

Academic Affairs Excellence Awards

Application Form



Name:

Rank:

Department:

Award applying for:

(Check one)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellence in Teaching Award*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellence in Online Teaching Award*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellence in Scholarship & Creative Endeavors Award*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellence in University Service*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellence in Scholarship of Teaching & Learning Award*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Department/Program Excellence Award^
<input type="checkbox"/>	Irene Rose Community Service Award^
<input type="checkbox"/>	Laurie Hendrickson McMillian Faculty Award^

*college selection required before being forwarded to university

^university awards

College nominees' final applications received by Center for Teaching and Learning (ctl@gcsu.edu) by March 1.

Please insert the required documentation in the pages below for the award category you have noted above. Detailed information associated with each award is available online at the [Center for Teaching and Learning website](#).

2023 Excellence in Teaching Award Nomination Portfolio –

Jehan El-Jourbagy, Georgia College & State University

Table of Contents

Nomination Letter from the Dean & Chair	1
Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae	2
Reflective Statement	4
Innovative Teaching Practices	5
Letter of Support – Past Students	7
Letter of Support – Colleague/Faculty	11
Letter of Support – Current Student	12
Supporting Documentation	13



February 26, 2024

Excellence in Teaching Award Committee
Georgia College & State University
Milledgeville, GA 31061

Dear Committee Members:

Please accept this letter of unequivocal support in nomination of Jehan-El-Jourbagy, Associate Professor of Business Law and Ethics, for the 2023 Excellence in Teaching Award. She is a strong candidate for this award due to her commitment to student growth through interactive and engaging teaching and learning methods, study abroad programs, professional development initiatives, and investment in students' academic success.

Every other year, Jehan takes students on study-abroad trips, providing students with the opportunity to engage with diverse cultures and learn about sustainable business practices. Most recently, she took 11 students to Sweden and Denmark, where they studied corporate sustainability and international leadership. This journey immersed students in a new academic environment and broadened their global perspectives.

In addition to pushing students with rigorous assignments and standards, she is very well-respected perhaps due to the fact that she engages with students inside and outside the classroom as much as possible. Every week, she takes two students to a meal at the campus dining hall, where she gets to learn about them on a more personal level. She makes both Legal Environment of Business and Business Ethics interactive, calling on almost every student in every class and incorporating public speaking and project-based learning. In Legal Environment of Business, she incorporates a legal scavenger hunt, a mock contract negotiation with guest attorneys, a mock mediation with a guest mediator, and several game-based interactions.

In Business Ethics, students receive personal written feedback and engage in no fewer than five oral presentations. For instance, students engage in a public forum style debate and engage in a simulated training seminar (focused on ethical issues, such as conflicts of interest). She has twice been invited by leaders in the *Academy of Legal Studies in Business* to provide tips on inclusive and effective teaching to new lecturers and professors in the discipline.

Aside from her experiential and engaging teaching methods, she also encourages her students to be active and helpful citizens. In her Business Ethics classes, all students must complete at least 10 community service hours. To date this semester, her students have already logged over 150 hours. Since the Fall of 2022, her students have volunteered over 1,700 hours in the Milledgeville/Baldwin County area, which has an economic impact of \$50,000. She tries to serve as a role model, so she shares her experiences volunteering as the Executive Director and Conductor of the Monticello Community Band and the local high school marching band.

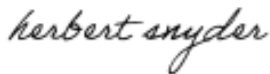
Outside of the classroom, she also provides students with ways to meet professionals in their given fields. Aside from being active with students on LinkedIn, she initiated and organized the College of Business & Technology's Economic Student Leadership tour across Georgia, which participants indicated was "helpful for their future and studies." As past coordinator of the Column Society, she organized quarterly meetings that help students meet community professionals, giving them insight into their future careers. She also regularly invites speakers to her classes, including business owners and alumni.

