

[PHI 445 Entire Course](#)

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[PHI 445 Week 1 DQ 1 Psychological Egoism \(Ash\)](#)

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Psychological Egoism. After reviewing Chapter 1 in your textbook and watching “Virtue Ethics,” find a contemporary article showing how the theory of psychological egoism in a corporation resulted in an ethical dilemma.

- a. Is there a way that the decision-making process within a large corporation can overcome this fact of human selfishness?
- b. What would be a solution in this scenario?
- c. How does the theory of psychological egoism fit within your personal body of ethics and values?
- d. How does the theory of psychological egoism fit within the ethical structure of the company or organization you work for now or have worked for in the past?

[PHI 445 Week 1 DQ 2 Self-Interest or Community Interest](#)
[\(Ash\)](#)

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Self-Interest or Community Interest. As read in Chapter 2 of the course text, Adam Smith argued that self-interest is a critical element in a society's economic development. Karl Marx, by contrast, argued that society functions better when each of us is more community oriented.

Pretend you are either Adam Smith or Karl Marx, and explain economic recession from these perspectives.

- a. Discuss when greed and selfishness in businesses go too far and become a hazard to society.
- b. Stepping back into your shoes again, contrast your system of values and ethics concerning greed and self-interest with the system of values of Smith or Marx.
- c. Discuss if the ethical perspective of a particular group to which you currently belong, or previously belonged resembles the perspective of Adam Smith or Karl Marx?

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[PHI 445 Week 2 DQ 1 Puffery and Deception \(Ash\)](#)

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Puffery and Deception. A critical point of distinction between deceptive advertising and mere puffery is whether a claim is a measurable statement of fact.

- a. Think of some contemporary examples of each and explain why they are or are not measurable statements of fact.
 - b. When you notice deceptive advertising or puffery, how does your sense of personal ethical perspectives and values affect the way you make decisions about those advertised goods and services?
 - c. How does the ethical program of a particular group to which you currently belong, or previously belonged, treat the topic of misrepresentation or exaggeration of company goods and service?
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[PHI 445 Week 2 DQ 2 Unintentional Discrimination \(Ash\)](#)

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Unintentional Discrimination. Unintentional discrimination occurs when a company's policies uncritically reflect prejudicial stereotypes yet do not involve overt racial prejudices of its managers or executives. Does legislation to verify voter identification fall under the domain of unintentional or intentional discrimination? Explain your views.

Also, how does your personal ethical perspective on discrimination- intentional or unintentional- compare to the culture of a particular group to which you currently belong, or previously belonged?

[PHI 445 Week 3 Assignment Annotated Bibliography \(Ash\)](#)

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Annotated Bibliography. The purpose of the annotated bibliography is to assist you in developing research analysis skills including critical thinking, writing, and literature research skills. The annotated bibliography should include a paragraph for each source containing the following information:

a. Name of the article, including the complete bibliographic citation, using APA format.

b. Summary/abstract of the article – annotation (sometimes it is helpful to ask yourself the following questions in synthesizing the information:

§ Who? (author)

§ What was done? (e.g., an experimental study investigating the interaction of short term memory and attention)

§ How? (was it done)

- c. What were the findings? (identify the major ones)
- d. Contributions? (new findings, applications, etc.)

Review the complete instructions for the Final Paper in Week Five of your online course or in the “Components of Course Evaluation” section of this guide. To conduct accurate research for the annotated bibliography, consider the following:

- a. Research in peer-reviewed journals or other journals that are considered to have reliable information (do not use sources from the secular press (e.g., Time, Newsweek, or Wikipedia). Review the guidelines for acceptable sources by reading the “Academic Research” section within the Student Responsibilities and Policies tab under Course Home on the left navigation toolbar in your online course.
- b. Identify at least ten academic sources at least six of which can be found in the Ashford Online Library. If you do find something on the World Wide Web, it must be authored and be a reliable source.
- c. In these journals, the research and information is either reviewed by an editorial team (such as for the Academy of Management Review) or a group of peers (such as in many journals you find through the Ashford Online Library).

For information regarding the annotated bibliography, refer to the Sample Annotated Bibliography found in the Ashford Writing Center within the Learning Resources tab on the left navigation toolbar in your online course.

You must use at least ten scholarly sources (at least six of which can be found in the Ashford Online Library) other than the textbook. The descriptions for each source must be at least one paragraph in length. For information regarding APA samples and tutorials, visit the Ashford Writing Center, within the Learning Resources tab on the left navigation toolbar, in your online course.

[PHI 445 Week 3 DQ 1 Managerial Incentives \(Ash\)](#)

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Managerial Incentives. Henry Manne believed that companies cannot become too incompetent or corrupt, as eventually their share price would fall and they could be taken over by another firm that would get rid of incompetent management. Adolf Berle and Gardiner Means believed that company managers have an incentive to feather their own nests and to undermine shareholder wealth.

