

CRIMINAL JUSTICE 248/PHILOSOPHY 248
“APPLIED ETHICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE”
Fall 2013

Lecturer: Tom Pritchard
Office hours: Daily, 12:30 p.m.-1:20 p.m.
Class meets: Daily, 10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m., Room D103
Office: D200E
Phone: (425) 564-2025
Email: thomas.pritchard@bellevuecollege.edu

Required Text: *Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice*, 7th Edition, by: Joycelyn M. Pollock.

I. Course Description:

Criminal Justice/Philosophy 248 for this quarter will be primarily concerned with the search for an ethical foundation upon which the American system of Criminal Justice operates. During the course of this inquiry we will examine numerous societal issues which directly concern the criminal justice practitioner and the application of discretionary powers.

This course will also expose you to several analytic frameworks from which the American system of justice and the art of policing in particular, may be studied. Some of these views may not fit your current understanding of the way the system functions. However, it is critical that you at least understand and become familiar with conflicting and/or divergent perspectives regarding this subject.

II. Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to conduct an analysis of the criminal justice system and to stimulate your critical thinking concerning the hidden and visible dilemmas facing the police practitioner's occupational culture. Consideration of the moral quality of justice administration alters our perspective of that system which so heavily influences the overall health and well being of its practitioners and their clientele.

Key points which will be addressed in this class are as follows:

- In a timed classroom situation, students will demonstrate their knowledge and comprehension of the following concepts:
 - a. Deontological and teleological moral thesis.
 - b. The interrelationship between the concepts of morality, justice and duty.
 - c. The various ethical dilemmas that confront criminal justice practitioners.
 - d. The relationship between police discretion, law-enforcement decision-making and morality.
- Students will demonstrate comprehension of the following:

- a. Compare various models of the CJ process with the teleological and deontological categories of moral thesis.
- b. Do self-analyses based on their personal profiles to determine their suitability as a police officer.
- In a timed classroom situation, students will practice decision-making in situations that challenge their personal and professional values.
- In designed scenarios, students will demonstrate their ability to manage occupational, often life-shattering situation, in a morally acceptable, legally defensible format.

III. Class Format:

This class will be a combination of lectures and class discussions. You are responsible for coming to class prepared (i.e., having read the assigned material) to actively participate in class discussions. We will spend a considerable amount of time discussing cases and theories included in the materials and practical applications of class material. It is my intention to cultivate a classroom environment in which each of us feels free to express opinions and ask questions. Opinions expressed by students must be supported by ethical, social, legal, economic and/or political arguments. We do not discuss to demonstrate whether we are right or wrong. Rather, it is an exercise to develop a broader understanding of the complexities of theories. DISRESPECT IN ANY FORM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

IV. Grading:

Your grade will be based upon a total of 400 points (three exams at 100 points each and one five-page paper at 100 points). These points will be a reflection of exams, the completion of paper and class participation. The grading scale is as follows:

100%-97%	A
96%-93%	A-
92%-89%	B+
88%-85%	B
84%-81%	B-
80%-77%	C+
76%-73%	C
72%-69%	C-
68%-65%	D+
64%-61%	D
60% and below	F

V. Assignments:

1. Participation

Participation is key to your understanding of concepts discussed in this course. Understanding or mastery of concepts may be demonstrated by appropriate application of criminological theories during classroom discussions. Students may have their grades increased by 1/3 through active participation.

2. **Exams** **300 points**

There will be three exams during the quarter, consisting of two midterms (100 points each) and a final (100 points). The exams are not cumulative. Each exam will include material from the book and class lectures. Material from the book will be covered even if we have not discussed it in class. The exams will be in-class, closed-book, and consist of multiple choice and essay questions. I will conduct a thorough review the day before the exam in class. **No make-up exams will be allowed unless you have a medical emergency, with proof.** **BRING A SCANTRON SHEET, A #2 PENCIL AND A PEN TO CLASS FOR EXAMS.**

3. **Bottom Line Paper** **100 points**

At the beginning of the Fifth Week, an assignment sheet will be handed out describing structure and requirements for the paper.

VI. Course Rules:

1. **Cheating.** Students are expected to do their own work. This includes not just copying things verbatim off the Internet. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. See a full statement of my policy on this at the end of this syllabus.
2. **Disability Support.** If you require special accommodation based on a documented disability, or need special arrangements in case of emergency evacuation, or have other special medical information that needs to be taken into account, please bring me documentation to that effect from the Disability Resource Center, B132, the first week of class. You can make these arrangements through advisors/counselors by calling 425-564-2498.
3. **Cell Phones and Other Devices.** Cell phones, paging and other such devices must be turned off in class; you may not bring them to the exams. Cell phones or other electronic devices that are visible during exams will be considered prima facie evidence that you are cheating.
4. **Lap Tops:** Lap Tops are permitted in class for note taking purposes only.
5. **Late Papers:** Late papers will be downgraded at 25% per day. They may not be submitted by email attachment.

<u>Course Schedule</u>		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
<u>WEEK 1</u>		
Sept. 23-27	Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior Determining Moral Behavior	Ch. 1 and start Ch. 2

WEEK 2Sept. 30 -
Oct. 4Determining Moral Behavior (Cont'd)
Justice and LawCh 2
Ch 3**WEEK 3**

Oct. 7-11

The Police Role in Society

Ch. 5

WEEK 4

Oct. 14-17

The Police Role in Society (Cont'd)
Police Discretion and DilemmasCh. 5 and start
Ch. 6

Oct. 18

Midterm, in class, 10:30 - 11:20 a.m**WEEK 5**

Oct. 21

Assign Paper
Due Date: Nov. 25Oct. 21, 22
Oct. 23
Oct. 24, 25Police Discretion and Dilemmas (Cont'd)
No Class
Police Corruption and MisconductCh. 6

start Ch. 7**WEEK 6**Oct. 28 -
Nov. 1

Police Corruption and Misconduct (Cont'd)

Ch. 7

WEEK 7

Nov. 4 - 8

Law and Legal Professionals

Ch. 8

WEEK 8Nov. 11
Nov. 12-14**Holiday - No Class**Law and Legal Professionals (Cont'd)
Discretion and Dilemmas in the Legal
ProfessionCh. 8 and start

Ch. 9

Nov. 15

Midterm Two, in class, 10:30-11:20 a.m**WEEK 9**

Nov. 18-22

Discretion and Dilemmas in the Legal
Profession (Cont'd)
Ethical Misconduct in the Courts and
ResponsesCh. 9
and start
Ch. 10

WEEK 10

Nov. 25	Paper Due Beginning of Class	
Nov. 25-27	Ethical Misconduct in the Courts and Responses (Cont'd)	Ch. 10
Nov. 28, 29	The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections	Ch. 11
	Holiday - No Class	

WEEK 11

Dec. 2-6	Discretion and Dilemmas in Corrections	Ch. 12
Dec. 11	Final Exam, in class, 9:30- 11:20 a.m.	

POLICY REGARDING CHEATING, STEALING AND PLAGIARISM

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying answers on exams, glancing at nearby exams, turning in assignments or papers that have been used in other classes, and giving or receiving help during an exam. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, purchasing or selling notes, assignments or examination materials.

Stealing includes, but is not limited to, taking the text, notes, exams, library books or other personal property of others without their permission.

Plagiarism is presenting the words, ideas, and/or work of others as if it is an individual's own work. It includes, but is not limited to, using other's papers as one's own and including parts of published works without giving credit where credit is due.

If you choose to cheat, steal or plagiarize, the following actions will be taken: You will receive a zero for the assignment. You may receive a failing grade for the course.