



AJ 123: CRIMINAL JUSTICE ETHICS

Proposer:**Name:**

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Effective Term:

Fall 2023

Credit Status:

Credit - Degree Applicable

Subject:

AJ - Administration of Justice

Course Number:

123

Catalog Title

Ethics in Criminal Justice

Catalog Description

This course allows students the opportunity to explore ethical issues in the field of criminal justice through analysis and critical thinking and apply these concepts to both their professional and personal lives.

Method of Instruction:

Distance Education
Lecture and/or Discussion

Course Units/Hours:**Course Units Minimum:**

3

Lecture Hours Minimum (week)

3

Lab Hours Minimum (week)

0

Activity Hours Minimum (week)

0

Total Contact Hours Minimum (semester)

52.5

Total Outside Hours Minimum (semester)

105

Total Student Learning Minimum Hours (semester)

157.5

Repeatability:

No

Open Entry/Exit:

No

Field Trips:

Not Required

Grade Mode:

Standard Letter

TOP Code:

210500 - * Administration of Justice

SAM Code:

C - Clearly Occupational

Course Content

Methods of Assessment:

- Oral presentations
- Problem solving assignments or activities
- Problem solving quizzes or exams
- Short answer quizzes or exams
- Written essays or extended papers

Course Topics:

Course Topics	
1	Current Organizational Expectations As related to personal, societal and cultural values Application to professional codes of conduct Organizational policies and procedures
2	Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice Field Legal requirements Ethical requirements (Code of Professional Responsibility) Whistle blowing, harassment and discrimination, etc. Personal and family ethical issues
3	The "Six Pillars of Character" as Applied to Criminal Justice Professionals: application, utility and evaluation Trustworthiness Respect Responsibility Justice and Fairness Caring Civic Virtue and Citizenship
4	Ethical Decision-Making Principles How to make ethical decisions Models for ethical decision-making The use of principled reasoning Application of a model to ethical dilemmas Common rationalizations and fallacies
5	Brief survey of core ethical theories Deontology, theology, utilitarian, ethics of care and character ethics Others
6	Professional Codes of Conduct for the Criminal Justice professional Examples Application to the field of criminal justice
7	Introduction to the Study of Ethics Brief history Definition of terms "Applied" versus "philosophical" ethics
8	Orientation Syllabus and requirements of course Text, other readings, films, etc.
9	Individual Rights and the Law versus Social Utility

Course Objectives:

Course Objectives	
1	Apply the concepts of ethical critical thinking to the field of Criminal Justice.
2	Identify and apply the Six Pillars of Character as one standard for professional and personal ethics to specified ethical dilemmas.
3	Identify ethical implications of diversity in a society and apply to the field of criminal justice and personal lives.
4	Recognize the relationship between foundational values of a society and the professional codes of conduct in the field of criminal justice.
5	Examine case studies, determine applicable core ethical principles, describe significant parties and their interests, apply criteria to determine an ethical decision and evaluate the decision.
6	List and apply criteria by which behavior can be judged good or bad, right or wrong, praise or blameworthy.
7	Debate orally and in writing to support a position related to ethical dilemmas in criminal justice.

Course Outcomes:

Course Outcomes	
1	Critical thinking skills specific to ethical dilemmas: The student will demonstrate their ability to understand ethical issues and apply solutions to modern-day ethical dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System through critical analysis by identifying the qualities of good character, moral virtue, and ethical standards in public service.
2	Apply critical thinking as it relates to solutions and application: Students will demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking to identify sources and causes of corruption and to develop ethical solutions to apply in the Criminal Justice System and in their personal conduct.
3	Ethical awareness: Students will develop an awareness of ethical issues through the use of group discussions, media presentations, written assignments, lectures, and review of case studies in the Criminal Justice System.

Assignments:

Assignment Type:	Details
Reading	Each week students will read an assigned chapter in the textbook or news article. Students will be able to relate the reading material to instructor's class lecture and add, substantively, to classroom discussions. Students' understanding & analysis of the reading material will be captured by written assignments, low stakes quizzes, and an end of the year in-class presentation.
Writing	Students will choose an ethical dilemma in criminal justice field. The writing assignment will consist of: stating the what happened, state the ethical violation and critically address what should/could have been done to avoid the ethical violation.
Homework	Students will locate an online video (i.e. YouTube) of an officer involved shooting (OIS). As a homework assignment, students will be expected to submit/upload the video and include a short narrative on whether the officer's actions before the shooting were ethical (language/commands, behavior, etc.) and assess how to explain/justify the officers actions (according to the law) to the community, civic leaders, and city council/board of supervisors.

Textbooks or other support materials

Resource Type:	Details
Books	Ethics in Criminal Justice, In Search of Truth Sam S. Souryal Anderson Publishing Company 7th edition 2019 ISBN-13: 978-1138353664 - An excellent text covering all aspects of ethics related to Criminal Justice.

Equity Review:

No

Transferable to CSU

Yes - Approved

CSU General Education

CSU GE C2: Humanities
Transferable to CSU

COS General Education

COS GE C: Humanities

Other Degree Attributes

Not a Basic Skills Course

Distance Learning Addendum

AJ 123 DLA updated.pdf

Banner Title:

Criminal Justice Ethics

Curriculum Committee Approval Date:

03/13/2023



Academic Senate Approval Date:

03/22/2023

District Governing Board Approval Date:

04/10/2023

Course Control Number:

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