

CRCJ 5342 Ethics in Criminal Justice

Section 001

Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

The University of Texas at Arlington

** This schedule is tentative and is subject to change as the semester progresses

Instructor: Seokjin Jeong

Office: UH 305

Office Hour:

Tuesday 12:30 pm ~ 2:00 pm

Thursday 12:30 pm ~ 2:00 pm

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Spring 2016

Classroom: UH 13

Class Hour: Tuesday/Thursday

5:30 pm ~ 6:50 pm

Credit Hours: 3 Credit

Course Description:

This course focuses on the ethical decisions and dilemmas encountered in the criminal justice system. Topics covered include criteria for ethical decision making, professional codes of ethics, and the presentation of these issues in popular culture and media. The main objectives for this class are for students to develop a thorough understanding of the following concepts: 1) The historical development of ethical concepts in our society; 2) The relationship between these ethical concepts and the criminal justice system; 3) The dilemmas these ethical concepts place upon the criminal justice system from the standpoint of practitioners.

Upon satisfactorily completing the course, students will be able to demonstrate, both orally and in writing, the following: 1) An in-depth knowledge of the predominant ethical systems in our society; 2) An understanding of the importance of ethics to the criminal justice system; 3) An understanding of the consequences of ethical, and unethical, decision making for criminal justice practitioners; 4) Finally, an understanding of the importance of ethics to criminal justice practitioners and to the overall criminal justice system.

Course Prerequisites:

N/A

Course Materials:

Pollock, J. M. (2014). *Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Banks, C. (2013). *Criminal Justice Ethics*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Course Requirements:

Grades will be determined by; (i) 2 exams; (ii) 1 in-class presentation; and (iii) final paper.

Grades will be based on two exams, one writing assignment, and an in-class presentation. Each exam will count for 100 points. For the writing assignment, you will be asked to write a paper on a specific program, policy, or crime control strategy that reflects one of the ethical issues covered in the class (worth 100 points). In addition, in-class presentation is worth 100 points of your final grade.

Exams:

Two exams will be given to evaluate students' progress in this course. The exams may include multiple choice, short answer, and/or essay questions. All exams will cover material from lecture, discussion, and readings. More information will be given before each exam. All students are required to take exams on the dates listed in the course outline. Should an emergency arise that makes it impossible to make it to an exam, you will need to present a documented excuse indicating the reason for emergency. (200 points)

In-Class Presentations:

Each student will present **FIVE ARTICLES** to the class. Your topic will correspond with the assigned topic (listed in the class schedule) on the date of your presentation. This presentation is based on research a peer-reviewed journal articles (published within the past 10 years) from a professional journal. (100 points)

Writing Requirements (Final Paper):

All papers must represent the work of the individual student. Papers are due at the beginning of class; late papers will be penalized points each day past the due date (papers submitted after the 7:00 pm on due date will be penalized one full day). Plagiarism will not be tolerated. All papers should be typed, spell checked, and clearly written. Poorly written papers and excessive spelling and grammatical errors will be penalized.

The paper must conform with the APA guidelines for citing references and for constructing reference lists. Examples of in-text citations and reference formatting will be provided in a handout in class. For more detailed guidelines, please refer to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th Edition.

Additional Notes:

Consistently coming to class late, leaving in the middle of lecture, holding private conversations, or sleeping during class are very distracting and may result in the lowering of your final grade in

this course. Please follow general rules of courtesy and respect for others during discussion. Cell phones and other electronic equipment must be turned off or stowed away during class, unless permission to use such devices has been granted by the instructor. If you need to get a hold of me, the best way to reach me is through office hour.

Academic Honesty:

Academic dishonesty is described as (i) turn in an exam, paper or project that is not your work; (ii) copy answers from another student's exam or quiz; (iii) have another person take a test or complete assignments for you; and (iv) submit the same paper for two or more classes.

Plagiarism is a particular form of cheating that involves representing someone else's work as your own, may include (i) copying sentences or phrases from the work of another without a citation; (ii) using someone else's original idea without citation; and (iii) failing to reference the source of data or facts.

Consequences of academic dishonesty and plagiarism can be severe. It may result in a zero grade in the course and removal from the program. If students are unclear about the Academic honesty policy, you are encouraged to consult the appropriate section in UTA resource.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Student Feedback Survey:

At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory will be asked to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS) about the course and how it was taught. Instructions on how to access the SFS system will be sent directly to students through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback data is required by state law; student participation in the SFS program is voluntary.

Final Review Week:

A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Grading Schema

The following scale will be used for your grading:

Total Points (%)	Grade Point
91 – 100	A
81 – 90	B
71 – 80	C
61 – 70	D
60 or less	F

Course Schedule:

Date	Subject	Reading(s)
1/19	Overview and Introduction	
1/21	Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior Determining Moral Behavior	Pollock Ch1 ~ Ch2 Banks Ch1
1/26	Justice and Law Becoming Ethical Professional	Pollock Ch3 ~ Ch4
1/28	CJ Ethics	Assigned Readings
2/2	Police Role - 1	Pollock Ch5 & Banks Ch2
2/4	Police Role - 2	Assigned Readings
2/9	Police Discretion - 1	Pollock Ch6 & Banks Ch3
2/11	Police Discretion - 2	Assigned Readings
2/16	Police Corruption - 1	Pollock Ch7
2/18	Police Corruption - 2	Assigned Readings
2/23	Law and Legal Profession – 1	Pollock Ch8 & Banks Ch4
2/25	Law and Legal Profession – 2	Assigned Readings
3/1	Discretion in the Legal Profession & Ethical Misconduct - 1	Pollock Ch9 ~ Ch10
3/3	Discretion in the Legal Profession & Ethical Misconduct – 2	Assigned Readings
3/8	Review for Exam 1	
3/10	Exam 1	
3/15	Spring Vacation	
3/17	Spring Vacation	
3/22	Punishment and Corrections -1	Pollock Ch11 & Banks Ch6

3/24	Punishment and Corrections -2	Assigned Readings
3/29	Library Research	
3/31	Library Research	
4/5	Discretion in Corrections & Ethical Misconduct - 1	Pollock Ch12 ~ Ch13
4/7	Discretion in Corrections & Ethical Misconduct - 2	Assigned Readings
4/12	War on Terror & Media Ethics - 1	Banks Ch8 ~ Ch9
4/14	War on Terror & Media Ethics - 2	Assigned Readings
4/19	The application of Ethics - 1	Banks Ch10 ~ Ch12
4/21	The application of Ethics - 2	Assigned Readings
4/26	The application of Ethics - 3 (Tentative)	Banks Ch13 ~ Ch15
4/28	The application of Ethics - 4 (Tentative)	Assigned Readings
5/3	Review for Final Exam	
5/5	Final Exam/Paper Due	

Course requirements are subject to change at the instructor's discretion. The class will be informed of any changes in scheduling, assigned readings, or grading policy by notice from the instructor.