Business Ethics

Days: 1/2

Prerequisites: None.

Audience: This class is beneficial to everyone.

Description: Ethical choices aren't always straightforward – what feels unquestionably right to one person may seem completely unacceptable to another. This workshop guides participants in defining their own ethical framework, making it easier to navigate complex dilemmas with clarity and confidence.

Together, we'll explore practical tools for evaluating ethical decisions, along with techniques to avoid getting trapped in analysis paralysis when faced with tough choices. Participants will also work through real-world case studies, providing a safe , interactive space to practice ethical principles before using them in high-stakes situations.

Course Objectives: This workshop teaches participants to:

- Understand the difference between ethics and morals
- Identify some of your values and moral principles
- Know some ways to avoid ethical dilemmas
- Have some tools to help you make better decisions
- Be familiar with some common ethical dilemmas

OUTLINE:

LESSON 1: COURSE OVERVIEW

The instructor will spend the first part of the day getting to know participants and discussing what will take place during the workshop. Participants will also have an opportunity to identify their personal learning objectives.

LESSON 2: TAKING YOUR MORAL TEMPERATURE

Participants will discuss what the words "ethics" and "morals" mean. They will also have an opportunity to identify some of their personal values as well as how they would respond to some sticky situations.

LESSON 3: KOHLBERG'S SIX STAGES

This session will explore Kohlberg's six stages of moral development through a lecture and a small group exercise.

LESSON 4: AVOIDING ETHICAL DILEMMAS, PITFALLS, AND EXCUSES

This session will examine some ways that we can avoid getting stuck in ethical dilemmas. Then, participants will apply the methods to a case study. We can always find excuses to make the wrong decision. This session will also look at some of the most common reasons for bad decisions and offer some thinking points.

LESSON 5: ETHICAL DECISION MAKING TOOLS

In addition to basic problem-solving tools, there are some special tools that you can use to solve ethical problems. We will discuss some basic tools (such as the smell test and the shoe test) and some advanced tools (such as the Potter box and the Kidder process).

LESSON 6: WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU MAKE A MISTAKE

Let's face the truth: we're all human. We all make mistakes and make decisions that we wish we could take back. This session will examine Nan DeMars' six-step plan for recovering from mistakes gracefully.

WORKSHOP WRAP-UP

At the end of the course, students will have an opportunity to ask questions and fill out an action plan.