

## Social Issues in Management and Business Ethics: Exercises and Activities

Exercise/Activity Title:

### **Optimal Ethics Systems Model Final Exam**

Exercise/Activity Explanation (150 words or less):

We are challenged to create organizations of high integrity on behalf of our customers, owners, employees, suppliers, and ourselves. Throughout the semester some homework assignments require students to benchmark their organization to the best practices in business ethics using an Optimal Ethics Systems Model consisting of 10 categories and 90 survey items.

Students complete the chart based on weekly homework responses. What are the organization's ethical strengths and weaknesses, and how can a weakness be improved in the spirit of continuous improvement? Students choose one recommendation and discusses it with a change agent responsible for that area of operations.

Assignment is on the following page.

Optional – Contact Information:

If interested in additional information, please contact Professor Denis Collins, School of Business, Edgewood College, Madison, WI; [dcollins@edgewood.edu](mailto:dcollins@edgewood.edu)

**Best Practices in Business Ethics Benchmark Assessment –  
Reflections and Assessments,**

Denis Collins, Edgewood College, [dcollins@edgewood.edu](mailto:dcollins@edgewood.edu)

**TAKE HOME FINAL EXAM**

We are challenged to create organizations of high integrity on behalf of our customers, owners, employees, suppliers, and ourselves. Throughout the semester some homework assignments require that you benchmark your organization to the best practices in business ethics using an Optimal Ethics Systems Model.

Complete the following chart based on your homework responses. Choose one of your recommendations and discuss it with a change agent responsible for that area of operations.

<b>Optimal Ethics Systems Assessment</b>				
How have you educated your boss, peers, or direct reports about what you are learning in class?				
<i>System Category</i>	<i>% Yes</i>	<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Weaknesses</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
Hiring Ethical Job Candidates (7 items)				
Codes of Ethics and Conduct (6 items)				
Ethical Decision-Making (3 items)				
Ethics Training (6 items)				
Employee Diversity (7 items)				
Ethics Reporting Systems (5 items)				
Ethical Leadership, Work Goals, and Performance Appraisals (10 items)				
Empowering Ethical Employees (10 items)				

Environmental Management (8 items)				
Community Outreach (8 items)				
Organizational Assessment (7 items)				
<b>Action Plan for One Recommendation [(1) Clearly Stated Problem, (2) Goal, (3) Strategy, and (4) Measurement of Success], Change Agent Response, and Outcome:</b>				
How many points do you deserve for this final exam using the 100 point scale in syllabus? Why? [the assignment is worth 150 points, so the amount will be multiplied by a factor of 1.5]				