In summary, Jehan El-Jourbagy is an ideal candidate for this award. She has a passion for teaching and a genuine interest in our students. She wants to see her students succeed inside and outside the classroom. Most importantly, she seeks to provide an immersive interactive education for every one of her students. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dr. Micheal T. Stratton
Dean and Professor of Management



Dr. Herbert Snyder
Chair of the Department of Business Law & Accounting

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae – March 2024

Education

JD – University of Georgia (2000-2003)

BA, Political Science – UGA Franklin College of Arts & Sciences (1996-2000)

ABJ, Public Relations – UGA Grady College of Journalism (1996-2000)

Academic Positions

Associate Professor of Business Law & Ethics, Georgia College & State University
(Aug. 22 – Present) – Assistant Prof. (17-22) – Lecturer (16-17) – Instructor (13-16)

Teaching

Business Ethics (BUAD), Legal Environment of Business (LENB), Accounting for ESG (MAcc), International Environmental Law (Study Abroad), International Corporate Leadership (Study Abroad) and International Trade (Study Abroad)

Selected Research

Jehan El-Jourbagy & Phil Gura, *In Space, No One Can Hear You're Green: Standardization of Environmental Reporting, the SEC's Proposed Climate Change Disclosure Rules, and Remote Sensing Technology*, 59 *American Business Law Journal* 4 (Winter 2022).

Matt Roessing, Jehan El-Jourbagy, Kim Roush & Justin Roush, *Combining Business Law with Business Theory: An Experiential Classroom Crossover Activity*, 38 *Journal of Legal Studies Education* 2 (Summer 2021)

Jehan El-Jourbagy, Matt Roessing, Hannah Hair & Caitlin Banks, *Creating an Industrial Regulatory Framework for Reducing Plastics*, 18 *Berkeley Business Law Journal* 2 (2021).

Matt Roessing and Jehan El-Jourbagy, *Engaging Chambers of Commerce: Connecting Business Law Students with Local Business Professionals*, 36 *Journal of Legal Studies Education* 2 (Summer 2019).

Jehan El-Jourbagy and Matt Roessing, *Toward a More Perfect Pedagogy: Developing Constitution Week Activities to Support a Business Law & Ethics Curriculum*, 35 *Journal of Legal Studies Education* 2 (Summer 2018).

Selected Presentations

Inclusive and Effective Teaching, Academy of Legal Studies in Business (ALSB), San Diego, California and Louisville, Kentucky (July 2023, Aug. 2022)

Corporate Solutions to Public Problems, TEDx, Milledgeville, Georgia (March 2023)

From the Classroom to the Courtroom, Southeastern ALSB, New Orleans (Nov 2022)

Corporations as Activists, The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law Symposium (March 2022)

Academic Service

Coordinator, CoBT Student Leadership Tour (May 22, 23 & 24)

Chair of GCSU Sustainability Council (Aug 2022 – Present)

Chair of GCSU Constitution Week Committee (Aug 2018 – Present)

GCSU Leadership Faculty Advisory Committee (Aug 2018 – Present)

CoBT Strategic Management Committee (Aug 2018 – Present)

Honors and Awards

2023 TEDx Speaker: Corporate Solutions to Public Problems

2021-23 GC Journeys Fellow, CoBT

2022 Malcolm Abel Award for Service to the Southeastern ALSB
 2022 Paul Jahr Award for Civic Leadership and Commitment to Democratic Values
 2022 Excellence in Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, GCSU
 2021 Laurie Hendrickson McMillan Award, GCSU
 2020 Master Teacher Finalist, Academy of Legal Studies in Business
 2019 GCSU Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society
 2017, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24 Faculty Appreciation, GCSU Athletics
 2013 Citizen of the Year, Monticello/Jasper County Chamber of Commerce

Professional Development

University System of Georgia Chancellor's Learning Scholar (2020-2022)
 GCSU Scholarship of Teaching & Learning Fellow (2018-2020)
 Academy of Legal Studies in Business (past Ethics Section President) conferences
 Southeastern Academy of Legal Studies in Business (past President) conferences
 Georgia Bar Association continuing legal education

Reflective Statement – Philosophy of Teaching

At the heart of my teaching philosophy lies a profound commitment to the personal and professional development of every student. Each day, I wake up early and prepare to engage with my students. My goal is to cultivate an interactive learning environment to equip students with skills they need for the future. Recognizing the diversity of personalities and learning styles in my classroom, I make it a priority to create opportunities for every student to participate actively. This fosters a sense of inclusion and encourages students to feel comfortable seeking guidance and support.

