Marketing and Society – MKTD 355---Spring 2019
Tuesday & Thursday 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm Tate 115
Team taught by

Robert Pitts Ph.D. Email: pittsr@cofc.edu
Office hours - TT 10:50 – noon (please make an appointment and confirm)
and by appointment MWF
&
Patrick Murphy Ph. D. Email: pmurphy1@nd.edu
Office hours - By Appointment

“Your net worth is what you have contributed to humanity not what you have acquired from it.” Author unknown

Marketing and Society will broadly address the relationship between marketing and culture (is marketing negative?), can we use of marketing to "positively influence society" (can marketing influence positive behaviors?), and marketing ethics (what should marketing do?). It is a course of reflection as you consider how you should and would respond to a series of situations and explore current issues.

Marketing and Society is not about “good guys” or “bad guys” or what to do or not to do. The goal of the course is to increase your awareness of the real situations you will face as a marketer and business person so that you will be better equipped to make ethical and socially positive choices.

Topics include:
- Concepts, theories and debates about the roles and responsibilities of marketing in society
- Personal Values and Ethics in Marketing Activities
- The use of marketing techniques to influence pro-social behaviors
- Marketing and Sustainability – An understanding of green and environmental marketing, sustainability, fair trade and ethical consumption.
- Marketing Activities and vulnerable consumers
- Ethics in Marketing Strategy
- New technology and marketing responsibilities

On successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Appreciate the variety of social, political and economic forces affecting marketing organizations at the global and local level.
- Identify and analyze current ethical issues in the interplay between marketing and society, such as advertising to children, junk food, materialism and sustainability.
• Critically evaluate the debates around the ethical and social responsibilities of marketers;
• Identify the different ethical frameworks for engaging in those debates; and understand how marketers can respond to calls for ethical and social responsibility.
• Apply the above learning to real world cases and situations.

The Course thus address the School of Business learning goals identified below:

• COMMUNICATION SKILLS: Students demonstrate the ability, via both written and spoken word, to effectively present, critique, and defend ideas in a cogent, persuasive manner.
• QUANTITATIVE FLUENCY: Students demonstrate competency in logical reasoning and data analysis skills.
• GLOBAL AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY: Students identify and define social, ethical, environmental and economic challenges at local, national and international levels. Students integrate knowledge and skills in addressing these issues.
• INTELLECTUAL INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY: Students demonstrate their resourcefulness and originality in addressing extemporaneous problems.
• SYNTHESIS: Students demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge from multiple disciplines incorporating learning from both classroom and non-classroom settings in the completion of complex and comprehensive tasks.

Instructors – This Semester’s class is being team taught by Robert Pitts, Professor of Marketing at the College of Charleston and Patrick Murphy, Emeritus Professor, Mendoza College of Business, University of Notre Dame. Professor Murphy will conduct class during the month of February and assign part of your grade.

Patrick E. Murphy specializes in marketing and business ethics issues. His recent work has focused on normative perspectives for ethical and socially responsible marketing, distributive justice as it relates to marketing decision making, emerging ethical concerns in advertising, and ethics and the ethical foundations of relationship marketing. His articles have won “best paper” awards from the Journal of Advertising, Journal of Macromarketing, and the European Journal of Marketing. Professor Murphy teaches courses in business ethics, marketing ethics, and corporate sustainability. He has taught previously at Marquette University and spent sabbaticals at the Federal Trade Commission and University College Cork in Ireland. His Ph.D. is from the University of Houston, M.B.A. from Bradley University and BBA from Notre Dame.

Texts:

*Ethics in Marketing: International Cases and Perspectives*, 2ed, Murphy, Laczniak & Harris (2016 ed.)

*Nudge: Improving Decisions About Health, Wealth, and Happiness*

Richard H. Thaler and Cass R. Sunstein

Business Ethics – OpenStax – This is a free open text either online as an ebook or download [https://cnx.org/contents/kUrGbuHs@3.2:KCyry9xii@3/Introduction](https://cnx.org/contents/kUrGbuHs@3.2:KCyry9xii@3/Introduction)

Articles for topics: Articles and video materials will be identified for cases and topics. They should be studied for class discussion and case analysis. They are available online on Oaks or through the library e-journals.
Learning Activities

1. **In class exercises and discussion will be used to develop key issues during the semester – participation is expected.**

2. **Ethical Theories of Behavior and Marketing** – The course provides an exploration of ethical theories applied to marketing activities and examining current prospects in marketing ethics. This material forms the informed basis for our analysis and discussions.

