

MANA 7392

MANAGERIAL ISSUES

Spring 2018

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Required Text: **Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Management**, Barnes, K.J. and Smith, G.E., 2018, McGraw Hill, ISBN: 9781259873454

Course Objectives

1. To broaden your understanding of various management issues and how they are being addressed.
2. To encourage personal reflection and critical evaluation regarding a range of current management issues confronting business organizations.
3. To provide a forum for open discussion and debate about management issues within a business/professional context.
4. To help you to clarify your individual values regarding management and how they might relate to your future career.

Class Format

This is an online course. The class will not meet on campus and you do not have to login to the course Blackboard site at any specific time. **However, it is important that you check Messages from Bill on the course Blackboard Discussions page and Blackboard Messages at least twice per week because those are the places where I post information about pending due dates and other general course information.**

Orientation

It is important that you read the online orientation for this course. You may access the orientation, by clicking on the orientation icon on the course Blackboard home page.

Grading

Based on the fact that the University of Houston grading system does not provide for the grade of A+, I do not think it is fair to include A- as a possible grade. Consequently, the grading scale that will be used in this course is as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent Range</u>	<u>Points</u>
A	90-100	90-100
B+	87-89.9	87-89.9
B	83-86.9	83-86.9
B-	80-82.9	80-82.9
C+	77-79.9	77-79.9
C	73-76.9	73-76.9
C-	70-72.9	70-72.9
D+	67-69.9	67-69.9
D	63-66.9	63-66.9
D-	60-62.9	60-62.9
F	Below 60	Below 60

Grading Components

Taking Sides Issue Analyses (60%)

You will write a two page analysis for each of 12 of the 18 issues discussed in the textbook. Each analysis will be worth up to five points and should be two full pages in length (**no more and no less**). Reviews must be single-spaced (not 1.15, which is the default setting for recent versions of Word) and printed using Times New Roman, size 12 font, with 1.25 inch margins on the sides and 1 inch margins on the top and bottom (Office 2003 default in Margin settings in Page Layout on the Word header). Also, please do not use any space saving techniques such as adding extra space between paragraphs (the first sentence of each paragraph should be indented), using bulleted or numbered items, using sub-titles or footnotes, including diagrams and tables, or including anything other than the article number and your name at the top of your review. Your grade on the review will be reduced if you do not follow these technical requirements. The **ENTIRE** first page of each analysis should include a summary of the two articles related to the issue (**the Yes and No articles**). The **ENTIRE** second page of each analysis should contain your analysis of BOTH the strengths and the weaknesses of BOTH of the two articles and your opinion regarding the issue (please use the terms “strength” and “weakness” when writing the second page of each analysis). **You should not write about the Issue Summary or the Exploring the Issue sections of the Issue.** Your analyses should be submitted to me as Word attachments to either Blackboard Message or email messages to me according to the following schedule (early and late submissions will not be accepted):

Analysis Postings	Due Dates
1	1/17 – 1/28
2	1/29 – 2/4
3	2/5 – 2/11
4/5	2/12 – 2/18
6	2/19 – 3/11
7/8	3/12 – 4/1
9	4/2 – 4/8
10	4/9 – 4/15
11	4/16 – 4/29
12	4/30 – 5/6

Issue Papers (40%)

You will research and prepare two papers for two of the six Issues that you don't write two-page analyses about. Each paper will worth a maximum of 20 points. Each paper must be **a full 5 pages in length** (no more and no less) and must be single-spaced (not 1.15, which is the default setting for recent versions of Word) and printed using Times New Roman, size 12 font, with 1.25 inch margins on the side and 1 inch margins on the top and bottom (Office 2003 default in Margin settings in Page Layout on the Word header). Also, please do not use any space saving techniques such as adding extra space between paragraphs (the first sentence of each paragraph should be indented), using bulleted or numbered items, using sub-titles or footnotes, including diagrams or tables, or including your name/paper title at the top of any of the five pages. You will not receive full credit for a paper that has more than a few grammatical errors. Your grade for the paper will be reduced if you do not follow these technical requirements. In addition, you must attach a cover page that includes the topic you have chosen and a page of references at the end of your paper (the cover page and reference page do not count toward the 5 page requirement). **You must use at least four references and none of the references should be articles from the textbook. That includes not using the articles in the textbook related to the Issue.**