Moreover, I firmly believe in the power of collaboration and peer interaction. Through public speaking projects, visual learning techniques, and community service, students are encouraged to engage with one another. This way they can build relationships and learn from one another's perspectives. By promoting this sense of camaraderie and mutual support, students are better prepared to succeed as a cohesive unit.

I am also interested in sharing my passion for teaching with others. I took advantage of opportunities at Georgia College and the USG by becoming a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Fellow and a Chancellor's Learning Scholar. During both experiences, I got to reflect on my teaching, develop scholarly work, and share my work with peers. Moreover, through the Chancellor's Learning Scholar program, I created faculty learning communities with new faculty in the CoBT, providing them with insights on campus opportunities and connecting them with campus resources, such as the GIVE Center, the study abroad office,

and the Center for Teaching and Learning. Similar to my approach with my undergraduate students, my aim was to create a sense of camaraderie among the new faculty, providing them with a solid foundation for their career at our institution.

From the very start of my teaching career, I've critically examined my teaching and sought feedback through surveys, interviews and student comments. I contributed four papers in the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL): one on my use of Constitution Week activities to bolster learning in Legal Environment in Business; one on my use of cross-disciplinary teaching employing a cross-class moot court activity; one on my use of student employment law case research and presentations to HR professionals; and one that is currently ongoing on my use of a legal scavenger hunt to get students outside of the classroom and understand how the material applies to the real world.

In essence, my teaching philosophy revolves around placing students at the center of the learning experience, empowering them to network, encouraging them to seek guidance when needed, and honing skills necessary through diverse delivery techniques for their personal and professional journeys.

Innovative Teaching Practices

1. Community & Professional Connections

In my business ethics classes, I integrate a unique component that extends beyond the classroom: community service. Each semester, students must complete a minimum of ten hours of community service as part of a Service-Learning Project. This requirement not only enforces ethical principles but also instills a sense of social responsibility for the students. In corporate America, philanthropy and community engagement are critical aspects of networking and reputation building. By engaging in community service, students not only positively contribute to our community but also learn the importance of giving back and making a difference in their communities. This hands-on experience helps reinforce concepts of ethical behavior and environmental and social impacts. Since the Fall of 2022, my students have volunteered over 1,700 hours in the Milledgeville/Baldwin County area, with an economic impact of \$50,000.

All of my classes include guest speakers. In ethics, no fewer than four speakers each semester interact with the students on topics such as corporate culture, information technology, environmental sustainability and professionalism. Students then write a reflection, sharing highlights from the presentations and what they gained from their experience and insight. Speakers also facilitate two of my interactive experiences in Legal Environment of Business, including a certified mediator mediating a mock employment

dispute and a corporate attorney helping with a mock contract negotiation exercise. With all speakers, I invite students to reach out personally or connect with them on LinkedIn, and some of these connections have resulted in internships and employment opportunities.

2. Public Speaking & Communication Skills

Across academic, professional, or personal settings, the ability of students to effectively articulate their ideas, think on their feet, and persuade others is essential. Students in my ethics class participate in no fewer than five presentations, providing them ample opportunities to convey their ideas effectively. In my legal environment of business classes, students are called on daily, requiring them to be prepared and engage in debates on pertinent topics.

Examples of class presentations in ethics include the Service-Learning Project, the Group Case Presentation, and the Code of Ethics Training Session. The Group Case Presentation requires a team of four to five students to deliver a comprehensive twenty-five-minute presentation on a corporation, including an overview of the company, its corporate leaders, mission statements, and values, along with an analysis of three ethical conflicts the company has encountered. The Service-Learning Project requires students to share their community service experiences in a twelve to fifteen-minute presentation.

