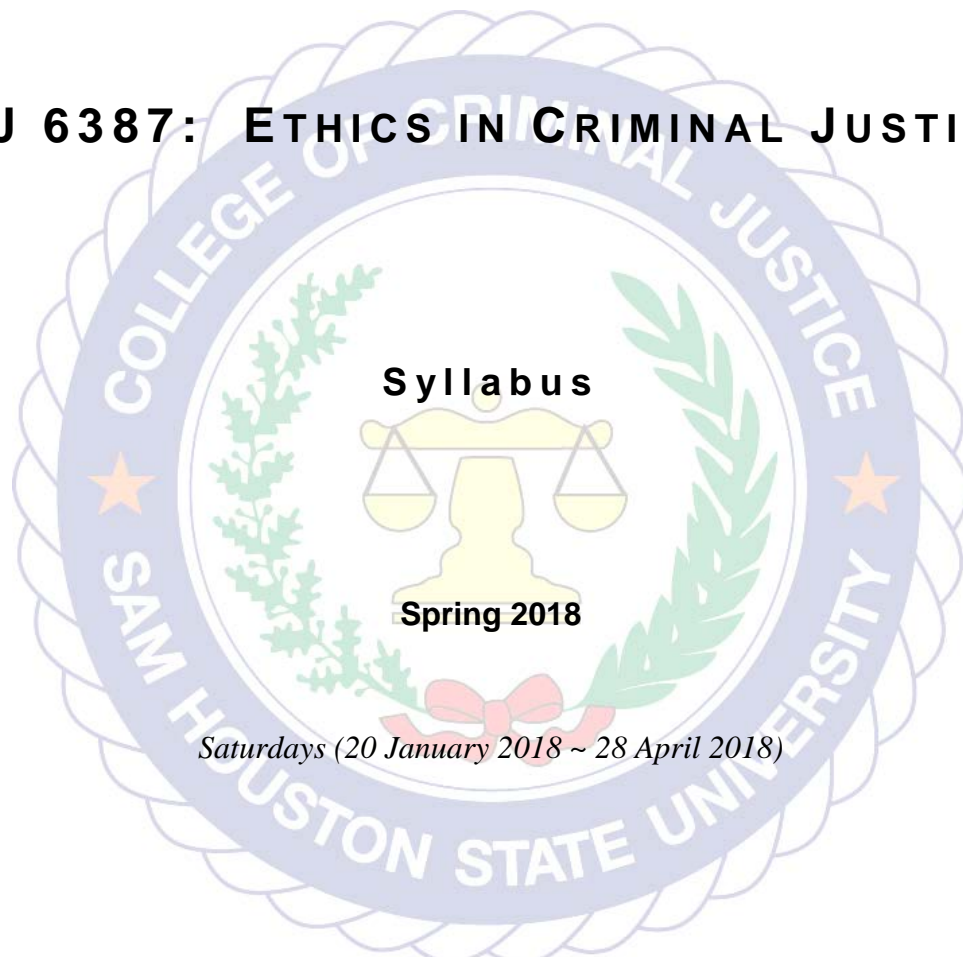




DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY
College of Criminal Justice

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

CJ 6387: ETHICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE



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CJ 6387: ETHICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalogue: Ethics and moral philosophy in criminal justice including the role of natural law, constitutional law, code of ethics and philosophical principles. Strong emphasis will be put on examining the role of justice in a free society and the practical implications of justice to practitioners of police, courts and corrections. Credit 3.

II. COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, the student will:

- Gain an understanding of the general schools of ethics and their main protagonists;
- Be able to categorize various types of ethical schools and the strengths and weaknesses of each;
- Be able to apply ethical principles to their own organizations;
- Be comfortable and confident in discussions that analyze and synthesize the course material; and,
- Be able to offer scholarly explanations for contemporary ethical issues.

III. TEXT

Caldero, Michael A. and Crank, John P. ((2011). *Police ethics: Corruption of the noble cause* (3d Ed.). New York City, New York: Routledge. ISBN: 978-4377-4455-2.

IV. WORK PRODUCT

Examination: One final examination shall be completed Saturday, 28 April 2018 within the four (4) hour class period (0800 hrs ~ 1200 hrs). This examination will account for 50% of the student's final course grade. The exam will consist of short and long answer questions testing the student's knowledge of the course material.

Memos on Ethical Issues: Students will be divided into groups and asked to develop a cogent answer to a particular question or part of a question for three (3) organizational memos. Groups may operate separately or in conjunction with other groups. **Group projects will be graded in keeping with each student's participation in the group and his or her contribution to the project.** Group Projects will account for 50% of the student's final course grade.

The groups are: **Group #1:** Bailey, Balandran and Bruce
Group #2: Buckholtz, Ditrich (D), Dowdell and Galczynski
Group #3: Halbert, Jones and Kelemen
Group #4: Ladd, Lightfoot, Miller and Parsons
Group #5: Reuvers, Sanchez, Spencer and Ditrich (S)

Videos: A number of videos are provided to enhance and expand upon the student's understanding of the course material. The final exam will include questions ascertaining the student's retention of the material provided in the videos.