Your paper should focus on how management should address the issue you choose to write about. In your paper, you should include your identification and analysis of the central issues related to your topic, your evaluation of the alternative perspectives related to your topic, and a description of your current stance on the issue you have chosen. **Please see the note regarding plagiarism in the class policies section of this syllabus.** Your paper should be submitted to me as a Word attachment to either a Blackboard or email message. **Information in the text of your paper must be properly cited** using the method that is used in the Issue Summary for Issue 1.2, (Are U.S. CEOs Paid More Than They Deserve?) or on the sites mentioned in the Note on Plagiarism section of the syllabus. Do not include any footnotes at the bottom of any of the five pages of your paper. **In preparing the paper you should avoid using more than three direct quotes and no quote should be longer than two sentences.**

While you may submit your papers at any time before the due dates, **the deadline for submitting your first paper is March 4 and the deadline for your second paper is April 22.**

Class Policies

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Center for Students with Disabilities provides a wide variety of academic support services to all currently-enrolled UH students who have any type of mental or physical disability of either a temporary or permanent nature. These services include assistance with course accommodations, adaptive equipment, individualized exam administration, taped textbooks, wheelchair repair, library needs, registration, handicapped parking, accessible housing and transportation, as well as many other needs. If you feel that you may need assistance of this nature, you may wish to call the Center at 713-743-5400. In addition, you should let me know about any special needs you may have as soon as possible.

Because the University of Houston has a formal mechanism to determine the accommodations appropriate for any student due to disability, I am unable to make any exceptions to the rules and policies of the course without a written request from the Center.

Additional Class Policies

1. It is important that you ask any and all questions that you may have that are relevant to the topics covered. All questions are important. If you do not understand a concept, ASK!
2. You are responsible for reading and understanding the policies and the assignments as outlined in this syllabus. Please make sure that you read the syllabus carefully.
3. **EXTRA CREDIT** – The only extra credit that will be offered is three points that will be added to your grade if you submit the second five page paper on or before **March 25**. Granting additional extra credit opportunities to one or a few students would not be fair to the rest of the class.
4. **A Note on Plagiarism:** Plagiarism involves the stealing/copying and passing off as your work, the ideas or words of another person. Since researching and writing your paper involves reviewing articles and books written by other people, it is important that you avoid plagiarism. You may do so by: (a) using quotation marks when you are using the exact words of another person (and then giving credit to that person through an appropriate citation in the text of the paper), or (b) summarizing the author's words by paraphrasing (please note that merely changing a few words in a sentence/paragraph is not acceptable paraphrasing – acceptable paraphrasing is accomplished by substantially rewriting the original passage). If you paraphrase, you must also give credit to that person through an appropriate citation in the text of the paper using the method used in the Indiana University site shown below. In writing your papers, you can avoid plagiarism by following the guidelines found on the following site: <https://wts.indiana.edu/writing-guides/plagiarism.html> .
5. In grading **your papers**, I will assume that you have read and understand the contents of the Indiana University site and I will check for plagiarism using the University's plagiarism software (Turnitin). Since many UH professors use Turnitin, it will likely include papers that you have written for other classes. So, if you have written a paper about a similar topic in the past, I suggest that you avoid using the same wording in the paper you write for this course or that, too, will be considered plagiarism. It is also important to include citations in the text of your paper. Any part of your paper that reflects information from your sources should be cited. **Finally, in preparing the paper you should avoid using more than three direct quotes and no quote should be longer than two sentences in length.**
6. Although I do not anticipate making any changes to this syllabus, I reserve the right to do so. In the event that I find it necessary to change the syllabus, I will notify students of the change (s) by posting notices on the course Blackboard Discussion page and by sending Blackboard messages to the class.