3. Hands-On Learning

In my view, experiential opportunities are critical in undergraduate business law and ethics courses. Rather than just passively learning, active simulations, projects, and fieldwork allow students to apply concepts to real dilemmas and develop critical thinking and social skills.

My first foray into such practices started back in 2014 when I first taught Legal Environment of Business. I wanted the class to be less theoretical and more practical; therefore, I devised a Legal Scavenger Hunt. This activity engages students by requiring them to locate offices in the community where they can accomplish certain tasks, such as opening up a corporate bank account, filing a deed for real property, applying for a zoning variance, getting a background check, and acquiring a marriage license. All of these tasks are directly related to the course material, such as business organizations, property, criminal law and contracts. This activity was the subject of my Master Teacher presentation in 2020.

The next major experiential learning activity I incorporated into my classes was Constitution Week. I started helping organize the event in 2017, and I knew students could benefit from listening to and interacting with the dynamic speakers on campus during the week commemorating the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Students in fall classes are now

required to attend at least two Constitution Week events, and they must complete a project and reflection paper based on their attendance. The impact of this activity is documented in my article published in the Journal of Legal Studies Education (JLSE). Shortly thereafter, I incorporated an employment law case research project that required students to select an employment law topic and then put together a five minute, five-slide presentation suitable for HR professionals. Based on the quality of their written materials and in class presentations, five to ten students were then selected to present to a local group of HR professionals. The impact of this activity is also documented in a JLSE article.

More recently, I organized study abroad programs for business students interested in corporate sustainability and international leadership. I built these programs from scratch, including travel planning, corporate visits and content creation. Building on the success of the study abroad programs, I proposed a state-wide leadership tour for ten CoBT students to develop leadership skills and learn more about economic development in Georgia. The inaugural tour took place in May of 2022, and come May, this will be our third year touring the State, including manufacturing sites, state parks, and local communities.

Former Student Letters

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this recommendation letter on behalf of Jehan El-Jourbagy who has been nominated for the Teaching Excellence Award. Having experience as both a student and colleague, I feel that I have a unique insight as to why Professor El-Jourbagy encompasses everything that an educator should strive to be. In my time spent as both a student in her class and as a graduate assistant working directly under her, I have had the pleasure of witnessing all of the great qualities that it takes to become a great educator and leader in the community.

I first had the pleasure of meeting Jehan during my junior year at Georgia College when I took her Legal Environment of Business class. She runs her classroom with a unique teaching style that encourages students to participate in group discussions and activities. As opposed to most professors that teach in a traditional style of lecturing, Jehan makes every class unique and interactive that require students to stay engaged. In an area that, with the wrong professor, could be taught in a stale and boring way, Jehan is able to make the material understandable to all students while providing ways that the information we learn in her class can translate to the outside world. Whether it is inviting guest speakers to the class, designing class activities that encourage critical thinking skills, or integrating pop culture into the lesson plan, every class is different and makes students want to come to

class instead of feeling like they have to come to class. Not only does she encourage participation within the four walls of a classroom, but she also designs opportunities for students to impact and learn from the community. Specifically, I vividly remember an assignment that is a staple of her Legal Environment of Business class called the Legal Scavenger Hunt. Through this assignment, Jehan has developed a way for students to go out into the community and learn about how the topics that are covered in class apply to the real world. For example, instead of simply lecturing us about different laws and city ordinances, students are tasked with going out into the community to find real applications and take in their true impact on the world we live in. With Milledgeville being a small and tight-knit community, she instills upon her students the importance of learning more about the community and impacting the world around us.

