

OLCU 601 Ethics Democracy and Leadership

Ethics in Action Current Events - Case Study Assignment and Rubric

Due Date: Proposed Case for review – due via email to your instructor by **Sunday Week 2 (midnight)**

Paper due in Week Four drop box by Sunday – **Week 4 (midnight)**

Points Possible: 155

This week, you will be reviewing current ethics, democracy and leadership headlines, both domestic and international. You will be writing and submitting a 3 to 5 page paper on a current event where ethics, leadership and/or democracy are intertwined. It has been said that "Recognizing the existence of an ethical problem is the first step in resolving it" (Rest, J. R., 1994). Your goal will be to identify and offer analysis on a current event from the headlines, then evaluate and synthesize your thoughts on the situation, culminating in thoughtful, theory based recommendations.

IDENTIFY & ANALYZE: Examine the ethical dimensions of the topic, clearly identifying the challenges and conflicts the issue presents. You should identify some of the opposing viewpoints discussed in the headlines regarding your topic. What ethical theories support various positions taken by key stakeholders? Make sure you are addressing the ethical dimensions of your topic not the legal aspects.

EVALUATE: Explain why this issue has interest and concern to stakeholders and the community at-large. Why do decisions made about this topic have implications for society as a whole? What responsibility does the organization or stakeholders involved have to the community as a whole? What responsibilities does the public have regarding the issue?

SYNTHESIZE: What challenges are presented to individuals and/or organizations around this topic? Why is this a topic of concern? How might others in leadership from today's organizations be affected by this?

RECOMMENDATION: Finally, what do you recommend in terms of best practices or action steps that may be taken by those involved? What have you learned from exploring this topic? What might some recommended future actions be for those facing similar circumstances?

Rubric for 601 Signature Assignment				
<i>Paper Elements</i>	Exemplary	Proficient	Developing	Emerging
Identify & Analysis	35 Provides accurate and clear descriptions of the situation. Comprehensively applies key ethical theories. Identifies key players in the event / situation.	26 Provides fairly accurate descriptions of the situation. Somewhat comprehensively applies ethical theories. Identifies some players in the event / situation.	23 Provides somewhat accurate descriptions of the situation. Rarely applies ethical theories. Identifies few players in the event / situation.	21 - 0 Provides limited or unclear descriptions of the situation. Weak in application of ethical theory. Limited if any identification of players in the event / situation.
Evaluation	30 Comprehensively and effectively critiques various approaches to ethical decision-making by key players and stakeholders in the case / current event.	26 Fairly consistently employs critical analysis in discussing approaches to ethical decision-making by key players and stakeholders in the case / current event.	23 Somewhat employs critical analysis in discussing approaches to ethical decision-making by key players and stakeholders in the case / current event.	21 - 0 Limited if any critical analysis in discussing approaches to ethical decision-making by key players and stakeholders in the case / current event.
Synthesis and Recommendation	30 Effectively draws conclusions and makes recommendations about case presented. Includes persuasive arguments for the use of ethics (referencing theory)	26 Draws some conclusions and makes recommendations some about case presented. Includes some persuasive arguments for the use of ethics (referencing theory)	23 Draws weak conclusions and makes some recommendations about case presented. Includes rarely persuasive arguments for the use of ethics/	21- 0 Limited if any conclusions and recommendations drawn. Little to no support using theory.
Sources	30 Uses 3 or more scholarly sources to support an ethical framework. Consistently uses sources to connect theory to application. The work of others is correctly cited.	26 Use 2 sources to support an ethical framework. Often uses sources to connect theory to application. The work of others is correctly cited with minor errors.	23 Uses 1 source to support an ethical framework. Somewhat uses sources to connect theory to application. The work of others is cited but with numerous errors.	21- 0 Does not utilize scholarly sources to support analysis. Does not use sources to connect theory to application. The work of others may not be cited and/or with multiple errors.
Writing Mechanics	30 The paper is logical, well-written, and the required length. Spelling, grammar and punctuation are accurate. APA formatting standards are followed; citations and reference page is correct.	26 The paper is logical, well-written, and is the required length. Minor errors in spelling, grammar and/or punctuation. APA standards are followed with a few minor errors.	23 The paper is somewhat logical and well-written; may be 10% too long or short. Some errors in spelling, grammar and/or punctuation. APA standards are somewhat followed but with numerous errors.	21 - 0 The paper lacks clarity and may be confusing; may be 15% too long or short. Numerous errors in spelling, grammar and/or punctuation. Limited if any adherence to APA standards.

