

CJ 465.03
Professionalism & Ethics in CJ
Fall 2007

Professor: Vidisha Barua

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Class Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays from 12:00 -12:50 pm

Classroom: A 115

Office Hours:

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 9:00 - 9:50 am, 11-11:50 am

Textbooks:

Required:

Pollock, Joycelyn M. (2007). *Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice*, 5th edition. Wadsworth

Course Description and Objectives:

This course will provide an opportunity for senior level students to examine common ethical issues in the field of criminal justice. In addition, the first section aims to define what ethics are and how they are linked to values and morals of the human experience. Where do ethics come from? What are the roles of family, community, religion, etc. in the moral development of human beings? These are questions to be investigated. Next, students will discuss the role of lying in society and how this may be linked with questionable criminal justice practices (police, courts, corrections).

This course will involve a significant level of reading and classroom discussion. This is a senior level criminal justice course, therefore, students will be expected to have fundamental knowledge of criminal justice established and express themselves in these areas.

Class Objectives to Answer & Discuss

1. What is ethics?
2. Where do ethics come from?
3. Are they permanent or changeable?
4. What are the ethical systems?
5. What does it mean to tell a lie?
6. Are there “good lies”?
7. What is police subculture & how is it learned?
8. What is “noble cause”?
9. What ethical issues do the courts face?
10. What ethical issues do correctional officers face?
11. What is whistle blowing?
12. Controversial issues and the effects of ethics, morals, and values in these areas.
13. Express beliefs academically.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is not optional in this class. Attendance will be taken during each class. You have been allotted 2 “misses” in case of emergency or illness. Use it sparingly and as needed. But note that some assignments require you to be in class and if you choose to miss that day you may miss your opportunity to receive marks for it. For every absence beyond your allotted 2 you will receive a 5 point deduction from your class accumulated points. This is not negotiable. Please note that you **ARE** responsible for all material missed in class during your absence.

Additional Important Points:

1. Cell Phones

The class time is for CJ 465 only. You are expected to a) **turn off**, b) **put on silent mode/vibrate**, or c) **activate voice mail**, while class is in session. You are not allowed to play with cell phones in class. Your instructor will ask you to leave the class in such an event.

Your instructor believes in public disparagement as a criminal justice punishment, thus your cell phone will only go off once accidentally.

If you are a public safety officer (or other) and are on call, please use seating close to an exit so that you can quietly leave to take care of business.

There is **NO** talking on cell phones allowed during class. If this is a problem for you, you will be asked to leave and the matter will be turned over to the Dean’s office.

2. *Tardiness*

If for unexpected reasons you arrive late in class, please enter QUIETLY and take the nearest seat. DO NOT walk in front of the instructor or stop in front of the instructor and pick up materials, etc. Please note that habitual inability to make it to class on time will result in a meeting with me and possibly the Dean of students. If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will be marked absent.

If you know you will be late ahead of time let the instructor know and materials will be ready to be handed to you as you quietly enter.

3. *Classroom Respect*

Ethics come from the center of the human experience. They are value and moral based and are very personal to each of us. We will have a large number of discussions on socially charged issues and not all of us will agree. Please try and remain academic. Try and address the issue, position, faults in logic, lack of information, but not the individual expressing him/herself. We can agree to disagree on issues, calmly. Students are **NOT ALLOWED TO TALK** among themselves in class while the instructor is teaching. You will be asked to leave. Students should also restrain from walking in and out of the classroom while the instructor is teaching. It is not only distracting but also shows lack of respect for the class.

4. *Tobacco Products*

No tobacco products are acceptable. You will be asked to leave.

5. *General Statement Concerning Course Content*

The class runs from August 20th to December 5th (2007) in terms of classroom materials. As such, you are responsible for meeting deadlines and contacting the professor in emergencies. When the calendar runs out, so does class. Should you fail to perform adequately during the semester, it is not the teacher's responsibility. There are no papers to bring grades up or additional research to make up for performance or lack thereof. Consider this class your "learning" job. If you were late for work, did not meet deadlines and did shoddy work on a project, what would happen to you at your job? Same goes here. If you feel you cannot meet the demands of this syllabus/class I suggest you withdraw or transfer to another section.

Grading Policy:

Test #1	100	(20%)
Test #2	100	(20%)
Final Exam	100	(20%)
Quizzes	100	(20%)

A's	90-100	(450-500)
B's	80-89	(400-449)
C's	70-79	(350-399)
D's	60-69	(300-349)
F's	59 and below	(299 or less)

Classwork	50	(10%)
Homework	50	(10%)
Total	500 Points	(100%)

- **Tests:** Tests will be held September 12th and October 22nd. The final examination will be on December 10th from 2 pm to 4 pm. They will have a varied format that may include multiple-choice, matching, true/false, and short essay answer.
- **Quizzes:** Quizzes may also have a varied format. This will be multiple-choice, fill in the blank, or/and true/false format. There will tentatively be 7 quizzes.
- **Class work/Activities:** There will be a variety of short class work assignments. These may include thinking questions, scenario investigations, material reviews, and in-class activities. Attendance may prove crucial for the in-class discussions/activities.
- **Homework:** You will be asked to write one two-three page paper which is due on November 26th. Hard copies will have to be submitted by the due date. No electronic copies will be accepted. No late homework will be accepted.

