Business Ethics and Labor Essay. Rubrics for the “Considering/Writing” Essays Aiming to prepare students for the final Researched Argument Paper, three considering/writing assignments are required at the outset of this course. The first essay asks students to exhaustively consider the inherent issues of a democracy that embraces capitalism, and to write about one of these issues in a way that fleshes out its complexities. Likewise, the second essay challenges students to consider the intrinsic difficulties of an economic system that seeks to be just, and to write about a selected issue in such a way that the complexities are parsed out. Finally, the third essay bids students to consider the essential problems rooted in the workplace and the desire to deal fairly with workers, to write about a single issue so that the intricacies are broken down is some detail, and to locate a particular business journal article for reference. [A research problem is a definite or clear expression [statement] about an area of concern, a condition to be improved upon, a difficulty to be eliminated, or a troubling question that exists in scholarly literature, in theory, or within existing practice that points to a need for meaningful understanding and deliberate investigation. A research problem does not state how to do something, offer a vague or broad proposition, or present a value claim. In philosophy, the research problem establishes the means by which you interrogate the relevant literature, and drives both your argument and implications for new knowledge and understanding]. [A close reading of any scholarly text involves the carefully considered and sustained interrogation of that text specifically in terms of its presentation of the “problem at hand.” A close reading emphasizes the single and the particular over the general, effected by close attention to the ways in which the sentences and paragraphs unfold ideas, as well as the formation of the central philosophical questions. A truly attentive close reading of Ethical Theory and Business, for instance, would excavate the probable ethical questions that are embedded there based on the construction of the text itself]. [A considering/writing essay, therefore, achieves (in a 1-page single spaced composition) a thorough consideration of the “problem at hand,” and then presents in writing the complexities of that problem in order to show the difficulty of arriving at any sort of easy resolve]. A template for the considering/writing essay includes: Introducing the reader to the importance of the topic for study. Extracting the “problem at hand” that seems embedded in the scholarly text or discussion. Fleshing or parsing out, in writing, the question in its complexities. Proposing new and better questions as a result of #1-3.