

**PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE - CJ 465  
SPRING 2008**

**Professor:** Dr. Carrie M. Butler  
**Office:** C-119  
**Office Hours:** M, W, F 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
**Telephone:** (936) 294-1663  
**Email:** icc\_cmh@shsu.edu  
**Class Hours:** Monday, Wednesday, and Friday  
1:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.  
**Classroom:** CJC A 201

**Required Texts:**

Pollock, Joycelyn M. (2007). Ethics in Crime and Justice (5<sup>th</sup> Edition). Belmont, CA: Thompson Wadsworth Publishing Company.

Hickey, Thomas. (2006). Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Crime and Criminology (7<sup>th</sup> Edition). Dubuque, Iowa: McGraw-Hill.

**Course Description:**

This course involves the study of theories and practices in areas of legality, morality, values and ethics as they pertain to criminal justice. Included will be such topics as police corruption, brutality, and methods of dealing such practices, as well as the concept of profession and professional conduct (see course catalog). Please note: NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE CLASSROOM, unless prior approval has been given by the professor.

**Course Goal and Objectives:**

The goal of this course is for students to understand the important role of ethics in the field of criminal justice. Upon completion of the course, students will be able to do the following:

1. Identify criminological theories that reinforce and evaluate ethical standards in criminal justice;
2. Discuss ethical dilemmas that affect criminal justice professionals; and,
3. Identify ethical standards for professional employment in criminal justice.

**Course Requirements:**

Three exams (including the final) and 10 quizzes will determine students' grades. The exams and quizzes may consist of multiple choice, true/false, matching, fill in the blank, essay questions or a combination of any of these, and will include assigned chapters, course notes, and class discussions.

### **Grading Policy:**

Each test will be worth 100 points and each quiz worth 10 points. Grading for completed work is as follows:

<i>Grading Policy:</i>		Test 1 (100 pts.)
360 – 400 points=	A	Test 2 (100 pts.)
320 – 359 points=	B	Final (100 pts.)
280 – 319 points=	C	<u>10 Quizzes (100 pts)</u>
240 – 279 points=	D	Total points: 400 pts.
Below 240 points=	F	

### **Attendance Policy:**

Students are expected to be present for every class. It is expected that students prepare to discuss the scheduled topics and regularly participate in class.

### **Make-up Exams:**

Make-up exams will be administered only for students in extreme cases who must be absent from class on exam dates, **and with prior approval from the professor.** The date for make-up exams will be announced in class.

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

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

### **STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20....” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf)

### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the University. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. For a complete listing of the University policy, see:

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/811006.html](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html)

### **VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM:**

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

## Class Schedule:

Please be advised that the reading schedule and class lectures may vary as some topics take longer to cover than others. Your attendance is important considering there may be changes to the schedule.

### Course Outline

January 16	Introduction/Syllabus What does the term “ethics” mean?
January 18	Chapter 1 (Pollock, 2007) Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior
January 21	MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY
January 23	Chapter 1 (Pollock, 2007) Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior
January 25	Chapter 2 (Pollock, 2007) Determining Moral Behavior
January 28	Chapter 2 (Pollock, 2007) Determining Moral Behavior
January 30	Chapter 3 (Pollock, 2007) Making Ethical Decisions
February 1	Chapter 3 (Pollock, 2007) Making Ethical Decisions
February 4	Issue 1 (Hickey, 2006): Is Crime Always Functional?
February 6	Chapter 4 (Pollock, 2007) The Origins and Concept of Justice
February 8	Chapter 4 (Pollock, 2007) The Origins and Concept of Justice
February 11	Issue 16 (Hickey, 2006): Should Marijuana Be Legalized
February 13	Chapter 5 (Pollock, 2007) Law and the Individual

February 15	Chapter 5 (Pollock, 2007) Law and the Individual
February 18	TEST 1
February 20	Chapter 6 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and the Criminal Justice Professional
February 22	Issue 15 (Hickey, 2006): Should the Police Enforce Zero Tolerance Laws?
February 25	Chapter 6 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and the Criminal Justice Professional
February 27	Chapter 7 (Pollock, 2007) The Police Role in Society: Crime Fighter or Public Servant
February 29	Chapter 7 (Pollock, 2007) The Police Role in Society: Crime Fighter or Public Servant
March 3	Issue 14 (Hickey, 2006): Do More Guns Lead to More Crime?
March 5	Chapter 8 (Pollock, 2007) Corruption and the “Code”
March 7	Chapter 8 (Pollock, 2007) Corruption and the “Code”
March 10 – 14	SPRING BREAK
March 17	Issue 17 (Hickey, 2006): Do Three Strikes Sentencing Laws and Other “Get Tough” Approaches Work?
March 19	Chapter 9 (Pollock, 2007) Noble-Cause Corruption
March 21	GOOD FRIDAY
March 24	Issue 11 (Hickey, 2006): Are Conjugal and Familial Visitations Effective Rehabilitative Concepts?

March 26	Chapter 9 (Pollock, 2007) Noble-Cause Corruption
March 28	Chapter 10 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and Legal Professionals
April 2	Issue 13 (Hickey, 2006): Is Capital Punishment Bad Policy?
April 4	Chapter 10 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and Legal Professionals
April 7	TEST 2
April 9	Chapter 11 (Pollock, 2007) Justice and Judicial Ethics
April 11	Chapter 11 (Pollock, 2007) Justice and Judicial Ethics
April 14	Chapter 12 (Pollock, 2007) The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections
April 16	Chapter 12 (Pollock, 2007) The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections
April 18	Issue 4 (Hickey, 2006): Is Street Crime More Serious Than White-Collar Crime?
April 21	Chapter 13 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and Institutional Corrections
April 23	Chapter 13 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and Institutional Corrections
April 25	Issue 7 (Hickey, 2006): Should Serious Sex Offenders Be Castrated?
April 28	Chapter 14 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and Community Corrections
April 30	Chapter 14 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and Community Corrections

May 2	Issue 9 (Hickey, 2006): Are the Dangers of Child Pornography Exaggerated?
May 5	Chapter 15 (Pollock, 2007) Ethical Choices and the “War on Terror”
May 7	Course Overview and Conclusion
May 9	STUDY DAY
May 14	FINAL EXAM (2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.)

**HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!**