

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Contact Hours:** This is a 3-credit course, offered in accelerated format. This means that 16 weeks of material is covered in 8 weeks. The exact number of hours per week that you can expect to spend on each course will vary based upon the weekly coursework, as well as your study style and preferences. You should plan to spend 14-20 hours per week in each course reading material, interacting on the discussion boards, writing papers, completing projects, and doing research.

**Faculty Information:** Faculty contact information and office hours can be found on the faculty profile page.

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTCOMES**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

In this course, students explore the study of theory, practice, and applications of ethics in criminal justice. Students engage in a philosophical undertaking that seeks to understand and justify moral standards and policies and practices that are presently applied to the occupations that comprise the criminal justice system. The course fosters the students understanding of economics, ethics, law, and power towards constructs of morality.

**COURSE OVERVIEW:**

Within eight learning modules, students will analyze ethical dilemmas facing criminal justice personnel via application of theoretical frameworks. Students will also: 1. dissect various codes of ethics pertaining to federal, state and local employees; 2. engage in interactive scenarios relative to ethical decision making; 3. utilize multimedia presentations to determine the “right thing to do” in challenging criminal justice situations; and, 4. formulate a plan for maintaining themselves as ethical scholar/practitioners through their career. The course will also explore criminal justice ethical issues within international contexts.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. Assess cross cultural theories of morality and ethics.
2. Analyze how ethical systems are central to decisions involving legal definitions and policies and practices.
3. Evaluate the ethical consequences of various actions.
4. Describe the application of ethical frameworks in decisions involving force, due process, and rights.
5. Determine the international perspective on ethics in criminal justice.

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## **PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE**

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Prompt and consistent attendance in your online courses is essential for your success at CSU-Global Campus. Failure to verify your attendance within the first 7 days of this course may result in your withdrawal. If for some reason you would like to drop a course, please contact your advisor.

Online classes have deadlines, assignments, and participation requirements just like on-campus classes. Budget your time carefully and keep an open line of communication with your instructor. If you are having technical

problems, problems with your assignments, or other problems that are impeding your progress, let your instructor know as soon as possible.

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## COURSE MATERIALS

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### Required:

Banks, C. (2017). *Criminal justice ethics: Theory and practice* (4th ed.). Los Angeles, CA: Sage Publishing. ISBN-13: 9781506326054

**NOTE:** All non-textbook required readings and materials necessary to complete assignments, discussions, and/or supplemental or required exercises are provided within the course itself. Please read through each course module carefully.

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## COURSE SCHEDULE

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### Due Dates

The Academic Week at CSU-Global begins on Monday and ends the following Sunday.

- **Discussion Boards:** The original post must be completed by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. MT and peer responses posted by Sunday 11:59 p.m. MT. Late posts may not be awarded points.
- **Critical Thinking:** Assignments are due Sunday at 11:59 p.m. MT.

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## WEEKLY READING AND ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

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### MODULE 1

#### Readings

- Chapters 1, 12, 14, & 15 in *Criminal justice ethics: Theory and practice* (4th ed.)

#### Discussion (25 points)

### MODULE 2

#### Readings

- Chapters 2 & 3 in *Criminal justice ethics: Theory and practice* (4th ed.)

#### Discussion (25 points)

#### Critical Thinking (100 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

#### **Option #1: Three Court Cases Analyze Use of Force**

Analyze the three Supreme Court cases: *Tennessee v. Garner* (1985), *Graham v. Connor* (1989), and *Scott v. Harris* (2007) that shaped how the use of force for police is determined. In your discussion, you should address the following:

1. the relevant facts of each case;
2. when is the use of force justified;
3. address the test, or standard, that the court applied in determining whether use of force is justified; and
4. discuss one way in which this provides adherence to the Officers Code of Ethics.

#### **Submission Requirements**

- Your well-written paper should be 4-6 pages in length not including the required cover and references pages.
- Support your paper with at least 4-6 scholarly references (of which the textbook may be one). The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

### **Option #2: Entrapment, or not?**

Assume that you are a police officer. Your assignment is to impersonate an individual that seeks to buy narcotics from a dealer in order to arrest the dealer engaging in the transaction. This dealer is known to be trafficking large amounts of narcotics, but he has eluded arrest for quite some time. After months of transactions caught on video surveillance, you successfully arrest the dealer. In the trial that follows, his attorney argues this was entrapment. In your paper, discuss whether this was or was not entrapment. In your argument you must address the following (but you may add to these questions if you wish):

1. What is entrapment, specifically?
2. What are the conditions that must be met for entrapment?
3. In what ways does this scenario meet/not meet the criterion for entrapment?
4. If it does not meet the criterion for entrapment, what elements are needed?

