# Business

How Companies Create Value for People



Gareth R. JONES

# Introduction to Business

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Texas A&M University





#### INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS: HOW COMPANIES CREATE VALUE FOR PEOPLE

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This book is printed on acid-free paper.

234567890VNH/VNH09876

ISBN-13 978-0-07-352456-6 ISBN-10 0-07-352456-5

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Cover design: Dave Seidler Cover illustrator: Chip Wass Interior design: Jenny El-Shamy Typeface: 10.25/12 Baskerville Compositor: Precision Graphics Printer: Von Hoffmann Corporation

#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Jones, Gareth R.

Introduction to business: how companies create value for people / Gareth R. Jones.

p. cm.Includes index.

ISBN-13: 978-0-07-352456-6 (alk. paper) ISBN-10: 0-07-352456-5 (alk. paper)

1. Industrial management. 2. Business. 3. Industries--Social aspects. I. Title.

HD31,J5977 2007 658--dc22

2005056249

# **Dedication**

# For Nicholas and Julia



In framing and writing *Introduction to Business* my goal has been to inform and familiarize students with what business is, how it operates, and how it affects them. The intention is to help students understand the many fundamental ways in which business affects people and society—by shaping the kinds of occupations they will pursue and the careers they can expect, for example. This is an important goal because people often fail to understand how business impacts them personally.

We are all used to going to school, going to work, going into restaurants, stores, banks, and buying the goods and services that we need to satisfy our many needs. However, the actual business activities and processes that are required to make these goods and services available to us commonly go unappreciated. Similarly, we know that businesses exist to make a "profit." But what is profit, how is it created, who does this profit go to, and what is profit used for in the future? Moreover, what are the actual activities involved in creating goods, services, and profit? And why is it that some companies seem to be more effective or make more money—that is, are more "profitable" than others?

This book has been structured and written to address these issues. Its goal is to explain in a thorough but succinct way why business is so important to people and the societies in which they live. Over time, many introduction-to-business textbooks have forgotten this fundamental goal. They have become huge compendiums of descriptions about different kinds of business and management practices. In chapter after chapter they overwhelm students with detailed information about the minutia of business and fail to provide the overall "big picture" of what business is and how it affects people. With such an approach to business, students fail to see "the forest for the trees."

# In general, this book has been written

To be comprehensive and inclusive but concise, engaging, and to the point.

Introduction to Business provides students with an integrated, or "big picture," approach to business that covers all the most important functional areas of business. However, it does this in 15 chapters that engage students while clearly and concisely covering the main concepts and theories they need to know to understand business today. The coverage in the book is wide-ranging and thorough, providing them with the essential knowledge of the main building blocks of business without drowning them in details. In short, it explains the concepts and theories of business in an engaging, accessible way, unlike other introduction-to-business books. In addition, the book pays considerable attention to creating and developing both in-chapter and end-of-chapter features and exercises that offer the most learning value to students while economizing on their valuable learning time.

# To be contemporary and up-to-date, yet grounded, relevant, and student-focused.

Introduction to Business contains state-of-the-art content and descriptions of current business practices yet explains the nature of business with an emphasis on its applications for people and companies. Moreover, the coverage in several chapters of the book is unique and not found in any other introduction-to-business books, such as coverage on the evolution of business systems as well as information technology applications. In particular, the text provides a detailed examination of the essential, value-chain business functions necessary to create goods and services that people will want to buy. Using the value-chain approach, each of the principal functions involved in business commerce is examined in turn. And, as the table of contents suggests, the book discusses functional activities in an applied way, so accounting, for example, is not about "number crunching" but about "measuring how efficiently and effectively resources are being used." This functional approach offers a contemporary, integrated account of business that always focuses on the big picture and not on minutiae that can both confuse students and waste their time.

# with four main goals in mind:

# To include rich, relevant examples plus a hands-on, interactive learning approach.

Introduction to Business uses an applied, hands-on approach to help students understand the many ways in which business affects them today—by shaping the kinds of occupations they will pursue and the careers they can expect in the global world today, for example. With the use of carefully selected and written stories and illustrations about small and large companies, Introduction to Business makes the complex concepts and terminology found in other books, which often intimidate students, easy to grasp. This learning is then facilitated by the use of a rich set of hands-on, experiential, end-of-chapter exercises designed to allow instructors and students to interact, discuss, and explore the meaning and implications of the chapter content. The goal is to involve and interest students in the business concepts explained in the chapter and give them the opportunity to actively think about how to make business decisions.