On the flip side, I had the opportunity to work as a graduate assistant reporting directly to Professor El-Jourbagy, which made me realize even more of how great of a teacher and mentor that she is. I never understood how much she cares about her students until I was able to see from the other side just how much work she puts into her profession. When students walk into her classroom, they are more than just a name on a roster. She makes a concerted effort to get to know each and every student in her class and what makes everyone unique. I realized that there is a purpose to each and every class and assignment and she really takes the time to learn about her students and improve the learning experience in any way possible. I was able to assist her in collecting and analyzing data that allowed her to understand just who her audience was. Whether it was asking students what their favorite social media app was or what their top values were, she was always looking for ways to make the learning environment better for students and to cultivate innovators and leaders. Not only does she use her experiences to apply to her own classroom, but Jehan works to express her findings to other professionals and improve the education of all students. She has had a significant impact on not only me, but to everyone she comes into contact within the community in showing what we should all strive to be like.

In conclusion, I believe that there is no one else that is more qualified or deserving of the Teaching Excellence Award. There is so much that Professor El-Jourbagy does behind the scenes as an educator and leader of the community that I could not even begin to describe with just a single recommendation letter. My greatest endorsement is that I tell all business students that their education at Georgia College would not be complete unless they take a class led by Professor El-Jourbagy. I have never had anyone come back unsatisfied after getting the opportunity to learn under Professor El-Jourbagy. She encompasses everything that an educator should strive to be and lifts up everyone around her.

Matthew Chester, Audit Associate at Grant & Thornton (former student/graduate assistant)

Letter of Recommendation

February 21, 2024

Dear Georgia College of Business & Technology,

Throughout college, it can be difficult to establish genuine connections and truly be acknowledged by your professor, but with Professor El-Jourbagy, that was not the case.

I had the privilege of being a student in two of her classes: Business Ethics and Legal Environment of Business. I was instantly intrigued by her unique teaching style. Professor El-Jourbagy infused real-world experiences, drawn from her background as an attorney, into our lessons. This transformed the class from a routine academic setting into an engaging and anticipated learning experience, making each session an opportunity to learn more.

What sets Professor El-Jourbagy apart is her commitment to making the subject matter relevant beyond the classroom. She uses interactive activities, examples, and guest speakers to make sure her students fully understand the material. The insights gained from her classes continue to prove invaluable in my daily life.

Beyond her role as a teacher, Professor El-Jourbagy has been a constant source of support for me. After a conversation with her during my sophomore year of college, I decided to pursue law school—a decision that changed my life. In the two years since then, she has consistently offered encouragement and guidance, showing her dedication even though I'm no longer her student.

Professor Jehan El-Jourbagy is the epitome of an exceptional educator and is undoubtedly deserving of the university award. Her impact on students goes well beyond the classroom, contributing to both personal and professional growth, as evidenced in my own experience. I wholeheartedly recommend her for this recognition, confident that acknowledging her contributions will serve as an inspiration for countless students in the future.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Emma Gruszka

☎ 770-243-0469

✉ emmagruszka1@gmail.com

Letter of Recommendation

To whom it may concern,

I am happy to write on behalf of Professor Jehan El-Jourbagy in nomination for the Regents' Teaching Excellence Award. My name is Morgan Hasty. I have known Jehan for 6 years, having first met her when she was my professor for Legal Environment of Business in the Fall of 2018.

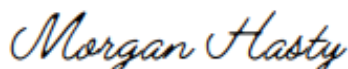
Jehan is the most approachable, dedicated, and intelligent person I have ever met, in and outside the classroom. Her ability to create an environment for students to want to learn and her care for her student's understanding was always remarkable to me. For transparency, I had a tough time in college with not knowing what I wanted to be or do, however, she always made me feel like I could be and do anything, truly. That being said, Jehan's classes were always challenging and I wasn't a great scholar. She was the first professor I had in my major classes who showed interest in me as a pupil and made me want to prove myself to her. Although I did not do my best in that class, her dedication to keeping me motivated encouraged me to reciprocate the care and understanding she had shown me as her student.

This led me to go on to study abroad with her in the Netherlands, Belgium, and Germany. She had presented the idea in class that she was going to lead a Western Europe study abroad program for 4 weeks in the summer of 2019 on International Business and Sustainability Laws and I was hooked. Those 4 weeks were the most demanding, exciting, and life-changing opportunities I've ever experienced. She delicately navigated 3 foreign countries with 12 students while giving us the knowledge and opportunities of a lifetime. Throughout our time in Europe, we traveled to see new places while learning about our subject matter in a hands-on manner as well as in class. Not many professors get the opportunity to give their students moments like this but Jehan made a way.

