

THE ETHICS OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CJ 687 Fall 2007

Professor: Dr. Carrie M. Butler
Office: C-119
Office Hours: Monday 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Telephone: (936) 294-1663
Email: icc_cmh@shsu.edu
Class Hours: Wednesday
3:00 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.
Classroom: CJC A 213

REQUIRED TESTS

Souryal, S. (2007). Ethics in Criminal Justice: In Search of the Truth (4th Edition). Newark, New Jersey: Anderson Publishing Company.

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

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Muraskin, R. & Muraskin M. (2001). Morality and the Law. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Leighton, P., & Reiman, J. (2001). Criminal Justice Ethics. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall

Crank, J. & Caldero, M. (2000). Police Ethics: The Corruption of Noble Cause. Cincinnati: Andersons.

Borchert, D.M., & Steward, D. (1986). Exploring Ethics. New York: Macmillan Publishing.

Cohen, R.L. (1986). Encyclopedia of Morals. New York: Philosophical Library.

Porter, B.F. (1980). The Good Life: Alternatives in Ethics. New York: Macmillan Publishing.

Rawls, J. (1971). A Theory of Justice. Cambridge, MA Harvard University Press.

Sahakian, W.S. (1974). Ethics: An Introduction to Theories and Problems. New York: Barnes and Noble Books.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

This course will introduce you to the study of the moral philosophy as the linchpin that ties all of the areas of criminal justice together in a civil and durable manner. In addition to focusing on justice issues, this course will articulate how social control can be applied effectively yet humanly. It will further explain how criminal justice practitioners can use proper discretion when external guidance is unavailable. Finally, this course will differentiate between the “should’s and ought’s” of criminal justice that must prevail in a free society. To appreciate all of these, a considerable amount of philosophy will be presented and discussed.

This course will provide the following:

1. A thorough understanding of the basic definitions, typologies, sources, theories, and applications of ethical principles;
2. A better understanding of the concept of justice as developed over centuries of civilization beginning by the Greeks and continuing through contemporary American history;
3. An enlightened view of crime and justice by challenging the common myths and fallacies and removing the “veils of ignorance” associated with this body of knowledge; and,
4. An ability to make moral judgment as it relates to the integrity of criminal justice practitioners and the common practices of criminal justice (i.e., probable cause, due process, plea bargaining, capital punishment, etc.).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will be expected to actively participate in class discussions and will be called upon by the professor to answer questions as they relate to topics covered in class. Your participation will be evaluated based on the quality, not necessarily quantity, of your activity in class. You will be graded in this class on the following criteria:

1. Course Participation and Topic Discussions. In addition to regular class participation, students will be expected to lead a class discussion, and submit a synopsis of the their discussion, from one of the recommended readings. This assignment is worth 100 points.
2. Exam 1. The exam may consist of essay, definition, multiple-choice, matching, or true/false questions. The maximum score for the exam is 100 points.
3. Topic Paper. Students will submit a 15-18-page paper on any topic related to the class. The maximum score for the paper is 100 points.
4. Exam 2. The exam may consist of essay, definition, multiple-choice, matching, or true/false questions. The maximum score for the exam is 100 points.

Grady Policy:

360 – 400 points=	A	Topic Discussion (100 pts.)
320 – 359 points=	B	Exam 1 (100 pts.)
280 – 319 points=	C	Topic Paper (100 pts.)
240 – 279 points=	D	<u>Exam 2 (100 pts)</u>
Below 240 points=	F	Total points: 400 pts.

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

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

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.

August	22	Course Introduction
	29	Chapter 1 (Souryal, 2007) Acquainting Yourself with Ethics

		<p><i>A Tour of the Ethics Hall of Fame</i> Chapter 1 (Pollock, 2007) Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior</p>
September	5	<p>Chapter 2 (Souryal, 2007) Familiarizing Yourself with Ethics <i>Nature, Definitions, and Categories</i> Chapter 2 (Pollock, 2007) Determining Moral Behavior</p>
	12	<p>Chapter 3 (Souryal, 2007) Understanding Criminal Justice Ethics <i>Sources and Sanctions</i> Chapter 3 (Pollock, 2007) Making Ethical Decisions</p>
	19	<p>Chapter 4 (Souryal, 2007) Meeting the Masters <i>Ethical Theories, Concepts, and Issues</i> Chapter 4 (Pollock, 2007) The Origins and Concept of Justice</p>
	26	<p>Chapter 5 (Souryal, 2007) The Ambivalent Reality <i>Major Unethical Themes in Criminal Justice Management</i> Chapter 5 (Pollock, 2007) Law and the Individual</p>
October	3	<p>Chapter 6 (Souryal, 2007) Lying Deception and Criminal Justice Chapter 6 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and the Criminal Justice Professional</p>
	10	<p>Chapter 7 Racial Prejudice and Racial Discrimination Chapter 7 (Pollock, 2007) The Police Role in Society: Crime Fighter or Public Servant</p>
	17	<p>EXAM 1 Chapter 8 Egoism and the Abuse of Authority Chapter 8 (Pollock, 2007) Corruption and the “Code”</p>

	24	Chapter 9 Misguided Loyalties <i>To Whom, to What, at What Price?</i> Chapter 9 (Pollock, 2007) Noble-Cause Corruption
	31	Chapter 10 Ethics of Criminal Justice Today <i>What is Being Done and What Can Be Done?</i> Chapter 10 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and Legal Professionals
November	7	Chapter 11 Ethics and Police Chapter 11 (Pollock, 2007) Justice and Judicial Ethics
	14	Chapter 12 Ethics and Corrections (Prisons) Chapter 12 (Pollock, 2007) Chapter 13 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and Institutional Corrections The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections
	21	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY!
	28	Chapter 13 Ethics of Probation and Parole Chapter 14 What Can Be Done to Restore Ethics? <i>Concluding Comments</i> Chapter 14 (Pollock, 2007) Ethics and Community Corrections PAPERS DUE
December	5	Course Conclusion EXAM 2

HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