# To be accompanied by state-of-the-art learning support materials, videos, and pedagogy.

The learning approach developed in the book is supported by the widest and most comprehensive set of support materials and videos available in the introduction-to-business market. A chapter-related video feature in each chapter offers students useful insight into real-world issues. In addition, an end-of-chapter section consisting of relevant and engaging stories taken from the pages of *Business Week* magazine offers additional insight into many of the human and functional issues covered in the chapters. In addition, the instructor's manual, test bank, and many other supplements have been thoroughly developed and tested to provide instructors with a solid support foundation.

In short, *Introduction to Business* provides students with a comprehensive, integrated account of business that provides them with the most *essential* knowledge of the main building blocks of business but which does not drown them in detail. In a first course in business, students should gain a solid understanding of the nature and functions of business so they can make better career and life choices. This is better accomplished in a focused, integrated account of business that gives students all the knowledge they need but in a book far shorter than the typical 1,000 page text that few people, even instructors, want to read.

# ORGANIZATION OF THE BOOK

The book provides a broad overview of the nature, form, and functions of business and helps to unravel the many hidden and intertwined meanings that business has. It facilitates students' understanding of how business operates and how it affects their lives and society in general. Part 1, "The Environment of Business," provides the big picture of what business is about. Chapter 1 develops a three-pronged approach to understanding business based on business as commerce, business as an occupation, and business as an organization. It also brings out the essential meaning of terms such as specialization and profit and tells students why companies exist to provide goods and services to customers. Finally, it describes the plan of this book and introduces the concept of the value chain, which will be used to structure the discussion of the principal business functions in Part 3. Chapter 2 looks at how business has evolved over the centuries, the factors of production, and their role in the business process. We trace business back to the Stone Age and then explain, for example, how wars were once waged to obtain land and labor. We then move on to the Industrial Revolution and the development of unionism and socialism on through to the age of information technology. Chapter 3 examines the essential functions of the entrepreneur and manager. It also looks at the role employees play and provides students with an in-depth account of the stages of the career process. Chapter 4 then provides an overview of the main issues facing multinational companies operating in today's changing global environment.

All these chapters, but especially Chapter 5, "Business Ethics and the Legal Environment of Business," make it clear that business is about the pursuit and creation of profit and wealth and that individual people engage in the same quest for wealth to satisfy their needs. The result is competition and self-interested behavior. While much of this competition is healthy and promotes the well-being of both people and society, competition can lead to fraud and deceit. Hence, management and entrepreneurship are always linked to ethical and legal issues. Chapter 5 therefore puts business in the wider framework of ethics, law, and society.

Part 2, "The Human Side of Business," discusses the nature of the individual and group processes that must be managed when people work together in a business organization. Chapter 6 examines the role of leadership, influence, persuasion, communication, and politics in making a business organization function efficiently and effectively. Chapter 7 looks at the role of individual motivation and group processes, including teamwork in the value creation process. It also examines how self-interest and competition lead to bargaining and negotiation. Both these chapters discuss basic processes that lie at the heart of business commerce—processes that frequently revolve around occupational issues, such as contests between people in the same function and between functions. Chapter 8 then discusses how organizational structure and culture motivate and coordinate people and reduce the bargaining and negotiation costs related to getting peoples' cooperation—the essential role of business organization, in other words.

Part 3, "A Functional Approach to Business," then provides a detailed examination of the essential business functions and occupations necessary to create valuable goods and services that people will want to buy. Using the value-chain approach, each of the principal functions involved in business commerce is then examined. As you can see by perusing the table of contents, the book uses a hands-on approach to discussing these functions and their activities. So, for example, finance becomes not about interest rates and numbers but about how firms, just like people, have to figure out how to fund their activities and manage their cash and other assets. Using this functional approach, the book offers a contemporary and integrated account of business that always focuses on the big picture.

# **In-Chapter Learning Features**

Nothing makes the practice of business come alive more than vivid stories and examples about people and companies that demonstrate clearly the meaning of the chapter material, as well as hands-on exercises that offer students the opportunity to actively think about and engage in business issues and decision making. This book pays considerable attention to creating and developing both in-chapter and end-of-chapter features and exercises to offer the most learning value to students while economizing on their valuable learning time. The companies highlighted in each chapter, for example, were specifically selected to appeal to and engage students.