### **Submission Requirements:**

- Your well-written paper should be 4-6 pages in length not including the required cover and references pages.
- Support your paper with at least 4-6 scholarly references (of which the textbook may be one). The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

## **MODULE 3**

### **Readings**

- Chapters 4 & 5 in *Criminal Justice Ethics: Theory and Practice* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.)

### **Discussion (25 points)**

### **Critical Thinking (100 points)**

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

#### **Option #1: Ethics of Data Privacy**

In 2015, terrorists attacked in San Bernardino, CA. FBI agents recovered a cell phone used by one of the terrorists. The FBI was not able to access the information on the phone because it was locked with a 4-digit passcode. Apple refused to create software that would help the FBI unlock the phone citing issues of privacy and security.

Apple stated, "if the FBI made it easier to unlock your iPhone, it would have the power to reach into anyone's device to capture their data." Is there a point at which we should be willing to give up our privacy? Should cell phone carriers be required to unlock phones for criminal investigations without a person's consent?

### **Submission Requirements**

- Your well-written paper should be 4-6 pages in length not including the required cover and references pages.
- Support your paper with at least 4-6 scholarly references (of which the textbook may be one). The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

### **Option #2: Ethical Issues and Excessive Caseloads**

Public defenders have long labored with excessive caseloads while being under-funded. Some have argued that this presents an unethical conflict of interest. In what ways do you believe this to be an ethical conflict? In your discussion you also address the following:

1. What is the responsibility of the defense attorney to the client?
2. Are there specific ethical requirements you believe exist for the defense attorney?
3. What ethical conflicts arise when the public defender has an excessive caseload (i.e., quality of representation; rigorous defense of client's case, etc.)?

#### **Submission Requirements**

- Your well-written paper should be 4-6 pages in length not including the required cover and references pages.
- Support your paper with at least 4-6 scholarly references (of which the textbook may be one). The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

#### **Portfolio Milestone (10 points)**

##### **Options 1 & 2**

Look at Option 1 of the Portfolio Project due in Week 8. Please provide the name and mission statement(s) of the agency or agencies you are choosing to use for your project. Include a draft of your introductory paragraph. Be sure to format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

#### **MODULE 4**

##### **Readings**

- Chapters 6, 7, & 8 in *Criminal Justice Ethics: Theory and Practice* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.)

##### **Discussion (25 points)**

##### **Critical Thinking (100 points)**

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

##### **Option #1: Ethical Corrections Officers**

Review the literature on the topic of the ethical dilemmas facing corrections officers. Investigate any one of the topics below (or another ethical dilemma you find in the textbook or in your research) and analyze the dilemma through the lenses of deontology and utilitarianism:

- Introducing contraband to jail/prison facilities
- Sexual relationships with inmates
- Misuse of funds or equipment
- Inmate labor
- Discrimination
- Excessive force

##### **Submission Requirements:**

- Your well-written paper should be 4-6 pages in length not including the required cover and references pages.
- Support your paper with at least 4-6 scholarly references (of which the textbook may be one). The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

##### **Option #2: Downsizing Prisons**

In the 1970s the United States prison population increased as a result of a belief that incarceration improves public safety. This continued until the 1990s when politicians told the public that if we didn't build more prisons

we would have to tolerate increased rates of violent crime. As a result of prison over-crowding, the politicians are now seeking ways to reduce the prison population without endangering the public.

In 2006, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proclaimed the prison system to be in an Overcrowding State of Emergency such that health and safety was reaching a critical concern. The Supreme Court ruled in *Brown v. Plata* (2011) that the prison population was to be reduced by 137%, or 33,000 inmates at the time.

Please read the article below (linked in the assignment) on downsizing prisons and answer the following questions.

Sundt, J., Salisbury, E. J., & Harmon, M. G. (2016). Is downsizing prisons dangerous? *Criminology & Public Policy*, 15(2), 315-341. doi:10.1111/1745-9133.12199.

1. Do you agree with the premise that prisons increase public safety?
2. Do you agree with the court's mandate to reduce the prison population so drastically in such a short period of time? Can this be done without endangering public safety?

#### **Submission Requirements:**

- Your well-written paper should be 4-6 pages in length not including the required cover and references pages.
- Support your paper with at least 4-6 scholarly references (of which the textbook may be one). The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

## **MODULE 5**

### **Readings**

- Chapters 9 & 10 in *Criminal justice ethics: Theory and practice* (4th ed.)

### **Discussion (25 points)**

### **Portfolio Milestone (40 points)**

#### **Options 1 & 2**

As part of your Portfolio Project due in Module 8, you will submit this week an outline of your Portfolio Project and provide an annotated bibliography that includes at least 10-12 academic sources.

