

Sam Houston State University
College of Criminal Justice
CJ 465.07 W
Professionalism and Ethics in Criminal Justice
Syllabus: Spring 2008

Professor: Bridget A. Hepner

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Class Hours: 6-8:50pm Wednesdays

Class Room: UCR 205

Office Hours: 4:00-5:45 pm Wednesdays or by appointment.

Text Book/ Required Readings:

- 1) Souryal, S. S. (2007), *Ethics in Criminal Justice: In Search of the Truth*, 4th Edition, Anderson Publishing.
- 2) Supplemental readings/activities will be required throughout the semester. These supplemental readings and activities, as well as the syllabus, and lecture notes will be available on Blackboard.

Course Description and Objectives:

This course is intended to provide the student with a broad general knowledge of ethics with an emphasis on areas of legality, morality, and values from a criminal justice perspective.

*This course is not intended to change your position regarding ethics or issues related to morality, it is however intended to provide a necessary foundation so you may critically analyze situations from a philosophically based perspective.

Your challenge, should you seek to accept the terms of this course will be:

- 1) To identify the fundamentals of ethical theory, doctrine, and the rules of judgment.
- 2) To summarize the key concepts from the 'Masters of Philosophy'.
- 3) To apply epistemologically based ethics to a variety of practical 'situations'.
- 4) To evaluate influences on ethics in criminal justice agencies.
- 5) To compose intelligent defending and/or supporting positions for various ethical dilemmas and issues.

Attendance:

Attendance requirements will be followed in accordance with Academic Policy Statement 800401. Attendance is EXPECTED and will be taken at each class meeting. If you will be late to class, you have 2 options, 1) wait until the break to enter the classroom or 2) do not come at all; there will be no exceptions to this policy.

Cellular Phone Policy

Please set your phones to silent or vibrate during class meetings. If you must take a call, please leave the room and do not return until the break, if your call is after the mid-class break, you may leave; this will count towards a decrease in your participation grade due to your missing group/class activities. Exceptions will be considered with prior notification of extenuating circumstances. Additionally if a cell phone is seen out during an exam, it will be assumed you are cheating, refer to the academic dishonesty policy for sanctions.

Academic Dishonesty

If your academic conduct does not conform to the standards of academic honesty as set forth by the "Code of Student Conduct and Discipline" you will receive a zero for the class. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Please refer to the University Policy on Academic Dishonesty or see the professor with any questions. Be proactive and honest. Mistakes happen, when in doubt, seek assistance.

Academic Policy Statement 810213, Procedures in Cases of Academic Dishonesty, is provided here in its entirety.

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

Disabled Student Policy

Students with a disability, which affects their academic performance, are expected to arrange for a conference with the instructor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

Please See: Academic Policy Statement 811006:

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf www/aps/documents/811006.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf/www/aps/documents/811006.pdf)

Services for Disabled Students:

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

Student Absences on Religious Holy Day Policy

Please refer to the SHSU Student Guidelines: Academic Policy Statement 861001

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:

<http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf www/aps/documents/861001.pdf>

*Students are responsible for abiding by all published rules and regulations as printed in the “Undergraduate Catalogue, Student Guidelines”, and in other official university publications.

*Please note that at all times during a class you will need to remain sensitive to the subject matter at hand. Please avoid offensive or derogatory remarks as well as personal attacks on others. If you feel you cannot approach sensitive topics with out remaining polite, please do not remain enrolled in the class. If you are found in violation of this policy you will be subject to official sanctions.

Course Requirements and Grading Policy

Your final grade will be based upon the following formula:

Exams 3 @ (50 points each)

Daily Quiz 12 @ (10 points each.)

Class /Group Participation	12 @ (10 points max per day)
Research Paper/Presentation	1 @ (120 points/80 points)
Extra Credit	will vary

Grading Scale:	A = 540-
	B = 480-539
	C = 420-479
	D = 360-419
	F = 0-359

Exams:

Exams will be your choice short answer or essay. You will need lined paper to write your short answer/ essay responses. You may also elect to skip any exam during the semester; if you choose to skip an exam and wish to make up the missed exam refer to the make up exam policy. If your effort on exams does not conform to the standards of academic honesty as set forth by the “Code of Student Conduct and Discipline” you will receive a zero for the class. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

Daily Quiz:

There will be a quiz every lecture day.

