

Fall 2007

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**PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE
(CJ 465)
Thursday, 6:00p-9:00p, C210**

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE:

This course is designed with particular emphasis on the study of Ethics, in general, and Criminal Justice Ethics and Professionalism, in particular. While the course does not seek to force a change in the basic beliefs of students or make participants more (or less) radical, the objectives of this course will be to learn: (a) the various theories of ethics and professionalism in order to enable them to: (b) examine their role as criminal justice agents, (c) apply these theories intelligently to criminal justice situations, (d) develop a sense of fairness and dignity on the job; and (e) be aware of the causes that could lead to corruption. A considerable segment of ethical theory will be presented in the first half of the course. This will be followed by applied ethics in the areas of police, prisons, and probation/parole.

Required Books

Ishmael, Daniel Quinn, Ban tam, 1992.

Ethics in Criminal Justice: In Search of the Truth, Souryal, 4th edition, Anderson Publishers, 2007.

SYLLABUS

The Week of:

Thursday

Topic

Required Reading

August 23

Introduction to the Ethics Course
What it Means to be Ethical
Sources of Studying Ethics
The Imperative of Philosophy
The Imperative of Justice
The Relevance of Ethics
The Role of Ethics in Society
The Need for Studying Ethics
in Criminal Justice

Ishmael
Souryal, Ch.1
Handouts

August 30	<p><i>Acquainting Yourself with Ethics:</i></p> <p>The art of Reasoning Intellect and Truth Nature of Reality Definitions of Morality Ethics of Relativism Ethics of Radicalism Situational Ethics Determining Goodness The Art of Moral Reasoning $E = PJ^2$</p> <hr/>	<p><u>Souryal</u>, Ch 1 – Ch 2 <u>Handouts</u></p>
September 6	<p><i>Sources and Sanctions</i></p> <p>Ethics of Utilitarianism Actions and Consequences Determinism Theory Profile of the Ethical Person The Philosophy of Wisdom Fallacious Reasoning Scope of Ethics Categories of Ethical Theory Origins of Ethical Principles</p> <hr/>	<p><u>Souryal</u>, Ch 3 <u>Handouts</u></p>
September 13	<p><i>Understanding Criminal Justice Ethics</i></p> <p>Natural Law The Hierarchical Rule of Identities Religious Testaments Constitutional Law and Provisions Ethics of Law Professional Codes of Ethics</p> <hr/>	<p><u>Souryal</u>, Ch 4 <u>Handouts</u></p>
September 20	<p><i>The Masters of Ethical Theory</i></p> <p>The Stoicism School The Hedonistic School The Virtue School The Religious School Applications to CJ Theory & Practice</p>	<p><u>Souryal</u>, Ch 4 <u>Handouts</u></p>

September 27	<p><i>Ethics of the Naturalistic School</i></p> <p>Ethics of Utilitarianism Ethics of Duty & Reason Ethics of Social Justice Applications to CJ Theory & Practice</p> <p><u>First-Mid Term Exam</u></p>	<p><u>Souryal</u>, Ch 4 <u>Handouts</u></p>
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October 4	<p><i>The Ambivalent Reality:</i></p> <p>Unethical Themes in Criminal Justice Management Lying and Deception Institutional Lying When Lying Can Be Justified Lying in Police/Probation Prisons</p>	<p>Souryal, Ch 5 & 6 <u>Handouts</u></p>
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October 11	<p><i>The Ambivalent Reality</i></p> <p>Egoism and the Abuse Authority in CJ Types of Egoism Hobbesian Egoism Altruistic Egoism Authority and Power in CJ Limits of Power Ethics of Means and Ends</p>	<p><u>Souryal</u>, Ch 7 & 8 and <u>Handouts</u></p>
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October 18	<p><i>The Ethics of Public Services</i></p> <p>The Dual Ethics of CJ Management Ethics of the Workplace Ethics and Policing The Police Prerogative to Abuse Power Police Corruption Hedonistic and Obligatory Corruption</p>	<p><u>Souryal</u>, Ch 9 & 10 <u>Handouts</u></p>
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October 25	<p><i>The Ethics of Corrections</i></p> <p>Life for Life Ethics The Morality of Punishment The Moral Justification for Prisons Ethics of Man and Corrections Corruption by Correctional Personnel</p>	<p><u>Souryal</u>, Ch 11 <u>Handouts</u></p>
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<p><u>Second-Mid Term Exam</u></p>		

November 1	<i>Practical Aspects of Ethics</i> Ethics of Probation & Parole Ethics of Community-Based Corrections Ethical Images in Probation & Parole	<u>Souryal</u> , Ch 12 <u>Handouts</u>
November 8	<i>What Can Be Done</i> Restoring Ethics Ethical Lessons to Learn Practicing Ethics Teaching Ethics Ethics of Civility	Souryal, Ch 13 <u>Handouts</u>
November 15	Movie: <u>Gandhi</u>	
November 22	<u>Thanksgiving</u>	
November 29	Ethical discussion and lessons to be taught	Souryal, Ch 14 <u>Handouts</u>
December 6	Course Review/ <u>Final Exam</u>	

Grading:

- All three tests will have equal weight, 100 points each.
- Proper behavior and participation in class, 100 points.
- Tests will be multiple choice.
- Makeup tests will only be allowed in extreme emergency conditions as determined by the instructor.
- Tests will not be accumulative and the final exam will not be comprehensive.
- The final grade will be computed on the basis of the average of these four scores. A curve may be applied only if it is essential to improve class average.

Attendance:

1. Attendance is required. Exam questions will equally reflect materials from the book and from class notes and discussions.
2. Roll will be taken regularly at the end of each session.
3. If a student is absent more than two (2) times, he or she shall forfeit the privilege of curve points (if such points are added) and 15 points will be deducted from his/her total score per absence.
4. Failure to sign the attendance roll sheet shall be counted as an absence.
5. There will be a class break between 7:15 and 7:30. Students are expected to stay in class before and after the break.

6. No food or drink is permitted in the classroom. Pagers and cell phones shall be turned off, reading newspapers, or sleeping in class is not permitted. Any argumentation or attempts to disrupt the class by any other means will be stopped. Violation of these rules can result in expulsion from the classroom and/or an F grade for the course.

Test Make-ups:

The mid-term and the final exam can be made-up only if the student's absence was justifiable and approved by the instructor.

Important Notices:

1. Students are required to read their assignments before coming to class and be prepared to discuss the basic concepts and present their arguments.
2. This is a course in Ethics. Everyone (instructor included) will be expected to think ethically, talk ethically, and behave ethically!

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

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

DISABLED STUDENT POLICY:

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf www/aps/811006.html](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>