



Spring 2026

PHIL 186-84, “Professional and Business Ethics”

Faculty: Janet Giddings (janet.giddings@sjsu.edu)

Textbook: Moral Issues in Business, 13th ed. (Shaw/Barry)

SJSU Studies area S/upper-division GE area 4

Asynchronous Method: Students will read and consider materials week-to-week including arguing cases on moral issues; develop and respond to questions posed by writing in discussions; take quizzes on assigned materials; collaborate on a Team project; write a paper demonstrating the importance of formatting, keen critical thinking and the ability to argue a moral case applying a moral theory in support of your argument.

This is an applied ethics course. This course will serve you well personally and professionally.

Examples of possible topics covered:

Tax evasion or tax avoidance?

AI: Where is it working, who for and who makes money? Who is harmed?

Sex industry: Who benefits and who is harmed?

Human Trafficking; exploitation

Pet Care industry

Sustainability

E-commerce

Fast Fashion: textile waste, water consumption, pollution, environmental impact

Beer industry; Green breweries/practices: Water!

Worker protection

Discrimination in the workplace;

Other topical issues in business that come up during the course may be added.

