



## **SYLLABUS**

CJ 465.02  
Professionalism and Ethics in C.J.  
Spring 2008  
Mon. - Fri. 2pm-4pm (A209)

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### **REQUIRED TEXT:**

Pollock, Joycelyn M. 2004. Ethics in Crime and Justice: Dilemmas and Decisions (fourth edition). Thomson, Wadsworth. Belmont, California.

Additional readings may be assigned throughout the semester.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will provide the student with an overview of 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 with such practices, as well as the concept of professional conduct. Through classroom discussion and reading, students will examine the ethical dilemmas inherent in the criminal justice system.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. Gain a broad understanding of the ethical dilemmas that face the criminal justice practitioner on a daily basis.
2. Defining and understanding the differences between ethical and moral behavior.
3. Learn how to apply appropriate ethical philosophies to differing criminal justice scenarios.
4. Examine past code of ethics violations in all aspects of the criminal justice system and determine how they effect us today.
5. Understand how current controversies within the criminal justice system lay the foundation for the future.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

There will be four examinations throughout the semester and each will be worth approximately 20%. Each exam will be based on material since the last exam. Exams may vary in style; they may be multiple choice and short answer, take-home and/or essay. Additionally, there will be regular quizzes throughout the semester over textual readings. Quizzes will be worth an additional 20%.

Exam # 1	20%	90-100 = A
Exam # 2	20%	80-89 = B
Exam # 3	20%	70-79 = C
Exam # 4	20%	60-69 = D
Quizzes	20%	59 and Below = F

## **ATTENDANCE, PREPARATION AND PARTICIPATION:**

Successful learning and understanding require class attendance and active participation in classroom discussions. Since both lectures and text assignments will be tested, good attendance will likely enhance your test scores. In addition, should any special in-class assignments or unannounced quizzes be given, you will need to be in attendance to benefit from those assignments.

Attendance will be taken regularly and routinely at the beginning of class. Latecomers will be counted as absent although they are welcome to come in and participate in the class activities. More than three absences will result in the drop in one letter grade. Additionally, any student that records perfect attendance during the semester will be rewarded with three points being added to your final average.

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

The Faculty of the College of Criminal Justice expects students to conduct their academic work with integrity and honesty. Acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and can result in the failure of a course and dismissal from the University.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion-the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit, the abuse of resource materials, and misrepresentation of credentials or accomplishments as a member of the college.

The University's policy on academic honesty and appeal procedures can be found in the manual entitled Student Guidelines, distributed by Division of Student Services. (Reference Section 5.3 of the SHSU Student Guidelines)

### **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. 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). This request must be made within the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. 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.

### **DISABLED STUDENT POLICY:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that “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.” The physically impaired may contact the Director of the Counseling Center as chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disable Students by telephone (ext 1720).

### **MAKE UP POLICY:**

It is my position that an instructor is not under any obligation to give a make-up exam. Only with prior approval or under extreme circumstances will a make up exam be given. Examples of valid excuses include serious illnesses, deaths in the family, or compelling circumstances beyond the student’s control. If you are going to miss an exam it is your responsibility to notify me prior to the missed exam to schedule a make-up exam. All make-up exams will be fill in the blank and short answer essay. In order to take the exam you will need to bring documentation with you (medical notes, obituary, etc.) to enter the examination site.

### Tentative Schedule

Date(s)	Topic(s)	Chapter(s)
1/17	Syllabus and Course Introduction	None
1/18	Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior	Chapter 1
1/22	Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior	Chapter 1
1/24	Determining Moral Behavior	Chapter 2
1/29	Determining Moral Behavior	Chapter 2
1/31	Making Ethical Decisions	Chapter 3
2/5	Making Ethical Decisions	Chapter 3
2/7	Exam #1	
2/12	Origins and Concepts of Justice	Chapter 4
2/14	Origins and Concepts of Justice	Chapter 4
2/19	Law and the Individual	Chapter 5
2/21	Law and the Individual	Chapter 5
2/26	Ethics and the Criminal Justice Professional	Chapter 6
2/28	Ethics and the Criminal Justice Professional	Chapter 6
3/4	Ethics and the Criminal Justice Professional	Chapter 6
3/6	Exam #2	
3/11	Spring Break	
3/13	Spring Break	
3/18	The Police Role in Society	Chapter 7
3/20	Corruption and the Code	Chapter 8
3/25	Corruption and the Code	Chapter 8
3/27	Nobel-Cause Corruption	Chapter 9
4/1	Noble-Cause Corruption	Chapter 9
4/3	Ethics and Legal Professionals	Chapter 10
4/8	Exam #3	
4/10	Justice and Judicial Ethics	Chapter 11
4/15	Justice and Judicial Ethics	Chapter 11
4/17	The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections	Chapter 12
4/22	The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections	Chapter 12
4/24	Ethics and Institutional Corrections	Chapter 13
4/29	Ethics and Institutional Corrections	Chapter 13
5/1	Ethics and Community Corrections	Chapter 14
5/6	Ethics and Community Corrections	Chapter 14
5/8	Review for Final	
5/10-5/15	Finals	