



Grande Prairie Regional College

Department of Business

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2009 BA 2000 Seminar in Business Policy 3(3-1-0) UT [60 hours]

Instructor	Cibylla Rakestraw	Phone	Office: 539-2873
Office	C408		
Office Hours	Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 - 4:00 pm. By appointment at other times or on a drop in basis if I'm free	Email:	crakestraw@gprc.ab.ca

Prerequisite(s)/co-requisite(s):

Business Administration Certificate or the consent of the instructor

Required Text/Resource Materials:

McLachlan, J. (2009). *The Right Choice: Making Ethical Decisions on the Job*. Toronto: Pearson Education Canada

Description:

Through a seminar approach, this course explores the many ethical dimensions of business and includes a major group project for which class time is allotted.

Credit/Contact Hours:

BA2000 consists of four hours weekly – though time is spent in non-traditional ways. Class time until the conference will be used for both “business policy” and “conference planning.” After the conference, class time will be devoted to the business policy aspects of the course.

Delivery Mode(s):

BA 2000 is the capstone course for students specializing in marketing in their final semester in Business Administration at Grande Prairie Regional College. As the name of the course suggests, the course includes an in-depth look at ethical and policy related matters, as well as globalization theory and issues. Through an intense "Readers' Response" journaling curriculum and teaching practice, students are introduced to critical and creative thinking and the many problematics/uncertainties/complexities that mark the terrain of living and working in an age of globalization. As well, the course also attempts to integrate theory and practice by involving students in a major practical project – the planning and execution of the annual Department-wide Business Conference.

Objectives:

- To develop critical/creative thinking skills
- To gain an appreciation of ethical implications of business policy
- To garner an appreciation of globalization processes
- To improve writing skills
- To serve as a capstone marketing experience integrating knowledge from other courses and disciplines
- To improve presentation and facilitation skills
- To experience a major project involving "real life" risks and opportunities
- To develop project management skills
- To develop team skills
- To serve the Department, College, and Community through a major project

Transferability:

This course can be included as part of a block transfer to institutions which have 2+1 or 2+2 business degree programs. GPRC has transfer agreements with Athabasca University, University of Lethbridge, Thompson Rivers' University (Kamloops), Royal Roads University, Lakeland College (into their Applied Degree in Financial Services) and Okanagan College. Students should check with the receiving institution concerning transferability as all arrangements are subject to change.

Grading Criteria:

Grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System.

Business Administration and Commerce Department

Grading Conversion Chart

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A+	4	95 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4	90 - 94	
A-	3.7	85 - 89	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B+	3.3	80 - 84	
B	3	76 - 79	GOOD
B-	2.7	72 - 75	
C+	2.3	67 – 71	SATISFACTORY
C	2	64 – 66	
C-	1.7	60 – 63	
D+	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1	50 – 54	
F	0	0 – 49	FAIL

The Academic Journal

A major portion of the mark in BA2000 is based on entries in an academic journal. The entries will be due weekly during the Thursday class – focused on the seminar topic covered in the previous week. Because of the process involved, journal entries will not be accepted late. The first entries will be weighted less than later ones, giving students the opportunity to develop “Readers Response Journal Writing” skills. The entries should be word processed – about 500 words as a minimum length. Because I will respond to your entries throughout your writing, it is helpful if you include wide margins and triple space your text. One of the early classes in the semester will deal specifically with journal writing and critical thinking to assist you in your journal writing.

Academic journal responses to seminar topics	45%
Book review & presentation	10%
Major project – contribution toward the Business Conference including written reports pre-conference and e-mails sent to the group through the planning stages	25%
Evaluation of the major project	10%
Final exam	10%
Attendance at the Business Conference in its entirety	Credit or non-credit

NOTE: A grade of credit and a passing grade on the final exam are required to receive a passing grade in the course.

Course Policies

Because BA 2000 is the only required course this semester for Marketing Majors, it makes sense that the Department considers it to be the most important. As such I have a zero tolerance for absences. It is critical and crucial that you attend each planning meeting with your team in reference to the Business Conference. And, it is equally critical that you attend each of the seminar presentations because it will be impossible to write a response to something you have not heard. Should you miss a class, I will ask you to sign an attendance contract. Subsequent absences may result in your withdrawal from the course.

Should it be that through extreme illness or due to the death of a family member (or other extremely urgent matter) you must miss any class, it is an expectation that you would contact me and all group members prior to the absence.

Class records will be maintained for one year after the last day of this course. These records will then be destroyed in a secure manner. Any unclaimed student paper or assignments will be destroyed within 30 days of the last class. Selected student projects may be kept and used for a variety of purposes – provided that consent has been granted by the student(s) involved.

Statement on Plagiarism:

The instructor reserves the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services.