

**CRM 495-898 Criminal Justice Ethics
Spring 2017**

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:15-1:00 p.m. Also by appointment.

Welcome to our course! This syllabus will provide you with important information concerning our course, university & classroom policies, required materials, my expectations of you, and what you can expect from me. Please take the time to read our syllabus thoroughly and let me know if you have any questions.

Course Description: This course will address ethical issues in the criminal justice system at both the theoretical and applied levels. Students will examine critical issues encountered by victims, offenders, and practitioners within the criminal justice system. Emphasis will be placed on ethical dilemmas in the police, court, and corrections systems.

Required Course Texts: We have one required textbook (cited below). Supplemental readings may be provided to you at any time throughout the course.

Banks, C. (2017). *Criminal justice ethics* (4th ed.). Los Angeles, CA: Sage

Student Learning Outcomes: Below are my projected learning outcomes for you as a student in this course.

The Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice is committed to six core learning outcomes for its students which you can read at:

http://criminology.missouristate.edu/undergraduate/Learning_Outcomes.htm

As follows, this course addresses five of those six learning outcomes:

- *SLO1: Students will demonstrate academic proficiency in the core criminal justice areas (law enforcement, law, and corrections). Assignments that will assess this outcome include quizzes and journals.*
- *SLO2: Students will be able to communicate effectively, orally and in writing, using appropriate references and technologies. We will assess written communication skills through the writing portfolio assignment and journals.*

- *SLO4: Students will be able to evaluate ethical issues related to the criminal justice system and criminology.* Assignments such as journals and the writing portfolio will assess this learning outcome.
- *SLO5: Students will identify issues of diversity and human rights in relation to the workings of the criminal justice system and criminology.* This learning outcome will be assessed through the writing portfolio and journals.
- *SLO6: Students will employ critical thinking skills when evaluating issues in criminology and criminal justice.* This learning outcome will be assessed through the writing portfolio and journals.

In addition to the student learning outcomes identified by our department, the following learning outcomes are specific to this course.

- *Students will become proficient in concepts and terms relevant to normative and applied ethics as they relate to criminology and the criminal justice system.* We will assess this learning outcome through quizzes.
- *Students will be able to articulate and support their own positions and values concerning a variety of ethical issues related to the criminal justice system.* We will assess this learning outcome through the writing portfolio and journals.
- *Students will be able to identify connections between ethical theories, social norms, and criminal justice policies.* We will assess this learning outcome through the writing portfolio and journals.

Classroom & University Policies: Below are important classroom and University policies. Please read carefully.

Late Work

Late work is not accepted in this class unless a specific hardship or emergency warrants an exception. Should an emergency occur that will impact your ability to submit an assignment on time, please let me know right away. If I deem that the situation warrants an extension, accommodations will be made. Please note that it is important to me as an instructor that all of my students are given equal opportunities. Extensions will not be given without careful consideration and appropriate verification.

Final Grades

It is important to me that all of my students are treated equally, fairly, and given the same opportunities to earn points and achieve the grade that reflects their ability and effort. I therefore do not adjust final grades by curving, rounding up or down, or offering certain students extra credit opportunities that are not offered to all students. Once your final grade is accurately calculated, it is final and will not be adjusted or changed. Appeals and requests due to hardship need to be communicated to me at the time of the disabling or distracting event, not after your final grade has been calculated.

Communication

It is important to me that I have good communication with my students. In an online course, email is the most efficient way to reach me. I work hard to respond to student emails within 48 business hours. If you do not hear back from me within two business days, please follow up with me.