Make-Up Exams:

No make-up exams will be offered. In the event of an emergency please contact the instructor with information **ASAP** and subsequent documentation so that alternative arrangements may be made. It is **YOUR** responsibility to contact the teacher, not the teacher's to contact you. If you cannot be here and cannot call please have your parent, spouse, doctor, pastor, etc., call on your behalf. As a rule, no one is allowed to write final exams early.

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

Topical Outline:

Please note that this is a tentative schedule of readings. The instructor may modify this to accommodate speakers, films, more discussion, etc. You will be notified immediately of any changes.

Date	Readings	Issues of Discussion	Tests & Quizzes, etc.
August 20 Monday	Syllabus	Introduction/Syllabus	
August 22 Wednesday	Pollock Ch 1	Ethical Dilemmas. Morality, Ethics & Human Behavior: An introduction.	
August 24 Friday	Pollock Ch 2	Different schools of ethics. Teleological & deontological thought.	
August 27 Monday	Pollock Ch 2	Different ethical systems.	
August 29 Wednesday		Review Chapters 1 & 2.	Quiz #1 (On Chapters 1 & 2)
August 31 Friday	Pollock Ch 3	Developing moral & ethical behavior. Childhood and experience provide the foundation for ethics as adults.	
September 3 Monday	<i>Labor Day</i>		
September 5 Wednesday	Pollock Ch 3 Film: Discovering Psychology	Are children “born bad” in terms of ethics and morals? The influence and lasting effects of adults on childhood development.	Class Assignment
September 7 Friday	Pollock Ch 4	Justice, the law, and the role of society. What is the nature of justice in our society?	
September 10 Monday	Pollock Ch 4	Justice, the law, and the role of society. What is the nature of justice in our society? Review Chapters 3 & 4	Quiz #2 (On chapters 3 & 4)
September 12 Wednesday	Test # 1 (On Chapters 1, 2, 3, & 4)		

September 14 Friday	Pollock Ch 5	Paradigms of law. Punishing juveniles and the mentally ill. Legal paternalism, moralism, civil disobedience. Policy making in criminal justice, balancing law and justice, leadership and training.	
September 17 Monday	Pollock Ch 5	Paradigms of law. Punishing juveniles and the mentally ill. Legal paternalism, moralism, civil disobedience.	
September 19 Wednesday	Pollock Ch 5	Paradigms of law. Punishing juveniles and the mentally ill. Legal paternalism, moralism, civil disobedience.	
September 21 Friday	Pollock Ch 6	Policy making in criminal justice, balancing law and justice, leadership and training.	
September 24 Monday		Review Chapters 5 & 6	Quiz #3 (on chapter 5 & 6)
September 26 Wednesday	Pollock Ch 7	The role of police in society: duty, discretion & discrimination.	
September 28 Friday	Pollock Ch 7	The role of police in society: duty, discretion & discrimination.	
October 1 Monday	Pollock Ch 9	Ethics and law enforcement practices. Crime control and public service paradigms of policing.	
October 3 Wednesday	Pollock Ch 9	Ethics and law enforcement practices. Crime control and public service paradigms of policing.	
October 5 Friday		Pollock Ch 7 & Ch 9 Review	Quiz #4 (on chapter 7 & 9)
October 8 Monday	Film	<i>The Ghost of Sonny Black</i>	Class Assignment
October 10 Wednesday	Pollock Ch 8	Corruption and the “Code,” police subculture	Quiz # 5 (on chapter 8)
October 12 Friday	Pollock Ch 8	Corruption and the “Code,” police subculture	

October 15 Monday	Film	<i>Serpico</i>	Class Assignment
October 17 Wednesday	Film	<i>Serpico</i>	Class Assignment
October 19 Friday	Film	Review for Test # 2	Class Assignment
October 22 Monday	Test # 2 (On Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9)		
October 24 Wednesday	Pollock Ch 10	Ethics and Legal Professionals.	
October 26 Friday	Pollock Ch 10 Case 1	Ethics and Legal Professionals. Case study and discussion	Class Assignment
October 29 Monday	Pollock Ch 11	Special issues for prosecutors and judges	
October 31 Wednesday	Pollock Ch 11	Special issues for prosecutors and judges	
November 2 Friday		Pollock Ch 10 & 11 Review	Quiz # 6 (On chapters 10 & 11)
November 5 Monday	Pollock Ch 12	Ethics of punishment and corrections	
November 7 Wednesday	Pollock Ch 12	Ethics of punishment and corrections	
November 9 Friday	Pollock Ch 13	Ethics for Correctional Personnel. This section is very similar to policing.	
November 12 Monday	Pollock Ch 13	Ethics for Correctional Personnel. This section is very similar to policing.	
November 14 Wednesday	Library Day		
November 16 Friday	Library Day		
November 19 Monday	Pollock Ch 14	Corrections in the community: the use of probation and parole options.	
November 21 Wednesday	Thanksgiving		
November 23 Friday	Thanksgiving		

November 26 Monday	Pollock Ch 14	Corrections in the community: the use of probation and parole options.	Homework Assignment Due
November 28 Wednesday		Pollock Ch 12, 13, & 14 Review	Quiz # 7 (On chapters 12, 13 and 14)
November 30 Friday		Term Paper presentation	
December 3 Monday		Term Paper presentation	
December 5 Wednesday		Term Paper presentation Review for Final Exam	
December 7 Friday	<i>Final Exam Study Day</i>		
December 10 Monday	Final Exam 2 pm to 4 pm (Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14)		