

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CJ 465 - Professionalism and Ethics in Criminal Justice
Summer I 2008

Course Syllabus



PROFESSOR: Ken Balusek, J.D.
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CLASS HOURS: Monday - Friday, 10:00-11:50 p.m., Room CJC C104
OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM or by appointment

COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR:

Office hours are as stated above. I will be available after most classes and by appointment. Email is usually the best way to contact me. You may also contact me by telephone. If I am not available by phone, please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Pollock, Joycelyn M. *Ethics in Crime and Justice*. (5th Edition). Thomson/Wadsworth.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This upper level course introduces students to theories and practices in areas of legality, morality, values and ethics as they pertain to criminal justice. An emphasis is placed on ethics in law enforcement and corrections practices.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should:

1. Be able to define morality and ethics;
2. Understand how moral and ethical behavior is developed;
3. Understand the concept of justice;
4. Be able to identify ethical dilemmas in law enforcement practices;
5. Be able to identify ethical dilemmas in regards to legal professionals;
6. Be able to identify ethical dilemmas in correctional practices;
7. Be able to analyze ethical dilemmas;
8. Be able to make ethical decisions.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Class attendance will be followed in accordance with Academic Policy Statement 800401. Attendance will be taken by means of a seating chart. On the third day of class a seating chart will be made. If you are not in your assigned seat when attendance is taken, you will be counted absent. If you are late to a class, inform the professor after class, to make sure you are not counted absent.

Students can miss up to three classes without a penalty. On the fourth absence, the student's final grade will be reduced by one letter grade. On the fifth absence, the student will receive a final grade of "F" for the course. Whether absences are excused or unexcused makes no difference in the calculation of absences.

GRADING POLICIES:

Grades will be based on three exams, including the final exam. Each exam grade will be weighted equally. Exams will consist of essay questions, multiple-choice, true/false and short answer or a combination thereof.

MAKE-UP EXAM POLICY:

No make-up exams will be given unless approval is granted prior to the scheduled exam. Only in the most extreme circumstances will students be allowed to make-up missed exams. It is in the discretion of the instructor to determine which circumstances warrant a make-up exam.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

DISABLED STUDENT POLICY:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html

SERVICES FOR DISABLED STUDENTS:

<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY POLICY:

<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holyday>

CLASS PARTICIPATION

This course will be taught from a lecture/class discussion format. It is imperative that each student contribute to the discussion. All students will have opinions or thoughts about the topics that will be discussed. Students are strongly encouraged to share their opinions and thoughts with the professor and the rest of the class. It has been my experience that when all students participate in the discussion class is more interesting to the students and a more conducive learning environment is created. Furthermore, each of us will be respectful and tolerant of others opinions and thoughts. There will be no tolerance for malicious criticism designed to demean, degrade or intimidate another member of the class.

Tentative Class Schedule
Subject to change!*

Date	Readings and Class Discussion Topics	Notes
Tues. 6-3	Introduction; Syllabus Review; Class Expectations; Chapter 1: Morality, Ethics and Human Behavior, pp. 1-9	First Class Day
Wed. 6-4	Chapter 1: Morality, Ethics and Human Behavior, pp. 9-31	
Thurs. 6-5	Chapter 2: Determining Moral Behavior, pp. 33-53	
Fri. 6-6	Chapter 2: Determining Moral Behavior, pp. 53-67	
Mon. 6-9	Chapter 3: Making Ethical Decisions, pp. 69-93	
Tues. 6-10	Chapter 4: The Origins and Concepts of Justice, pp. 95-123	
Wed. 6-11	Exam I	Chapters 1-4
Thurs. 6-12	Chapter 5: Law and the Individual, pp. 125-159	
Fri. 6-13	Chapter 6: Ethics and the Criminal Justice Professional, pp. 161-185	
Mon. 6-16	Chapter 7: The Police role in Society: Crime Fighter or Public Servant?, pp. 187-208	
Tues. 6-17	Chapter 7: The Police role in Society: Crime Fighter or Public Servant?, pp. 208-231	
Wed. 6-18	Chapter 8: Corruption and the “Code” pp. 233-271	
Thur. 6-19	Chapter 9: Noble-Cause Corruption, pp. 273-300	
Fri. 6-20	Chapter 9: Noble-Cause Corruption, pp. 300-315	
Mon. 6-23	Exam II	Chapters 5-9
Tues. 6-24	Chapter 10: Ethics and Legal Professionals, pp. 317-355 Chapter 11: Justice and Judicial Ethics, pp. 357-385	
Wed. 6-25	Chapter 12: The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections, pp. 387-400	
Thurs. 6-26	Chapter 12: The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections, pp. 400-417	
Fri. 6-27	Chapter 13: Ethics and Institutional Corrections, pp. 419-455	
Mon. 6-30	Chapter 14: Ethics and Community Corrections, pp. 457-479	
Tues. 7-1	Final Exam	Chapters 10-14

* Changes will be announced in class!