Journal Articles: A number of journal articles are provided to give students an overview of peer-reviewed research into ethics and policing. The final exam will include questions ascertaining the student's retention of the material provided in the videos.

V. GRADING POLICY

Allocation:

Final Examination	=	50% of the total course grade
Group Projects	=	<u>50%</u> of the total course grade
Total	=	100%

Letter Grades:

A	=	At least 90% of all possible credit
B	=	At least 80% but less than 90%
C	=	At least 70% but less than 80%
D	=	At least 60% but less than 70%
F	=	Less than 60% of all possible credit

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

It is a course requirement that the student appears for and successfully completes all assignments listed in the "Work Product" portion of this syllabus by the dates given by the lecturer.

- In the event the student is unable to complete any assignment in the "Work Product" section of this syllabus, it shall be the student's responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible, preferably before the item is due, and advise him of the circumstances.
- If the issue prohibiting the student from completing the assignment is found to be valid, *as determined by the instructor*, other arrangements conforming to University policy will be made for the student to make-up the deficit.

VII. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

VIII. "REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS" POLICY

[It is the policy of Sam Houston State University](#) individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures developed to ensure participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities.

IX. STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:

§ 51.911(b) of the *Texas Education Code* requires an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

[University policy 86-1001](#) provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

X. GENERAL PROGRAM NOTES

- While differing opinions and viewpoints may be strongly argued, at no time shall any discussion descend into personalities, insults or any other act or omission unacceptable in the academic environment.
- There will be no tobacco products of any kind allowed in the classroom at any time.
- Except for students licensed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement as peace officers and commissioned by an agency/organization authorized to do so, all students shall be prohibited from possessing firearms in the classroom in violation of University policy and/or the laws of the State of Texas or the United States.
- Cellular telephones may be carried, but must set to a non-audible alert mode. In the event a communication is received requiring an immediate response, the student shall exit the classroom with as little disruption as possible, take care of the matter then return to class as quickly as possible.
- The student is encouraged to bring a laptop computer or other electronic pad to class; however, the sound shall be turned off.
- Any other issue(s) shall be brought to the attention of the instructor for his review and determination.

XI. AGENDA

AREA DATE	TOPICAL AREA	READING ASSIGNMENT
20 January	Class Begins	
22 January	Module #1 Memo on Ethical Issues: Given the material presented in this module, develop a three (3) paragraph memo explaining your group's thoughts as to why police officers stray from their professional ethical constraints. Ensure your group provides an ethical basis for their conclusion along with additional references either supporting or refuting those presented in the Module One resources. This memo is due to the instructor no later than noon, Monday, 5 February 2018 by email to: derhund@shsu.edu .	Caldero and Crank: Chapter #1 ~ Value-Based Decision Making: Understanding the Ethics of the Noble Cause Chapter #2 ~ Values, Hiring, and Early Organizational Experiences Chapter #3 ~ Values and Administrative Dilemmas Chapter #4 ~ The Social Psychology of Cops' Values Don't forget the videos and journal articles! References must be included in your memo.
12 February	Module #2 Memo on Ethical Issues: Given the material presented in this module, develop a three (3) paragraph memo explaining your group's thoughts on "good policing." What is "good policing" and how do we both determine that and defend that position? Ensure your group provides an ethical basis for their conclusion along with additional references either supporting or refuting those presented in the Module Two resources. This memo is due to the instructor no later than noon, Monday, 26 February 2018 by email to: derhund@shsu.edu .	Caldero and Crank: Chapter #5 ~ From Economic to Noble-Cause Corruption Chapter #6 ~ Stress, Organizational Accountability, and the Noble Cause Chapter #7 ~ Ethics and the Means-Ends Dilemma Chapter #8 ~ Police Culture, Ends-Orientation, and Noble-Cause Corruption Don't forget the videos and journal articles! References must be included in your memo.

5 March **Module #3**

Memo on Ethical Issues: Given the material presented in this module, develop a three (3) paragraph memo explaining your group's thoughts as to how to respond to differing communities' stated goals for how the police should police. Ensure your group provides an ethical basis for their conclusion along with additional references either supporting or refuting those presented in the Module Three resources. This memo is due to the instructor no later than noon, Monday, 23 April 2018 by email to: derhund@shsu.edu.

Caldero and Crank:

Chapter #9 ~ Policing Citizens, Policing Communities: Toward an Ethic of Negotiated Order

Chapter #10 ~ The Stakes

Chapter #11 ~ Recommendations

Chapter #12 ~ Conclusion: The Noble Cause

Don't forget the videos and journal articles! References must be included in your memo.

28 April **Final Examination (four (4) hours)**

**!!!DO NOT FORGET THE VIDEOS
AND JOURNAL ARTICLES!!!**