- Format your entire submission following the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.
- Identify how your selected sources are relevant to the major components of your paper.
- You will be required to account for the instructor's feedback in your final version of the project.
- For more information on writing outlines and annotated bibliographies, visit the CSU-Global Writing Center.

## **MODULE 6**

### **Readings**

- Chapter 11 in *Criminal justice ethics: Theory and practice* (4th ed.)
- Felger, B., & Lesinger, G. (2017). Media responsibility during the coverage of terrorist attacks - a case study of the abduction and execution of the Croatian citizen Tomislav Salopek. *Communication Today*, 8(2), 4-17.
- Rhineberger-dunn, G., Briggs, S. J., & Rader, N. (2016). Clearing crime in prime-time: The disjuncture between fiction and reality. *American Journal of Criminal Justice*, 41(2), 255-278.
- Wright, V., & Unah, I. (2017). Media exposure and racialized perceptions of inequities in criminal justice. *Social Sciences*, 6(3), 67. doi:10.3390/socsci6030067

## **Discussion (25 points)**

### **Critical Thinking (100 points)**

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

#### **Option #1: Media Influence on Terrorism**

Examine the extent to which media stereotypes have influenced the war on terror. Do you think that the influence has been positive or negative? Have the media played a role in the construction of terrorism? In your paper, you must consider the following: (You are not limited to these topics and may choose to address others.)

1. Have the media played a role in demonizing specific ethnic/minority groups and in what ways has this happened?
2. Do you see any similarities or differences in how the media portray the war on terror v. the war on crime?
3. How do you think that the media have engaged in a rhetoric of terror?

#### **Submission Requirements:**

- Your well-written paper should be 4-6 pages in length not including the required cover and references pages.
- Support your paper with at least 4-6 scholarly references (of which the textbook may be one). The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

#### **Option #2: Media Coverage of Police Violence**

Evaluate the implications for media coverage in cases of police violence against racial minorities. How has this affected police legitimacy among the public? How does this relate to the concept of the Ferguson effect? Are there implications beyond the shooting that continue into the courtroom (that is, would media make it harder or easier to prosecute cases)?

#### **Submission Requirements:**

- Your well-written paper should be 4-6 pages in length not including the required cover and references pages.
- Support your paper with at least 4-6 scholarly references (of which the textbook may be one). The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

## **MODULE 7**

### **Readings**

- Chapter 6, pp. 171-173, in *Criminal justice ethics: Theory and practice* (4th ed.)
- Daly, K. (2016). What is restorative justice? Fresh answers to a vexed question. *Victims & Offenders*, 11(1), 9-29.
- Sliva, S. M. (2016). The adoption of restorative justice legislation as a state policy response to criminal justice concerns: A mixed methods inquiry. *PsycINFO*, 76(12-A(E)). Retrieved from [https://uta-ir.tdl.org/uta-ir/bitstream/handle/10106/25103/Sliva\\_uta\\_2502D\\_13162.pdf?sequence=1](https://uta-ir.tdl.org/uta-ir/bitstream/handle/10106/25103/Sliva_uta_2502D_13162.pdf?sequence=1)

## **Discussion (25 points)**

### **Critical Thinking (50 points)**

Choose one of the following two career development assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

#### **Option 1: Career Development Criteria: Internship Positions**

For this assignment you should research internship positions in your chosen degree field. Develop a well-written paper that includes a link to the description for two (2) internships and provide a summary of how the positions relate to your degree field.

The paper should meet the following requirements:

- Be 2-3 pages in length
- Be formatted according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

### **Option 2: Career Development Criteria: Certification in Chosen Field**

For this assignment you should research at least one certification in your chosen degree field. Develop a well-written paper that includes a link to the description for this certification and provide a summary of how the certification relates to your degree field.

The paper should meet the following requirements:

- Be 2-3 pages in length
- Be formatted according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

## **MODULE 8**

### **Readings**

- Collica-Cox, K., & Sullivan, L. (2017). Why retribution matters: Progression not regression. *Theory in Action, 10*(2), 41-57.

### **Discussion (25 points)**

### **Portfolio Project (300 points)**

#### **Option #1: Ethical Analysis of a Code of Ethics**

Apply what you've learned in this course to an analysis of a canon or code of ethics for a criminal justice agency. The code of ethics section in the policy manual usually precedes the directives and orders governing the rules and regulations of the agency. The Canon of Ethics is a code for employee behavior and conduct.