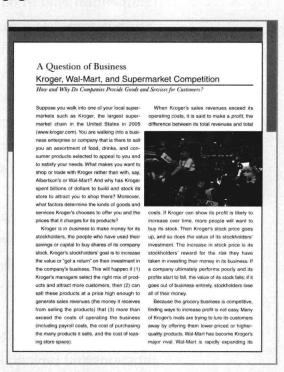
#### A Question of Business

Each chapter opens with a hands-on question about one or more companies that illustrates the issues that are dealt with in the chapter. These lengthy stories bring to light the substance of the business issues involved, and this theme is then carried on through the chapter.

#### WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT ?

What if you went to your supermarket and found only one brand of toothpaste? Suppose there was only one pizza shop in your town and it charged \$25 for a small pie. Economic principles such as the laws of supply and demand create the selection and prices we find when we buy, whether it's gasoline or hamburger.

This chapter will help you understand how business principles work and why companies try to add value to products and services that will appeal to customers and create a competitive advantage. The products we select compete with others for our attention and dollars. That means creating a business model that, for example, effectively brings customers to Home Depot instead of Lowe's. When we spend our dollars, we decide which companies will be profitable enough to survive.



## Why Is This Important?

Students today are more and more interested in why and how business topics relate to them in their everyday lives. The "Why Is This Important?" feature, written by Judith Bulin of Monroe Community College, speaks to them directly in terms of what each chapter means to them and how it affects them personally.

#### Did You Know?

Throughout each chapter, short "Did You Know" boxes highlight interesting factoids, statistics, quotes, and even trivia relating to business. This feature, written by Monty Lynn of Abilene Christian University, is designed to spark the interest of students and make them realize how truly interesting the world of business is.

they think its goods and services are. If they believe cur company's products and the company's profits will incre-price of the stock. If, for example, investors think Went become increasingly company. become increasingly popular, the demand for and p increase. If investors think customers are switching to a Subway's sandwiches and McDonald's chicken salads a suffer as a result, they will sell Wendy's stock, and its pri

#### Did You Know?

General Motors Corporation—assisted by Firestone, Standard Oil, and Phillips Petroleum—purchased and then dismanded more than 100 electric streetcar sys-tems in Philadelphia, St. Louis, Los Angeles and other cities. They replaced them with GM busses. Competition, stomer service, or collusion

#### The Business Mod and Profitability

Companies are in business to make notes, companies like Kroger or Wal-mize profits and returns to their stock all companies must have a business choices about which products to resources most productively to maxin As noted earlier, a successful bu pany to outperform its competitors.

#### **Business in Action**

Each chapter contains several "Business in Action" insight boxes, which have been carefully selected and written to increase the interest of students, but which also integrate seamlessly into the text so as not to disrupt its flow. Many books have examples that disrupt students' thought processes or distract them with enormous amounts of unnecessary detail. **Introduction to Business** avoids these pitfalls.





## Video: Small Business in Action

Most introduction-to-business students are interested in small-business examples and how entrepreneurs actually achieve success. The "Small

> Business in Action" boxes, written by Anthony Chelte of Midwestern State University, discuss videos prepared for each chapter. All of these videos can be found on the Student DVD for Introduction to Business.

# **Developing Business Skills**

The end-of-chapter learning features, entitled "Developing Business Skills," is composed of a series of exercises that offer additional insight into the chapter material to improve the real-world learning experience of students. Designed to create lively discussion for the whole class, small groups, or at the individual level, six of these exercises represent a variety of ways for an instructor to engage students. In practice, an instructor will have to decide which of these exercises to select and use in any particular class period, or which to use as homework assignments. Frequently, instructors find that varying the particular exercises they use over the semester is the best way to engage students.

## Questions for Discussion and Action

"Questions for Discussion and Action" are a set of chapter-related questions and points for reflection, some of which ask students to research actual management issues and learn first-hand from practicing managers.

## **Developing Business Skills**

#### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION



- 1. What are property rights and how do they affect the use of pro-ductive resources?
- 2. In what ways can the use of money lead (1) to a more productive use of resources, and (2) to a more
- profitable use of resources? 3. What is the difference between feudalism and mercantilism? How are the two connected?
- 4. What is the relationship between capital and enterprise? How did capitalism affect the use of pro-ductive resources?
- 5. What caused the Industrial Revolution, and why did it take so long?
- 6. How did the emergence of business organiza-tion forms based on (1) the hierarchy of authority (2) the joint-stock arrangement and (3) limited liability help to further business commerce and occupations?