Academic Integrity

Missouri State University is a community of scholars committed to developing educated persons who accept the responsibility to practice personal and academic integrity. You are responsible for knowing and following the University's academic integrity policy plus additional more-specific policies for each class. The University policy, formally known as the "Student Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures" is available online at http://www.missouristate.edu/policy/Op3_01_AcademicIntegrityStudents.htm and also at the Reserves Desk in Meyer Library. Any student participating in any form of academic dishonesty will be subject to sanctions as described in this policy. Any student participating in any form of academic dishonesty (as defined by the university) will be subject to sanctions as described in this policy. Please note that any person plagiarizing will receive a "0" for the assignment and risks the possibility of an "F" or "XF" for the course. This means that you must turn in original work created by you specifically for this course, as well as cite authors that you paraphrase or quote in your papers, assignments, and in our online discussion forums. If you have any questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty you need to ask me (your instructor) and/or refer to the University's policy. Please note that all of your written assignments will be run through Safe Assign in order to check for incidents of plagiarism and duplicate submission.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Missouri State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, and maintains a grievance procedure available to any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against. At all times, it is your right to address inquiries or concerns about possible discrimination to the Office for Institutional Equity and Compliance, Park Central Office Building, 117 Park Central Square, Suite 111, 417-836-4252. Other types of concerns (i.e., concerns of an academic nature) should be discussed directly with your instructor and can also be brought to the attention of your instructor's Department Head. Please visit the OED website at www.missouristate.edu/equity/. It is personally important to me that we create a learning environment together where no student experiences discrimination due to sex, age, sexual and/or gender identity, race or ethnicity, religious affiliation, political affiliation, or economic status. Please work with me in cultivating and maintaining such an environment, and alert me quickly to any indication of discrimination in our class or campus.

Statement on Disability Accommodation

To request academic accommodations for a disability, contact the Director of the Disability Resource Center, Meyer Library, Suite 111, 417-836-4192 or 417-836-6792 (TTY), www.missouristate.edu/disability/contact.htm. Students are required to provide documentation of disability to the Disability Resource Center prior to receiving accommodations. The Disability Resource Center refers some types of accommodation requests to the Learning Diagnostic Clinic, which also provides diagnostic testing for

learning and psychological disabilities. For information about testing, contact the Director of the Learning Diagnostic Clinic, 417-836-4787, <http://psychology.missouristate.edu/ldc>.

Cell Phone Policy

As a member of the learning community, each student has a responsibility to other students who are members of the community. When cell phones or pagers ring and students respond in class or leave class to respond, it disrupts the class. Therefore, the Office of the Provost prohibits the use by students of cell phones, pagers, PDAs, or similar communication devices during scheduled classes. All such devices must be turned off or put in a silent (vibrate) mode and ordinarily should not be taken out during class. Given the fact that these same communication devices are an integral part of the university's emergency notification system, an exception to this policy would occur when numerous devices activate simultaneously. When this occurs, students may consult their devices to determine if a university emergency exists. If that is not the case, the devices should be immediately returned to silent mode and put away. Other exceptions to this policy may be granted at the discretion of the instructor.

Emergency Response Statement

At the first class meeting, students should become familiar with a basic emergency response plan through a dialogue with the instructor that includes a review and awareness of exits specific to the classroom and the location of evacuation centers for the building. All instructors are provided this information specific to their classroom and/or lab assignments in an e-mail prior to the beginning of the fall semester from the Office of the Provost and Safety and Transportation. Students with disabilities impacting mobility should discuss the approved accommodations for emergency situations and additional options when applicable with the instructor. For more information go to <http://www.missouristate.edu/safetran/51597.htm> and <http://www.missouristate.edu/safetran/erp.htm>.

Dropping a Class

It is your responsibility to understand the University's procedure for dropping a class. If you stop attending this class but do not follow proper procedure for dropping the class, you will receive a failing grade and will also be financially obligated to pay for the class. For information about dropping a class or withdrawing from the university, contact the Office of the Registrar at 836-5520.

Audio and Video Recording Course Activity

Students may make audio or video recordings of course activity. However, the redistribution of audio or video recordings from the course to individuals who are not students in the class is prohibited without the express permission of the faculty member and any of the students who are recorded.

Religious Accommodation

The University may provide a reasonable accommodation based on a person's sincerely held religious belief. In making this determination, the University reviews a variety of factors, including whether the accommodation would create an undue hardship. The

accommodation request imposes responsibilities and obligations on both the individual requesting the accommodation and the University. Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or other assignments as a consequence of their sincerely held religious belief shall be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious observances on which they will be absent by submitting a *Request for Religious Accommodation Form* to the instructor by the end of the third week of a full semester course or the end of the second week of a half semester course.

Course Assignments & Grading: Below you will find details concerning course assignments and grading. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Writing Portfolio: We will use this course to introduce you to three specific writing forms relevant to the study of ethics: thought papers, persuasive essays, and policy proposals. You will be given detailed instructions on each of these paper types and asked to write two brief thought papers, one persuasive essay, and one policy proposal.