3. **Cases** - Text Cases have been assigned for topics as indicated in the schedule - Cases are a way of gaining experience and exploring what you would do in the situation described. Your learning experience depends on the effort you expend to understand the case and apply the correct concepts to the situation. Case preparation is necessary for you to participate in case discussion and the in-class learning experience. Although you will consider your own personal ethics, remember that professional ethics and the norms and standards of the profession should be the main focus.

   You are required to write up several cases for a grade.

4. **Analysis and Discussion of Topics – In-class Group Topic Presentation** – Groups will be assigned to lead class discussion for selected course topics. The groups will present the case to the class and offer a suggested course of action with ethical theory justifications.

   **The groups must coordinate to produce an effective class that addresses the day’s issue.**

   Your analytical analysis must fully articulate your positions - and the arguments and reasoning you used to arrive at them. Use the Ethics Case format. Your analysis will address the following:

   1. What are the ethical theories most appropriate to apply this issue and why?
   2. What are the ethical or moral issues at stake in this issue?
   3. Who are the stakeholders?
   4. What is the relevant ethics literature on this topic?
   5. What possible courses of action are available?
   6. What are the predictable effects of each action?
   7. Which set of possible outcomes is relatively better?

   The class will discuss each topic and you will receive a grade for the quality and quantity of your contribution to our case discussion. Resource material will be provided on Oaks by the instructor for each topic. Groups should provide additional materials to adequately explore the topic – references should be providing to the class prior to the assignment.

5. **Individual Essays and Reflections** – Essay and reflections topics are assigned over the term – you will be given instructions for each. Papers must be grammatically correct and show a knowledge of and synthesis of the course material. **Essays should be between 750 and 1000 words.** They have the following format:

   1. Thesis - Issue and statement of position
   2. Evidence supporting your position including as appropriate:

      1. The ethical theories most appropriate to apply to this issue and why?
      2. What are the ethical or moral issues at stake in this issue?
      3. Who are the stakeholders?
      4. What is the relevant ethics literature on this topic?
      5. What possible courses of action are available?
      6. What are the predictable effects of each action?
      7. Which set of possible outcomes is relatively better?
A number of references are provided by the course schedule and Oaks you must use these as appropriate. An A grade requires significant personal research on the topic beyond that presented by the course.

3. A summary of your position and solution to the issue.

A hard copy is required at class time on the due date – it must be in good form, stapled and include your complete name. In addition, a copy of your essay must be put in the drop box. Late work will not be accepted.

6. **Term Project** - Student groups will develop a marketing plan for a social cause or program as a demonstration of the course concepts. Instructions for the project will be provided during the course.

**Grading**

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In class (Pitts &amp; Murphy)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases – (Murphy)</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays – (Pitts)</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Issue Presentations (Pitts)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Project – (Pitts)</td>
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**Class Policies**

**Absences** – The class is based on in class participation and attendance is expected. Excessive absences will be cause a reduction in your class participation grade.

**Academic Honesty Policy** – Honesty and ethical behavior are a hallmark of the School of Business education. Students should be aware of the University’s Policy on Academic Honesty, which appears in the Bulletin and the College’s academic honesty policy below or at the College’s website at [http://www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/studenthandbook.html#honorcode](http://www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/studenthandbook.html#honorcode)

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of the Honor Code at CofC that, when identified, are investigated. Each instance is examined to determine the degree of deception involved. A student found responsible for academic dishonesty will receive a XF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

**Students with Disabilities** - Any student with a documented disability and approved to receive accommodations through SNAP Services, should contact the professor to determine needed accommodations.
**Make-Up Work and Due Dates** - Make-up work is not available to compensate for unexcused absences or low grades. All assignments must be completed on the date specified by the professor and/or stated in the class schedule of this syllabus.

**Assignments turned in late will not be accepted - no exceptions unless approved by instructor.**

**Phone and Texting** – Unauthorized cellphone and computer usage is not allowed - Class time is for discussion and reflection. The use of cell phones or unauthorized use of computers will result in reduction in the student’s final grade for each occurrence.