To say I believe Jehan deserves the Regents' Teaching Excellence Award would be an understatement. Not only does she excel in being one of the best professors I've ever had in my 16 years of schooling, but her way of executing all 4 ways of learning is effective in its own right. She is one of the most exemplary people I have ever met and believe she would make this award a great honor by being able to uphold its meaning and represent it superbly.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to reach out to my direct contact below. I am happy to help.

Best,



Morgan Hasty

GCSU Alumni Class of 2020

Roadie, Inc.

678.633.4657 | hasty.morgan@yahoo.com

February 24, 2023

Letter From Colleague

It is a pleasure to be able to write on behalf of Jehan El-Jourbagy in support of her nomination for the Excellence in Teaching Award. I have known Jehan since she arrived at Georgia College in 2013. She is a wonderful colleague and a dedicated member of the faculty. It is a pleasure to work with her.

While I have never had the opportunity to observe Jehan in the classroom, I have been able to observe her teaching skills in another setting. I am a member of the executive board of the Middle Georgia Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, the world's leading organization for human resource management professionals, and asked Jehan if she would give a talk at one of our chapter meetings; Jehan graciously agreed. She has expertise in two areas that are of great interest to our members, ethics and employment law, and her talk focused on topics at the intersection of these two extremely important areas. Her talk came in early 2021 during the first year of the COVID pandemic, and the chapter meetings had moved to a virtual format. While many of us struggled with teaching and attempting to convey information effectively using ZOOM and similar platforms, Jehan was able to use this medium very effectively. Her talk was very engaging and very informational.

In fact, it was so good and our chapter members were so impressed that the Board asked Jehan if she would consider a second speaking engagement, this time at our annual conference, which attracts not just our chapter members, but human resource professionals from throughout the Middle Georgia area and from other areas of the state. COVID restrictions had eased by the time of the conference, in the fall of 2022, so that we were back to in-person meetings and conferences. Jehan spoke on another aspect of ethics, ethical decision-making in the workplace. Jehan is a masterful presenter. She is very relaxed and quite comfortable in front of a large group of people and keeps her audience completely engaged. Her content is up to date, of course, and is very interesting. The audience loved Jehan's presentation.

As the old saying goes, no good deed goes unpunished. Jehan's talk was so good that she was asked to speak again at our 2023 Conference, and she very graciously agreed. Again, the audience loved her. We ask our members to rate our speakers and to provide feedback on the speakers for both chapter meetings and for the annual conference. Jehan is the top speaker we have had in the 10 years that I have been on the executive board, the favorite of our chapter members, our conference audience, and our board. Jehan has given very generously of her time and talents in sharing her expertise with us and we are very appreciative.

Jehan has not only been generous with her time and talents for our organization, but with many in our campus, professional, and wider community, and especially with her students. I have heard nothing but good comments from our students about Jehan. Students love her classes, but her dedication to them goes far beyond the classroom. She has been instrumental in organizing Constitution Week at Georgia College, has directed the College of Business Leadership Tour, has led study abroad opportunities for our students, and has engaged in many other activities that have positively impacted our students.

It bears mentioning that Jehan has been able to devote so much time and effort to student learning and student success while also excelling in the other aspects of her job, as is evident in a review of her CV. She has developed a fruitful research stream since moving into a tenure track position at GCSU and her service to the department, college, university, profession, and community has been exemplary.

Finally, while Jehan is an excellent faculty member, she is also a wonderful person. She is interested not only in the welfare of her students, but also is also genuinely concerned about the wellbeing of her coworkers. She is always upbeat and always seems happy to see her colleagues. I do not think I have ever met her when she did not have a smile on her face. It is a wonderful blessing to have Jehan as a colleague, a friend, and a resource for our students.