Can elements or parts of these theoretical perspectives have governmental applications? If so, which theory do you think best describes the segment of American government known as the Congress and the Senate? Explain your answer.

Which theory best fits your ethical perspective? Which theory best fits a particular group to which you currently belong, or previously belonged?

[PHI 445 Week 3 DQ 2 Child Labor \(Ash\)](#)

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Child Labor. Child labor is endemic in the poorer countries of the world, and for many children it is seen as way of keeping their families out of poverty. Critics point out that if the governments were to invest more in educating children, they could be more productive and create more wealth for their nation when they are older. In the meantime, multinational enterprises often secure suppliers who use children.

In your opinion, what is the best way to reduce child labor for multinational corporations? How is the phenomenon of child labor viewed from your ethical perspective? Given the ethical perspective of a particular group to which you currently belong, or previously belonged, how would child labor be viewed?

[PHI 445 Week 4 DQ 1 Power Station Cost-Benefit Analysis](#)
(Ash)

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Power Station Cost-Benefit Analysis. A power station is planned in your local area and you have been requested to submit a primary cost-

benefit analysis of the potential economic and environmental impact that the station could have. Prepare a list of pros and cons and a preliminary judgment on whether it should go ahead.

If a particular group to which you currently belong, or previously belonged, were to throw-out the list of pros and cons and rely on ethical predisposition of the business, what would be the preliminary judgment?

[PHI 445 Week 4 DQ 2 Portfolio Analysis \(Ash\)](#)

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Portfolio Analysis. Reviewing the investments in your portfolio, you realize that the carbon footprint connected to your investments is relatively large, but your oil company stock also pays for the family holidays each year. The company's website also says that it uses a high proportion of its profits to invest in green and renewable fuels of the future. Do you keep the stock or sell? Why? What principles did you apply in making this decision? Also, how does one check the credibility of the company and its website?

Consider the ethical perspective of a particular group to which you currently belong or previously belonged, would the group keep or sell the stock? Why?

[PHI 445 Week 5 DQ 1 Federal Domain \(Ash\)](#)

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Federal Domain. The Federal government manages millions of acres of forest land across the country, but there are increasing pressures on the agencies to permit varying levels of commercial access to the timber, other resources, and the water flows. Should the government have an absolute prohibition on commercial access or should there be a working compromise with companies?

From your ethical perspective, should government have an absolute prohibition on commercial access or should there be a working compromise with companies?

From the ethical perspective a particular group to which you currently belong, or previously belonged, should government have an absolute prohibition on commercial access or should there be a working compromise with companies?

Instead of the Federal government, suppose you managed millions of acres of forest land. Given your own set of ethical perspectives and values, what would you do?

[PHI 445 Week 5 DQ 2 New Stock Opportunity or Exposure \(Ash\)](#)

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New Stock Opportunity or Exposure. A friend is excited about a new stock opportunity with a medical company whose products could sell well around the world; having reviewed some of the stories in Chapter 10, you are no longer certain about the benefits that companies say will emerge from their products and you are concerned that the company's history includes using animals and vulnerable people in experiments.

From your ethical perspective, do you ignore the company's past and research the current product, digging around for alternative ethical viewpoints, or do you accept the possibility of earning a simple profit?

From the ethical perspective a particular group to which you currently belong, or previously belonged, does the group ignore the company's past and research the current product, digging around for alternative ethical viewpoints, or does the group accept the possibility of earning a simple profit?

[PHI 445 Week 5 Final Paper Case Study Analysis of Personal and Organizational Ethics and Values \(Ash\)](#)

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Focus of the Final Paper

Scenario:

You are an ethnographic researcher writing a case study for a popular organizational behavior research journal. Your purpose is to identify key problems related to business ethics in a Not-for-Profit and For-Profit organization. The personal perspective of the researcher is clearly discussed in the research focus. Hence, your analysis will compare three ethical perspectives: your ethical perspective, one Not-for-Profit ethical perspective, and one For-Profit ethical perspective and draw comparisons across an array of social conditions. Your objective: to evaluate differences and similarities in ethical perspectives between the three entities as a function of subjects taken from the chapters in your course text. Follow these steps to help form your case study:

1. Analyze all the data collected from your weekly Journal Activities.
2. Create the Case Study, using the Case Study Checklist as a guide. Post the case study to the appropriate in-box no later than Week Five, Day 7.

The final case study paper must be at least ten pages in length (excluding the title and reference pages) and formatted according to APA style. You must use at least ten scholarly sources, six of which can be found in the Ashford Online Library. For information regarding APA, including samples and tutorials, visit the Ashford Writing Center within the Learning Resources tab on the left navigation toolbar in your online course.