### Ethics in Action

"Ethics in Action" is an exercise that can be used at the class, group, or individual level. This feature challenges students to apply ethical principles as they try to figure out the right response to a business issue or problem. Generally, the best discussion arises in a group or class context as students express opposing views of the issues involved.

#### The Evolution of Business

#### ETHICS IN ACTION **Ethics and History**



Each of the three main kinds of business systems-feudalism, mercantilism, and capitalism-is associated with a particular kind of ethical or moral position: for example, different views about the rights workers should have relative to the owners of land or capital.

- · Identify differences in the ethical or moral positions that explain how labor is treated in each of these three business systems.
- Do you see any themes going through them? Would you say the treatment of workers improved over time from an ethical point of view or did it get worse? Why?
- What basic kinds of rights do you think workers should have in business organizations today? For example, do you think rights, such as the rights to unionize, or to receive fair and equitable treatment are appropriate? What about workers' rights to privacy? Do employers have a right to monitor workers' e-mail and telephone conversations, for example?
- What ethical principles do you think multina tional companies should abide by when decid-ing where to locate their operations or how to treat their workforces in the countries in which they operate?

#### SMALL GROUP EXERCISE



# Adventures in Barbecuing

Read the following and then break
up into groups of three or four people
and discuss the issues incolord. Be
prepared to share your discussion with
the rest of your class. (This exercise can also
be done individually).

You and your friends have decided to work together to create an outdoor barbecue catering service in the summer mouths to raise money for next year's college fees. Your business model is to offer customers a

worry-free party service with high-quality food and all the accounterments. The activities you need to per-form include food buying, food preparation, setting up the party at the customer's home, serving the food, and clearing up afterwards.

- and clearing ip alterwards.

  1. How can you create most value for customers:
  List the various elements of your business model.

  2. How will you divide up the work among your
  selves to create the most value for customers?

  3. What will be the main factors that determine the
  profitability of your business?

## **Small Group Exercise**

This exercise is designed to allow instructors to utilize interactive experiential exercises in groups of 3–4 students. Each exercise contains a chapterrelated issue guaranteed to lead to debate among students. The instructor calls on students to break up into small groups, simply by turning to people around them, and all students participate in the exercise in-class. A mechanism is provided for the different groups to share what they have learned with each other.

## **Developing Good Business Sense**

This exercise presents a realistic scenario in which some kind of business challenge, problem, or opportunity is presented and students offer advice and a recommended course of action based on the chapter content. Because managers and organizations frequently need this kind of help, these exercises provide students a real, hands-on way to take an actionoriented approach to solving "real" problems by applying what they've just learned.

#### DEVELOPING GOOD BUSINESS SENSE



You are in the process of searching for a part time job to help pay your way through college. You want to find a job that you will be able to keep for at least two years—a job in a company where you fiel you will be able to develop skills that will help you later in your business career. You are currently considering several job options.

- 1. What factors should you consider when deciding upon the best job to look for (assuming you have a choice)?
  2. What factors should you consider when deciding upon the best company to work for?
  3. How would you go about finding out about the pros and cons of a particular job or a particular organization?

BusinessWeek CASE FOR DISCUSSION

# The New Nike: No Longer the Brat of Sports Marketing, It Has a Higher Level of Discipline and Performance

GOING ESTABLISHMENT. The most telling events for Nike didn't take place on the track, however. The brast guerrilla marketer, famous for thumbing its nose at big time sporting events, was showing a new restraint. Eight years ago in Allania. Nike ambushed basketball sponsor Champion ta braid of Sara Lee Corperation by smeaking giant. Nike ambushed basketball sponsor Champion ta braid of Sara Lee Corperation by smeaking giant paramed the stands, IY audiences saw the Nike logo loud and clear, while Champion had nothing. Nike has even signed up to become an official U.S. Olympio sponton in four years in Being, and it has toored down its anti-Exablishment attitude. For good reason. These days, Nike is the Establishment when it comes to global sports marketing. With revenues that Phillp H. Kinght stated there decades ago by selling sneakers out of the back of a car at track meets has finally grown up.