Include in your paper the following:

- the name of the agency;
- the mission statement of the agency;
- your evaluation of how the agency screens for ethical employees (i.e., background check, polygraph examinations, third-party contract, psychological exams, etc.);
- how the ethics of the agency operate in governing police conduct (such as apprehension and control of suspects, etc.), the solicitation of confessions, managing evidence, or other related topics. Apply at least one ethical theory or approach covered in this course in your critical/evaluative response;
- provide an example (within the last 5 years) and a critique of how the agency has acted in a way that you believe to be in violation of its code of ethics; and
- select a canon/code and discuss the ethical foundations forming at least eight of its sections (also called canons or articles).

#### **Submission Requirements:**

- Your well-written plan should be 10-12 pages in length, not including the required title and references pages. Headings and sub-headings may help you organize your work.
- Include at least 10-12 academic or other legitimate sources (not including your textbook) to support your findings. The CSU-Global Library can help you with finding quality resources.
- Review the Portfolio Project grading rubric, which can be accessed from the Module 8 folder.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

- Please be sure to reach out to your instructor at any point in the course if you have questions about the assignment.

### **Option #2: Comparative Ethical Analysis**

Apply what you've learned in this course to an analysis that compares and contrasts a canon or code of ethics for a U.S. federal criminal justice agency and for an international law enforcement agency.

Include in your paper:

- the name of the two agencies;
- the mission statements of the two agencies;
- your evaluation of how each agency might screen for ethical employees (i.e., background check, polygraph examinations, third-party contacts, psychological exams, etc.). Apply at least one ethical theory or approach covered in this course in your critical/evaluative response;
- compare/contrast how the agencies might interact with each other or with similar criminal justice agencies; and
- compare/contrast how the agencies might handle a) ethics governing police conduct (such as apprehension and control of suspects); b) solicitation of confessions, managing evidence, or related topics; and c) gifts, favors, gratuities, etc.

### **Submission Requirements:**

- Your well-written plan should be 10-12 pages in length, not including the required title or references pages. Headings and sub-headings may help you organize your work.
- Include at least 10-12 academic or other legitimate sources to support your findings, not including your textbook. The CSU-Global Library can help you with finding quality resources.
- Review the Portfolio grading rubric, which can be accessed from the Module 8 folder.
- Format your paper according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.
- Please be sure to reach out to your instructor at any point in the course if you have questions about the assignment.

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## COURSE POLICIES

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### Course Grading

20% Discussion Participation  
45% Critical Thinking Assignments  
35% Final Portfolio Project

| Grading Scale |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| A             | 95.0 – 100    |
| A-            | 90.0 – 94.9   |
| B+            | 86.7 – 89.9   |
| B             | 83.3 – 86.6   |
| B-            | 80.0 – 83.2   |
| C+            | 75.0 – 79.9   |
| C             | 70.0 – 74.9   |
| D             | 60.0 – 69.9   |
| F             | 59.9 or below |

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## IN-CLASSROOM POLICIES

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For information on late work and incomplete grade policies, please refer to our [In-Classroom Student Policies and Guidelines](#) or the Academic Catalog for comprehensive documentation of CSU-Global institutional policies.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students must assume responsibility for maintaining honesty in all work submitted for credit and in any other work designated by the instructor of the course. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, reusing /repurposing your own work (see *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements* for percentage of repurposed work that can be used in an assignment), unauthorized possession of academic materials, and unauthorized collaboration. The CSU-Global Library provides information on how students can avoid plagiarism by understanding what it is and how to use the Library and Internet resources.

### **Citing Sources with APA Style**

All students are expected to follow the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements* when citing in APA (based on the APA Style Manual, 6th edition) for all assignments. For details on CSU-Global APA style, please review the APA resources within the CSU-Global Library under the “APA Guide & Resources” link. A link to this document should also be provided within most assignment descriptions in your course.

### **Disability Services Statement**

CSU-Global is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability requesting academic accommodations should contact the Disability Resource Coordinator at 720-279-0650 and/or email [ada@CSUGlobal.edu](mailto:ada@CSUGlobal.edu) for additional information to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

### **Netiquette**

Respect the diversity of opinions among the instructor and classmates and engage with them in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner. All posts and classroom communication must be conducted in accordance with the student code of conduct. Think before you push the Send button. Did you say just what you meant? How will the person on the other end read the words?

Maintain an environment free of harassment, stalking, threats, abuse, insults, or humiliation toward the instructor and classmates. This includes, but is not limited to, demeaning written or oral comments of an ethnic, religious, age, disability, sexist (or sexual orientation), or racist nature; and the unwanted sexual advances or intimidations by email, or on discussion boards and other postings within or connected to the online classroom. If you have concerns about something that has been said, please let your instructor know.