Sincerely,



Christopher M. Lowery
Professor of Management

Letter From Current Student

February 22, 2024

To: GCSU Teaching Award Committee
From: Lilian Alfaro, Student
Re: Professor Jehan El-Jourbagy

Dear Teaching Awards Committee,

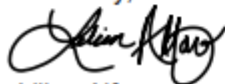
It is with great pleasure to endorse Professor Jehan El-Jourbagy for the J. Whitney Bunting College of Business & Technology teaching award. Professor El-Jourbagy serves as an inspirational role model and mentor for many students. I strongly recommend her for the teaching award based on her commitment to students' success through character, professionalism, and exemplary teaching skills.

I first met Professor El in the Spring of 2023 when I enrolled in her Business Ethics course. As an out-of-state non-traditional transfer student, returning to college was uneasy for me. I felt out of place for some time, but she set a warm and inclusive class environment which helped me gain a sense of belonging within the class and the Georgia College community. Through her support, I gained the confidence to be involved in college organizations, volunteer, and serve in the community. I am currently enrolled in the New Zealand Study Abroad: Corporate Sustainability and Leadership Program under Professor El's guidance. I am ecstatic about this opportunity alongside Professor El, she has been of great assistance in guiding me through the process and meeting the academic requirements needed to be a part of her group. These are examples of her service to students and virtuous character.

Professor El-Jourbagy goes beyond traditional textbooks and teaching methods. She provides structured guidelines and sets high expectations for students. She encourages students to engage in open discussions through personal and real-world scenarios. In her Business Ethics class, her assignments involved reading real-world business articles, critical analysis of current ethical issues, and incorporating community service and sustainability projects. These assignments taught me the core values of community involvement, ethics, service, leadership, and life skills that extend beyond the classroom and textbook. Professor El integrates her teaching skills in an enjoyable, social, inviting, and motivational way, all while maintaining a professional demeanor.

I believe Professor El genuinely wants her students to thrive and challenges students to set and meet their personal, academic, and career goals. Her profound impact on students' lives, teaching methods, and commitment to students and Georgia College truly make her a perfect candidate for this award.

Sincerely,



Lilian Alfaro

Supporting Documents

Selected Component of Course Syllabi

Service Learning/Social Change Project: Students will work in groups and implement a social change activity or project and/or service learning within any environment or organization of their group's choosing (so long as it is new to every member – i.e., a student cannot already be working with or doing service for this organization). For full credit, students must have a minimum of 10 contact hours each on the project and 5 hours of planning, preparation, and reflection. Again, students cannot use a project they are already committed to with another class or organization. At the end of the semester, the groups will give an oral presentation of their project to the class for 12-15 minutes. The presentation grade will be multiplied by the total hours. Therefore, 10 verified hours completed will result in a presentation grade of 100%. Three hours, for example, will result in the presentation grade x 30%. More details may be found in the service-learning guidelines.

Table 1. SRIS Student Evaluation Ratings – 2019 -2023

Semester	Course	Teacher Rating	Course Rating	Response Rate
Fall 2019	Legal Environment of Business	4.90	4.70	93.94%
Spring 2020	Legal Environment of Business	4.90	4.70	60.53%
	Legal Environment of Business	4.90	4.70	75.86%
Fall 2020	Legal Environment of Business	4.70	4.40	62.16%
Spring 2021	No evaluations performed			
Fall 2021	Legal Environment of Business	5.00	4.90	92.5%
Spring 2022	Legal Environment of Business	4.90	4.80	95.35%
	Legal Environment of Business	4.90	4.70	93.33%
Fall 2022	Business Ethics	4.70	4.70	79.49%
	Business Ethics	4.60	4.60	65%
Spring 2023	Business Ethics	4.90	4.70	71.88%
	Legal Environment of Business	4.90	4.80	86.84%
	Legal Environment of Business	4.80	4.70	79.49%
Fall 2023	Business Ethics	4.90	4.70	88.57%
	Business Ethics	4.90	4.70	93.75%
	Legal Environment of Business	4.90	4.70	95.83%