The kind of creativity that tel Bill Bowerman, the University of Oregon track roach who co-founded the company with Knight, to dream up a new kind of staffle ton, is till rovered at Nike. When it comes to the rest of the business, however, it's a whole new hall game. Gone are the days when Nike exects, working on little more than hunches, would do just about anything and spend just about anything and spend gian shoat any amount in the quest for publicity and market share.

But in the gas few years, the company has flat in the gas few years, the company has fruit information systems, logistics, and years) jupply-chain management—as it does to marketing coups and cutting edge sneaker design. More and more, GOING ESTABLISHMENT. The most telling

## BusinessWeek Case for Discussion

Each chapter ends with one or more cases from Business Week magazine that can be used for further analysis of the chapter's issues. Each case has been carefully chosen to reflect contemporary issues and problems in business and to offer further information on the topics in the chapter or career-related issues. The accompanying discussion questions encourage students to read about and to analyze how managers approach real problems in the business world.

# Building Your Management Skills: Know Thyself

What Is Business?

#### BUILDING YOUR MANAGEMENT SKILLS Know Thyself

your chances of achieving your career goals. Knowing



You, as do most people, probably hope to have a career working at something you enjoy, feeling that you do it reasonably well, and making a decent income. We might think that intelligence, drive, and opportunity will make that happen, You can improve

which careers best suit your thinking and problem solving style, satisfy your primary motivational needs, and make you feel passionate about what you do will help you to succeed. You can start to develop the self-knowledge you need to make good career decisions by doing the self-assessment exercise on your Student DVD titled "Career Planning Based on Brain Dominance and Thinking Styles Inventory".

The "Building Your Management Skills" exercises are flash-based self-assessments and learning exercises that can be found on both the Student DVD and Online Learning Center to accompany this book. Students are able to complete these exercises on their own and receive

instant, comprehensive feedback to their responses. There are nearly 50 exercises to choose from in all, and relevant ones for each chapter are highlighted within the end-of-chapter material for students to complete.

## Chapter Video

#### CHAPTER VIDEO

**Todd McFarlane** 



The video features a discussion with Todd McFarlane, CEO of McFarlane Companies in Tempe, Arizona. This global company spans comics, sports, monsters, and toys. In fact, it is the world's largest and most successful toy company. McFarlane is a very suc-

ful toy company. McFarlane is a very successful enterpeneur who started as a college baseball player looking to break into the major leagues. Unfortunately, this venture was not successful. Instead, he fell back on his self-taught ability to draw comics. After 300 rejections from various companies, Marvel Comics hired him. In 1990, Todd was the highest paid comic cartoonist in the industry.

He still wasn't satisfied, however. He left the company at the peak of his career and took 6 of the leading artists with him and formed his own company. Success came fairly quickly with the publication of the comic book *Spaan* which sold 1.7 million copies. This success was despite the predictions by industry insiders that Todd McFarlane wouldn't last a year on his own. McFarlane knows that the two most important elements to successfully generate wealth are entrepreneurship and knowledge. Both of which he possesses in large measure. In a dynamic business environment, there are several areas that need to be addressed in order to be successful. (1) Economic environment—in McFarlane's case it is focused in the area of intellectual property laws; (2) technological environment—McFarlane sees technology as a tool to push the creative environment; (3) competitive environment—he sees the opportunity to earn less per unit profit by taking advantage of the opportunities to produce a higher quality product; (4) social environment—he keys in on his target demographic; (5) global environment—which affects all the other areas.

- 1. From Todd McFarlane's perspective, what is the key element of his business model?

  What are the four main productive factors in
- 2. What are the four main productive factors in business organizations?
- 3. What influences people to buy or not buy a product such as the comic book *Spawn* created by McFarlane?

Along with the "Small Business in Action" videos for each chapter found on the Student DVD, each chapter has a corresponding video accompanied by relevant discussion questions. These chapter videos can be found on both the VHS video collection and the Instructor Video DVD.

# **Instructor Supplements**

**Introduction to Business** offers a variety of resources to help you organize and bring to life the classroom experience for your students.

