethical aspects in Bhagvat Gita; Kautaliya's Arthshastra; Swami Vivekanand on Ethics; Swami Vivekanand's message to the youth of India; Ethical Decision Making in Organizations: Individual and Organizational Factors Influencing Ethical Decisions; Karmyog, Indian philosophy of work ethics; Kautilya's Arthshastra; Introduction to Integral Humanism; Ethical Decision-Making Frameworks to Improve Decision-Making Outcomes; Corporate Governance and its Impact on Ethical Decision-Making; Whistleblowing; Conflict Resolution.

Readings:

Text Books (Latest Edition):

1. Tulsian, P. C. Business and Corporate Laws. S. Chand Publishing.
2. Fernando, A.C. Business Ethics and Corporate Governance. Pearson
3. Bayern, S. Business Law Beyond Business. J. Corp. L., 46, 521.
4. Vivekanand, S. To the Youth of India. Advaita Ashrama.

References:

1. Ratan Tata: Ethical Leadership| By: Ashok K. Dua, Sumita Rai| Ivey Publishing| <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/W17258-PDF-ENG>
2. [www.https://scroll.in/tag/competition-commission-of-india](https://scroll.in/tag/competition-commission-of-india)
3. Mascarenhas, A. J. O. et al. (2019). J.R.D. Tata: Orations on Business Ethics. Rupa Publications India
4. Holloway, J. E. (2023). The Foundation of the Theory of Law and Business. Am. U. Bus. L. Rev., 12, 51.
5. Vivekanand, S. (2022) Karam Yoga: The Yoga of action. Sanage Publishing House LLP
6. Vivekanand, S. (2015): Lectures on Bhagavad Gita. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform
7. Laasch, O. (2022). Principles of Management. Sage Textbook

Suggested Exercises and Cases

Unit 1

Cases:

1. *Salomon Vs. Salomon & Co. Ltd*
2. *Balfour Vs. Balfour*
3. *Durga Prasad Vs. Baldeo*

Unit 2

Cases:

1. *Mool Chand Ram Bhagat v. Harish Chandra*
2. *Coop. Cane Unions Federations v. West U.P. Sugar Mills Assn. (2004).*
3. *State of Maharashtra v. Champalal (1971).*
4. *Union of India v. Martin Lottery Agencies Ltd. (2009).*
5. *Camera House, Bombay v. State of Maharashtra (1969)*

Unit 3

1. Reflective exercise on ethics and morality in the context of Mahabharata.
2. Reflective exercise on integral humanism as given by Indian thought leaders.

Cases:

1. *Corporate America and Sarbanes-Oxley Act: Costs Vs. Benefits*
2. Apple: Privacy vs. Safety (A) | By: Henry W. McGee, Nien-he Hsieh, Sarah McAra, Christian Godwin | Harvard Business School | 321004-PDF-ENG
<https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/321004-PDF-ENG>
3. Quick Case: Is Legal Compliance Good Enough? By: Bonnie Peter | Harvard Business Publishing | <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/8268-HTML-ENG>

Unit 4

Reflective and review Exercise: Karam Yog (Bhagvad Gita): lessons in ethics and self-leadership

Cases:

1. *CEO Compensation and Corporate Governance at NYSE*
2. *ICICI Bank: Restoring Faith in Corporate Governance*
<https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/W19323-PDF-ENG>
3. *The Dance of Dharma: On the Difficulty of Being Good*
<https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/821058-PDF-ENG>
4. Blind Spots: The Roots of Unethical Behaviour in Life and Work | Max H. Bazerman, Ann E. Tenbrunsel | Rotman Management | ROT140-PDF-ENG
| <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/ROT140-PDF-ENG>
5. *Leadership Simulation: Patient Zero* <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/7215-HTML-ENG>
6. *Eliot Spitzer: A Crusader of Corporate Reform*
7. *Sterlite copper plant shutdown*
8. *Facebook–Cambridge Analytica data scandal*

Course Outcomes:

1. Recall major laws and regulations and ethical principles that guide business conduct.
2. Analyse case studies to identify legal and ethical challenges within business operations.
3. Evaluate the effectiveness of existing legal frameworks in governing business practices
4. Propose solutions to ethical dilemmas based on ethical theories and principles that align with corporate social responsibility