Make-up Exams

Make-up exams will be available on the final day of class, before the completion of the final exam. All make-up exams will be essay. The exception to this rule is daily quizzes; there will not be an opportunity for you to make-up a quiz.

Class/Group Participation

Participation is essential to the understanding of the material. There will be multiple in-class group participation exercises. There will also be participation exercises on Blackboard that will count as extra credit should you choose to participate.

Research Paper/Presentation

The research paper will examine an ethical dilemma that could, would or has affected a criminal justice agency. You will address this dilemma by searching for an ethical solution, not a legal, or policy solution. Your goal will be to find the “good” answer to the dilemma. You will need to address four issues, Aristotle’s Socratic Reasoning, fallacies surrounding the issue, its theoretical roots and the most appropriate school of thought.

Your paper will need to be between 2000 and 2,500 words, not including the title page and the references. Points will be deducted for papers not meeting this requirement. All papers must be in APA format, see the library home page for APA citation format. There must be a minimum of 8 academic references utilized. Your paper must include an introduction and a conclusion. If your paper does not conform to the standards of academic honesty as set forth by the “Code of Student Conduct and Discipline” you will receive a zero for the class. There will be no exceptions to this policy. You will present a 5-7-minute summary of your paper to the class.

*Your topic and preliminary reference list are due, by email, no later than 6pm on 2/20 and you need to turn in a hard copy in class (40 points).

*Your rough draft is due, by email, no later than 6pm on 4/2 and you need to turn in a hard copy in class (40 points).

*Your final draft is due, by email, no later than 6pm on 5/7 and you need to turn in a hard copy in class (40 points), presentations are also due this date (80 points)

*All sections of the research paper assignment must be submitted via blackboard; additionally you will need to bring a hard copy to class for review. All papers are subject to submission to an electronic database to assess for plagiarism.

*All sections of the syllabus outline schedule are tentative except for test/paper dates.

DATE	CHAPTER	TOPICS/ASSIGNMENTS
January		
16	None	Introductions, review of the syllabus
23	1	Sources of intellect, natures of the truths, Reality, morality, goodness, determinism
30	2	Deception, wisdom, ethics, theory,

			credibility of ethics, categories of theory
February	6	3	Natural law, religious ethics, constitutional ethics, ethics of law, codes of ethics
	13	4	9 Schools of thought, the who, what, when where and why of ethical theory
	<u>20</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Exam 1/ Paper Topic and References due</u>
	27	5	ethical imperatives, relative morality, shame, management, agencies & corruption
March	5	6	truth and deception, moral questions & deceptive people
	<u>12</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Spring Break</u>
	19	7	Prejudice, discrimination, injustice, theory, knowledge, targets, types, conceptions
	26	8	egoism, authority, abuse, types, responsibility, deadly force, TN v. Garner (on Blackboard)
April	2	9	misguided loyalty, controversy, ideals, grammar, nature, reality, truths, concerns disloyalty, personal loyalty, duty
	<u>9</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Exam 2/ Rough Draft Due</u>
	16	10	dual essence, models, critiques
	23	11*	retribution, deterrence, rehabilitation, incapacitation, restitution, punishment, justifications, application ethics of policing
	30	12*/13*	application of ethics of corrections/probation & parole
May	<u>7</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Final Paper Due/ Presentations</u>
	<u>14</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Exam 3</u>

*optional readings

Acknowledgment of Syllabus:

By signing, you agree to the terms and conditions of the syllabus. Additionally, you are agreeing to be responsible for abiding by all published rules and regulations as printed in the “Undergraduate Catalogue, Student Guidelines”, and in other official university publications.

By signing the acknowledgment you agree, that at all times during class, you will remain sensitive to the subject matter at hand. You agree to avoid offensive or derogatory remarks as well as personal attacks on others.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Bridget A. Hepner, Professor