Quizzes: There will be 14 short quizzes in our course used to assess knowledge and completion of assigned readings. These will be due by 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday of the week in which they are due. Though you may use your book while taking the quiz, each one will be timed so you are strongly encouraged to read and review the assigned material before taking the quiz.

Online Journal and Discussion: Since this is an online course, we will engage with one another online through regular written reflections (journals) and class discussion. Prompts for journals and discussion will be provided to you during the module in which they are due. Please note that your journals and discussion (response) posts are scored separately.

Points Breakdown

Quizzes (14 quizzes @ 10 points each)	140 points
Journal: (13 journals @ 10 points each)	130 points
Discussion (15 modules @ 5 points each)	75 points
Thought Papers (2 @ 20 points each)	40 points
Persuasive Essay	60 points
Policy Proposal	100 points
Total	545 points

Grading Structure

A= 90%-100%

B= 80%-89.99%

C= 70%-79.99%

D= 60%-69.99%

F= Below 60%

Course Schedule

Below is a projected schedule for our course together; however, we may make adjustments as needed throughout the semester. **Please note that in each module I may assign additional supplemental reading not listed on this schedule.** Please note that participation requirements (such as discussion forums) are not listed here as assignments. You will need to log onto to our blackboard course site regularly to find weekly participation requirements.

Module	Dates	Topic	Readings	Major Assignments
Module 1	Tuesday January 17 – Sunday January 22	Getting Started	(none)	M1 Journal due Thursday January 19; Student Profile Sheet & Syllabus Quiz due Sunday January 22
Module 2	Monday January 23 – Sunday January 29	The Importance of Ethics in Criminal Justice	Chapter 1	M2 Quiz due Wednesday January 25 & M2 Journal due Thursday January 26
Module 3	Monday January 30 – Sunday February 5	Normative Ethics – Part I	Chapters 12 & 13	M3 Quiz due Wednesday February 1 & M3 Journal due Thursday February 2
Module 4	Monday February 6 – Sunday February 12	Normative Ethics – Part II	Chapters 14 & 15	M4 Quiz due Wednesday February 8 & M4 Journal due Thursday February 9

Module 5	Monday February 13 – Sunday February 19	Normative Ethics – Part III	Chapters 16 & 17	M5 Quiz due Wednesday February 15 & M5 Journal due Thursday February 16
Module 6	Monday February 20 – Sunday February 26	Applied Ethics – Policing Part I	Chapter 2	M6 Quiz due Wednesday February 22 & M6 Journal due Thursday February 23
Module 7	Monday February 27 – Sunday March 5	Applied Ethics – Policing Part II	Chapter 3	M7 Quiz due Wednesday March 1 & Thought Paper #1 due Thursday March 2
Module 8	Monday March 6 – Friday March 10	Applied Ethics – Racial Discrimination in the CJS	Chapter 4	M8 Quiz due Wednesday March 8 & M8 Journal due Thursday March 9
	Saturday March 11 – Sunday March 19	Spring Break		
Module 9	Monday March 20 – Sunday March 26	Applied Ethics – The Courts	Chapter 5	M9 Quiz due Wednesday March 22 & M9 Journal due Thursday March 23
Module 10	Monday March 27 – Sunday April 2	Applied Ethics - Punishment	Chapter 6	M10 Quiz due Wednesday March 29 & Thought Paper #2 due Thursday March 30
Module 11	Monday April 3 – Sunday April 9	Applied Ethics – Corrections Part I	Chapter 7	M11 Quiz due Wednesday April 5 & M11 Journal due Thursday April 6

Module 12	Monday April 10 – Wednesday April 12			Persuasive Essay due Wednesday April 12
	Thursday April 13 – Sunday April 16	Spring Holiday		
Module 13	Monday April 17 – Sunday April 23	Applied Ethics - Corrections Part II	Chapter 8	M13 Quiz due Wednesday April 19 & M13 Journal due Thursday April 20
Module 14	Monday April 24 – Sunday April 30	Applied Ethics – Criminal Justice Policy	Chapter 9	M14 Quiz due Wednesday April 26 & M14 Journal due Thursday April 27
Module 15	Monday May 1 – Sunday May 7	Applied Ethics – Sexuality	Supplemental – to be provided	M15 Quiz due Wednesday May 3 & M15 Journal due Thursday May 4
Module 16	Monday May 8 – Thursday May 11	Wrapping Up		M16 Journal & Policy Proposal due Thursday May 11