

CJUS 430, Professionalism and Ethics in Criminal Justice, Syllabus (3 credits)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Inherent in the criminal justice system is the power to make discretionary decisions of great magnitude that affect the offenders, victims, and society. This is a study of theories and practices of legality, morality, values, and ethics as they pertain and are applied in criminal justice. Included are such topics as police corruption, excessive use of force, and methods of dealing with such practices in the context of professional conduct.

REQUIRED TEXTS & RESOURCES

Pollock, J.M. (2014). *Ethical dilemmas and decisions in criminal justice*. (9th ed.). Belmont, CA: Cengage Learning. ISBN-13:978-1-235-06266-2

NOTE: The Point University Bookstore may offer this textbook (s) in other formats. Information can found at www.pointuniversityshop.com.

- Video 1: **Law Enforcement Oath of Honor (IACP)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUDczg27FI4>
- Video 2: **Why Ethics is Law Enforcement's Greatest Need.**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OVPVPvLbJUK>
- Video 3: **The importance of mindset in policing**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_29TS6jjsA
- Video 4: **How racial profiling hurts everyone, including the police**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCX_Th-ljIE
- Video 5: **Violence, Law Enforcement, Race, and Justice**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DvRGWRyziY>

COURSE SCHEDULE

Each course begins on a Wednesday with a Getting Started module before moving into the week 1-7 content. The introduce yourself forum is required during the Getting Started module in order to be counted present during this half-week of instruction. The introduce yourself forum is open from the start of the course to the first Sunday. All posts are due by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Participation is required to be marked present for this time period. Keep in mind that in future weeks, forum due dates may be different.

Unless stated otherwise, graded assignments are due on the last day of the course week (Sunday). <http://point.edu/course-schedules/>

	Learning Activities	Graded Assignments
	Unit 1: Ethics and the Criminal Justice System	
Week 1	Read Chapters 1 & 2	

	Threaded Discussion: Ethics	Due Week 1, Day 5
	Video Review: Law Enforcement Oath of Honor (6:34)	Due Week 1, Day 7
	Critical Thinking: Ethical Systems	Due Week 1, Day 7
	Unit 2:	
	Becoming an ethical criminal justice professional	
Week 2	Read Chapters 3 & 4	
	Threaded Discussion: Civil Disobedience	Due Week 2, Day 5
	Video Review: Need for Ethics	Due Week 2, Day 7
	Critical Thinking: Ideal Ethical Organization	Due Week 2, Day 7
	Unit 3:	
	The Role of Police and Their Discretion in Decision Making	
Week 3	Read Chapters 5 & 6	
	Threaded Discussion: Crime fighter or Public Servant.	Due Week 3, Day 5
	Video Review: Mindset in Policing (10:30)	Due Week 3, Day 7
	Critical Thinking: Decision Making and Policing	Due Week 3, Day 7
	Unit 4:	
	Police Corruption and Responses	
Week 4	Read Chapters 7 & 8	
	Threaded Discussion: Gratuities – Yay or Nay!	Due Week 4, Day 5
	Research Project: Draft	Due Week 4, Day 7
	Unit 5:	
	Discretion, Dilemmas, and Ethical misconduct in the legal profession	
Week 5	Read Chapters 9 & 10	
	Threaded Discussion: The Defense Attorney	Due Week 5, Day 5
	Video Review: Racial Profiling	Due Week 5, Day 7
	Critical Thinking: Judicial Activism	Due Week 5, Day 7
	Unit 6:	
	The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections	
Week 6	Read Chapters 11 & 12	
	Threaded Discussion: Justification of Punishment	Due Week 6, Day 5
	Video Review: Violence, Law Enforcement, Race and Justice	Due Week 6, Day 7
	Critical Thinking: Probation and Parole Officers	Due Week 6, Day 7
	Unit 7:	
	Correctional Professionals: Misconduct and Responses	
Week 7	Read Chapters 13 & 14	
	Threaded Discussion: The Zimbardo Experiment	Due Week 7, Day 5
	Research Project: Final	Due Week 7, Day 7

GRADING POLICIES

Course Evaluation Plan

An assessment instrument (checklist, rubric, quiz, etc.) will accompany each major graded assignment. See the instructions for specific assignment criteria and accompanying grading instruments.