Average Response Rate – 85.64%

Average Teacher Rating – 4.89

Average Course Rating – 4.70

Table 2. Selected Student In-Class Feedback, Fall 2023 Semester

Learned	Favorite	Advice
Community Service is rewarding	Group discussions and projects in front of the class	Write the due dates down in an agenda
Teamwork and presentation skills	The guest speakers, specifically Alex Gregory	Show up and care about the work and what they are learning
I question my decisions more and find myself asking more if it is ethically right	The interactive activities	Familiarize yourself with the content and it will become intuitive
How to be a more confident public speaker	Watching presentations & in-class discussions	Always put yourself out there, you never know what could happen
About how important a community is through our service-learning project	Collaborating with groups about certain topics	Actually, read and watch the films for a better understanding of the course topic
How service-learning benefits both the community and volunteers	Appreciated how interactive the class was	Get to know Professor El and your classmates
Everyone shares something good in common	Getting to meet and talk to so many people	Get outside of your comfort zone
Service to your community is easier that it sounds	Statistical insight on our class	Go to class, stick to your values to achieve your goals
Importance of personal values	The open discussions made the class easier to understand and more enjoyable	Show up to class, read the articles, and watch the movies. The class is fun if you make it fun

Selected SRIS Qualitative Comments

On Public Speaking

“I look forward to this class every week! It is informative and entertaining. One thing that I could not stand before this class was public speaking, I still don’t love it, but this class made me less nervous to do it. The group projects and times we interacted in class brought me closer to the people I knew in the class. Overall, I would take this course again if I could!”

“Professor El-J, thank you so much for being such a great professor! You taught us practical life tips & tricks that I will remember for years to come. I always looked forward to coming to your class & learning. Even though it was a lot of material & projects, this class has made me a better student, public speaker, & volunteer in the Milledgeville community.”

On Business Ethics

“Professor El is easily one of the most thoughtful teachers I have encountered at Georgia College and State University. Her teaching diversity and enthusiasm for her material make the class engaging and exciting. Her class also provides real-life tips and skills, which I have found to be rare.”

On Legal Environment of Business

“This is my last semester at Georgia College and my major has little to do with the legal side of business. I took this course solely due to its completion required for earning my degree and went in with the mindset of getting it done and getting out. After the first few weeks of the class, I found myself appreciating the class for what it was and taking the extra steps to try and comprehend the information. Professor El-Jourbagy took every step necessary to convey the importance and necessity of the information taught in this class. It is beyond apparent that she cares about what she teaches and the well-being of her students after graduation. She consistently went the extra mile to assist students in need. I wouldn't change a single thing about this class.”

“El-Jourbagy is an excellent teacher. Her class is very interactive and conversational which makes the content stick better. Not only that, but she is also funny and entertaining. The content is a lot and she has high expectations, but I would take this class a million times again.”

Personal Impact Letters

“Hey! I wanted to let you know that because of your class, I just accepted an SDR position at Responsive Technology Partners here in Milledgeville! After MC Tracy spoke, I reached out to her, and I got to ask her any questions I had about how she got to where she is now. After our phone call, she contacted Tamara Siragusa at RTP and recommended me to them. I had the opportunity to meet with them and shadow a few weeks ago, and today I officially signed my onboarding paperwork! I'm supposed to start very soon, and I am so excited! I wanted to thank you because your class has pushed me out of my shell and allowed me to pursue things like this that I did not think I was worthy of I am so much more confident in myself now after a few short months of being in your class (not to be dramatic or anything LOL). But seriously, this is a big deal for me! So, I thought I'd update you.”

“I hope this email finds you well and Happy Halloween, you probably won't remember, but about one year ago today I emailed you about my younger sister trying to overdose. Your response was nothing short of understanding, empathetic, and kind. You nudged me toward my current therapist, and he has made a wonderful impact on my college experience. I genuinely thank you so much for being one of my favorite professors during my time at GC and for always putting your students first. You have made a great impact on my life and when I graduate, I will always reflect upon how great your class made me feel. Thanks again for all you do.”