#### Instructor's Manual

(ISBN: 10-digit: 007-320980-5, 13-digit: 978-007-320980-7)

Prepared by Judith G. Bulin of Monroe Community College, the Instructor's Manual contains material above and beyond what you need to prepare an effective classroom experience. Bulin has had many years of experience preparing instructor's manuals, student study guides, Web-based study guides, and test banks. The

#### CHAPTER 7 MOTIVATING AND MANAGING PEOPLE AND GROUPS IN BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

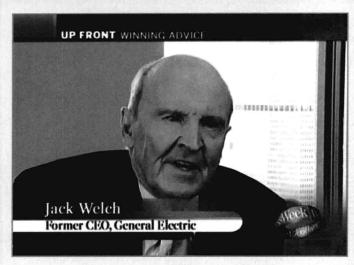
est level of needs is the need for belongingness, de-nd to feel part of a group. ecognition of skills, expertise and contributions are

#### DISCUSSION POINT

Instructor's Manual for Introduction to Business includes a "road map" for each chapter, teaching tips, and other useful information that can be used to capture the interest of students. In detail, the manual includes the following:

- Lecture outlines with embedded figures, tables, and PowerPoint slides notations.
- Teaching Tips
  - "Think about It" questions to stimulate classroom discussion.
  - Discussion points.
- Discussion questions based on each chapter's learning objectives.
- PowerPoint notations.
- Figures-library references.
- Instructions on how to use the Active Classroom Resource Manual (more later in the Preface on this new manual).
- Instructions on how to use the "Build Your Management Skills" exercises (more later in the Preface about these self-assessment exercises).
- Answers to end-of-chapter material and discussion questions.

# VHS and DVD Video Collections



(VHS ISBN: 10-digit: 007-320984-8,

13-digit: 978-007-320984-5

DVD ISBN: 10-digit: 007-320983-X,

13-digit: 978-007-320983-8)

The VHS Video Collection that accompanies the text contains one video for every chapter from sources such as BusinessWeek TV, NBC News, PBS, and even originally produced material. Topics range from marketing and product development at 3M, to motivation at The Container Store, to leadership and influence with Sylvia Rhone, for-

merly of Elektra Records. The Student DVD contains the "Small Business in Action" videos highlighted in the boxes in the text, and the entire collection of videos that are found on the Instructor VHS and Student DVD, respectively, can be found on the Instructor Video DVD.

## Printed Testbank and Computerized Testbank

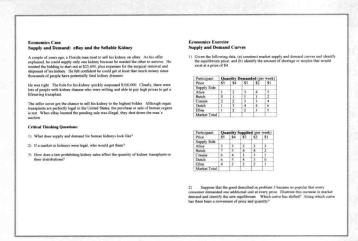
(Print ISBN: 10-digit: 007-320981-3, 13-digit: 978-007-320981-4) Prepared by Jim Steele of Chattanooga State Technical Community College, the Testbank contains a variety of true/false, multiple-choice, and essay questions, as well as "scenario-based" questions. These questions are application-based and use a situation described in a narrative. Three-to-five, multiple-choice test questions based on the situation described in the narrative are then included. The Computerized Testbank can be found on the Instructor's CD-ROM.

#### PowerPoint Slides

Prepared by Ray Polchow, Zane State College, the PowerPoint collection contains everything from an easy-to-follow outline, to additional slides with embedded video clips and Web links, to figure downloads from the text. This versatility allows you to create a custom presentation suitable for your own tastes and needs.

The Instructor's Manual, Computerized Testbank, and PowerPoint slide collection can all be found on the Instructor's CD-ROM. (ISBN: 10-digit: 007-320985-6, 13-digit: 978-007-320985-2)

#### Active Classroom Resource Guide



(ISBN: 10-digit: 007-319276-7, 13-digit: 978-007-319276-5) For those of you who are looking for additional material for in-class or out, McGraw-Hill/Irwin has developed the Active Classroom Resource Manual, containing cases, exercises, and project ideas (and accompanying Instructor Notes) for nearly every introductory course topic, including economics (supply and demand), ethics and social responsibility (whistle blowing), and entrepreneurship (SWOT

Analysis). Many of the exercises were the result of reviewer feedback indicating that they wanted to delve into more difficult introduction-to-business topics.

## Online Learning Center (OLC) with Premium Content

## www.mhhe.com/jonesintro

Access everything you need to teach your course through our convenient Online Learning Center (OLC). A secure Instructor Resource Center stores your essential course materials to save you prep time before class. The Instructor's Manual, PowerPoint, and additional material for your students are now just a couple of clicks away. You will also find useful packaging information and notes on the Online Learning Center.