Points Distribution

Graded assignments will be distributed as follows:

Graded Assignments	Points Possible
Critique of the Video Segments-----5@25	125
Discussion Topic-----7@25	175
Critical Thinking Exercises-----5@60	300
Draft one of Research project-----1@150	150
Final Research project-----1@250	250
Total Points:	1000

Final Grades

The following scale will be used when calculating final grades:

A	90-100%	D	60-69%
B	80-89%	F	0-59%
C	70-79%		

Final grades will be posted according to the Academic Calendar:

<http://point.edu/academic-calendar/>

COURSE LEARNING GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Define the concepts and theories in regard to ethics, ethical behavior, and ethical dilemmas in the criminal justice system.		Program Objective(s)
	Objective 1.1: Students will analyze key concepts and theories in regard to ethics and ethical decision making in the criminal justice system	1.1,2.1,2.2,2.3,2.4 2.1,2.2,2.3,2.4,2.7
	Objective 1.2: Students will analyze ethical dilemmas and articulate the implications of unethical behavior in the criminal justice system	1.1,2.1,2.2, 2.3, 3.1
Goal 2:	Student will articulate the two different missions of law enforcement in a democracy	1.1,1.2,2.3,2.4,2.6,2.7,3.1
	Objective 2.1: Students will analyze early theories of ethical behavior	1.1,1.2,2.2,2.3,2.5,2.6,3.1
	Objective 2.2: Students will analyze and identify Noble Cause Corruption	1.1,2.2,2.3,2.5,2.6

Goal 3:	Students will articulate the process of moral and ethical decision making when enforcing laws	
	Objective 3.1: Students will research and complete a project on a particular ethical issue in criminal justice	2.1,2.2,2.3,2.4,2.5,2.7
Goal 4:	Students articulate biblically-based professional ethical principles pertinent to social problems and the criminal justice system.	
	Objective 4.1: Students demonstrate the ability to approach discretionary decisions in criminal justice from a biblically based and professional ethical perspective.	2.1,2.2,2.3,2.4,2.5,2.7

DISABILITY SERVICES

Point University is committed to providing qualified students with disabilities an equal opportunity to access a Point education through the provision of reasonable and appropriate accommodations and support services. Accordingly, Point complies with Title IX (<https://point.edu/title-ix>) of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and the subsequent reauthorization of that act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and subsequent amendments to that act. For more information about Disability Support Services, see the “Consumer Information” section of the website (<http://point.edu/disclosures>) and the “Student Services” section of this catalog, or contact the Director of Disability Services and College Section 504 Coordinator, at disability.services@point.edu.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Attendance

A student is expected to actively participate in each week of the class in which he or she is enrolled. Active participation each academic week includes submitting classwork in one or more of the following activities within the course during the week they are due: discussion forums, assignments such as (but not limited to) projects, papers, presentations, case studies, quizzes, or exams. Students may be absent up to 25% of the class. After absences exceed 25% of the session or term’s total – in either consecutive or cumulative days – the student will be withdrawn from the class roster and assigned a grade on the basis of work completed at the time of withdrawal unless, because of exceptional circumstances, prior arrangements have been made with the professor and the Chief Academic Officer.

Students representing the university, such as student-athletes, remain responsible for submitting work online within the week it is due to be counted present. No student will be disadvantaged while representing the university. However, the responsibility is on the student to notify faculty no later than one week before missing class for any reason, to ensure time for content to be made available to them and for make-up work to be considered and arranged. It is expected that students will limit their absences outside of these required absences, as they will be dropped if they overcut the allowed number of absences.

The full attendance policy is found in the catalog (<https://point.edu/catalogs/>).

Etiquette & Netiquette

Students are expected to be respectful and well-mannered towards the instructor and their peers, whether in the physical classroom or the online course site. For guidance on meeting this expectation, particularly in the online environment, please see the materials provided during student orientation or reach out to advising.center@point.edu.

Policies

For academic policies governing attendance, late assignments, and student support, please refer to the Academic Catalog directly (<https://point.edu/catalogs/>).

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