**Nesbitt Musings: In preparing this course, I postulate a few recurrent situations that merit ethical analysis. There are no shortages!**

* “I can’t go out with you tonight because I am busy with my homework”
* “I know the planning commissioner in your town. I’ll get you a permit; he is my buddy”
* 10 years after graduating from Stanford, a former classmate is the CEO of a billion-dollar startup. You share emails from said classmate detailing regrettable behavior (during his or her college career 10 years ago) with the media (e.g., Evan Spiegel).
* Accepting payment in cryptocurrency and not reporting it to the tax authorities
* Asking your friend for problem set solutions because you were too swamped with other work
* At a conference center, eating and drinking from a conference refreshment table that is not your conference
* Breaking quarantine even though you have returned several negative tests for COVID
* Building a carport on your property without a building permit
* Burning your garbage in a barrel in the back yard to save money on garbage bills
* Buying a product for short-term use knowing you are going to return it for a refund
* Buying prostitution service/going to a brothel/hiring a streetwalker
* Calling in sick to work because you feel burnt out
* Calling Zipcar/car rental service and lying about problems to get a refund on your trip
* Capital punishment
* Carelessly spraying pesticide all over your yard with liberal spillover on your neighbor’s property and car
* Changing seats on a plane to one that is empty but that you didn’t pay for
* Cheating at Rice. (My daughter’s experience.) For the Ph.D. qualifying exam in Economics, a person said she was “sick” for the supervised qualifier. (They don’t have an “honor code.” They proctor.) Written exam. She whined and complained, so they let her take it on a second day, almost completely unsupervised. She kept going to the bathroom. My daughter saw her giving the test to her boyfriend during bathroom trips and getting his answers back; He was doing the test for her and handing her completed problems during those ubiquitous bathroom trips. What should she do?
* Cheating on an SAT using cell phone transmissions to collaborator
* Cheating on ethics courses in companies
* Cheating on your income taxes (unreported income, foreign bank accounts, hording precious metals, barter, taking all payments in cash, doing business in cash so there is no tracking)
* Concealed carry of a pistol
* Copying a CD or DVD
* Copying a term paper off the internet
* Denting a stranger’s car in a parking lot and then driving away without reporting it
* Do a person’s math homework in a bid for a date
* Dog fighting and cock fighting (Michael Vick)
* Downloading books you haven’t paid for (e.g., Library Genesis, textbook repositories)
* Downloading music you haven’t paid for
* Drilling your own well on your own property to avoid high landscaping water bills and water regulation
* Drinking and alcoholism (alcoholics anonymous)
* Drinking underage using a fake ID
* Drone strikes (death from the sky without warning)
* Drug dealing
* Drug ingestion
* Entering the name of a fake startup into a cash prize pitch competition
* Extramarital sex
* Faking global warming data
* Falsifying a smog check on your car (e.g., bribery)
* Falsifying data
* Flattering compliments
* Gambling
* Getting a preconceived answer your boss wants
* Gossiping
* Having an electric generator for when PG&E cuts service and keeping a 55 gallon drum full of gasoline in your garage
* Hitting a pedestrian or bicyclist accidentally with your car and leaving the scene
* Hitting your child
* Hitting your spouse or significant other
* Hours after a heavy night of drinking, driving home because you feel sobered up
* Hunting deer (with a bow and arrow)
* Hunting deer (with a rifle)
* Hunting quail (with a shotgun)
* Hunting trophy game
* I love you (unmeant) to secure certain benefits
* Ignoring stop signs while biking or driving
* Inflating your expense account
* Initiating unwanted touching
* Insider trading
* Internet Plagiarism is as easy as control C/control V. What is the difference between journalism and plagiarism?
* Knowingly giving or selling a drink to an underage person
* Lying about when you last were tested for COVID
* Lying to a customs agent about the origin or true value of goods brought through customs from overseas
* Lying to a policeman
* Lying to the dentist about your flossing habits
* Lying/spinning in a proposal
* Manufacturing a carcinogenic product
* Not wiping down gym equipment after your use
* Nuclear weapons; are they unethical? Is the doomsday machine unethical?
* Offering cash inducements to people in client organizations to woo them to be your client (e.g., buying them a golf weekend at an expensive resort)
* Opening a fast food restaurant and selling copious, ultra high fat food
* Owning a pistol
* Participating in a barroom fight
* Playing FM radio music in a restaurant, barber shop, retail store for customers without paying a royalty to BMI or ASCAP
* Playing from fake books for commercial gain
* Premarital sex
* Price gouging during a shortage. Dasani water during Hurricane Sandy
* Providing prostitution service
* Pulling a false fire alarm
* Reading a friend’s texts when both of you are looking at their computer (the friend forgot to minimize their texts).
* Remodeling your kitchen without a building permit
* Rolling back your odometer to increase the value of your car
* Secrets—Child molestation disclosure to psychologist.
* Secrets—Confidential business information disclosed
* Secrets—knowing the outcome of an appellate court situation before it is announced and trading on it
* Sending a rumor you heard to Fountain Hopper
* Sex with an underage person
* Sexual harassment
* Shooting someone’s pet dog who you suspect might be attacking your calves in your corral
* Showing a false ID to get a beer
* Sitting on a jury and not revealing that you know the defendant personally
* Sleeping with the boss to get ahead, get the deal, or get the role (casting couch)
* Sleeping with your sources as a journalist
* Smoking tobacco in a no smoking area
* Sneaking into a theater without paying
* Sneaking into the dining hall without ID
* Speeding in your car at 135 mph on the freeway
* Spreading untrue rumors about your competitors or their products
* Stealing signals in baseball and sports (Bill Belichick, everyday baseball)
* Surreptitiously filming a person or persons in very private places doing very private things (e.g., hidden camera) with the intent to blackmail them
* Taking a bite of your roommate’s food in the fridge without asking
* Taking all the expensive beverages/ice cream in the all-you-can-eat dining hall
* Taking off my mask halfway down the first fairway and leaving it off for the rest of the round
* Taking pens and paper from your company for personal use
* Taking screenshots of someone’s problem set when they are screen sharing with the instructor (e.g., during office hours) and copying it to complete your own
* Telling a friend you’ll be there in 15 minutes to appease them, knowing full well you will be late
* Telling a racist or racially charged joke
* Telling your friend a “juicy story or fact” and after the fact swearing her to secrecy
* Time cards
  + As a basis for billing
  + As a basis for task monitoring
  + Working more than 40 but billing the first 40
  + Logging more hours than you worked
* Underbidding a proposal to get the deal and then jacking up the price once they are hooked
* Using a racist, homophobic, religious, or ethnic slur or euphemism
* Using fake accounts to gain credits on food delivery apps (e.g., Doordash)
* Using HGH/steroids in sports
* Using my teaching position to jump into a higher priority COVID vaccine line
* Using scrip or another form of currency or IOUs rather than dollars (federal reserve notes)
* Using your friend’s cell phone to call England without telling her
* Using your work PC for personal use
* Waiving the $100 Stanford Student Activities Fee every quarter
* Watching porn
* Wearing your roommate’s clothes while they are gone on vacation
* Withholding medical treatment from your elderly mother when she is very ill and incapacitated so as to preserve her estate for yourself
* Yelling “kill the umpire” at a baseball game
* Yelp extorting money from businesses in exchange for favorable reviews
* You see your neighbor’s recently stolen car in a Walmart parking lot. You and your neighbor get the key and steal it back