

SYLLABUS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE 248 AND PHILOSOPHY 248

"APPLIED ETHICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE"

Dr. Michael A. Caldero
Winter 2009
Office: D-100-C
Office Hours: 10:30am to 11:30pm Tuesday and Thursday (I'm in most
Wednesdays, all day just for student contacts. Check my office door
for my additional scheduled days)
Phone: 425-564-5297
email address mcaldero@bellevuecollege.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Administration of 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 subtlety...

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:

1. Criminal Justice Ethics: A Survey of Philosophical Theories.
2. Individual Rights v. Social Utility: The Search for the Golden Zigzag between Conflicting Fundamental Values.

3. Ethical Issues in Policing: Deception by Police, Ethical Dilemmas, Learning Police Ethics.
4. The Paradox of Policing: The Moral Foundation of Policing, The Enforcement v. The Enforcement of Morality.
5. Crime Control v. Due Process: The Primary Stressors of the Policing Function.
6. The Development of a Personal "Bottom Line": Is Policing for You, Suggestions to Preserve Your Personal Value System.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS CLASS IS TAUGHT IN A "HYBRID LEARNING" MODE. THIS MEANS CLASS USUALLY MEETS ONLY ON TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS. THERE WILL BE A "SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS" SHEET HANDED OUT WITH THIS SYLLABUS, PLEASE TAKE EXTRA TIME TO READ IT AS IT WILL DETAIL DIRECTIONS FOR REACHING THE WEBSITE WHERE MUCH OF THIS CLASS WILL BE CONDUCTED.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

"Police Ethics": The Corruption of Noble Cause. Michael Caldero and John Crank, 2nd Edition, Anderson Publishing.

RECOMMENDED READING SCHEDULE:

The text contains many of the ethical issues, theories, and perspectives that will be discussed in class. I highly recommend you pay considerable attention to the contents of this work. Specifically, read the recommended text in its entirety by the third week of class. Out of class reading assignments will be assigned as the class progresses.

GRADES: Your final grade for this course will be developed in the following manner. Two "in class" examinations and one "take home exam" will be given in this class, each of which will account for a total of 100 points. The average of those exams will determine a total "exam score". The first "in class" exam will be given on **Thursday, January 29th** the second "in class" exam will be given on **Thursday, February 19th** and the "take home" exam will be turned in on **Tuesday, March 17th**, in hard copy form, IN CLASS. These dates will also be posted on the class website. In addition, a project paper (called "MY Ethical Bottom Line") will be required which will be scored differently (see below). The format and content of this paper will be discussed in great detail in the classroom and online, as class progresses.

TAKE HOME FINAL: This is the **most important paper** (examination) of this class. It will be discussed in detail as the class progresses. How you do in this class largely depends on how well you do with this important paper, please do not hesitate to ask me in class or online on the class bulletin board, if you have questions regarding this aspect of your grade. I highly recommend that you contact me after class hours to discuss this paper. Past experience has repeatedly demonstrated that most of those students who do well on this paper work in small groups and

consult with me for extra assistance. There is no secret to success in this class, just ask if have questions and always **plan ahead.**

ADDITIONAL NOTES

* It is very important that you carefully note the instructions given during the first introductory hours of this class. If, for some reason you have missed that particular period contact a member of the class for a copy of the notes or see me in my office.

* DO NOT miss the first few days of class, they set the perspective for the rest of the class and are essential for the development of your paper. (SEE SPECIAL COMMENT)

Do Not leave the room with questions concerning how this class will be conducted on your mind, "know what you are getting into".

SPECIAL COMMENT

At the beginning of this class an undercover police scenario is conducted. During this presentation language is used which may be considered obscene or otherwise offensive to some. If you believe the use of such language will be personally offensive you may NOT wish to be present. PARTICIPATION IN THIS EXERCISE IS NOT MANDATORY, however, it is an important part of the overall classroom presentation. SEE ME PRIOR TO THE SECOND DAY OF CLASS IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS OR APPREHENSIONS CONCERNING THIS MATTER.

GRADING DETAILS

The "Bottom Line" paper will be graded on its content, attention to grammar, spelling, and its structure. In addition, it will be typed, at least five (5) pages in length, and double spaced. It will also be stapled together **without** a cover. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE BOTTOM LINE PAPER AND THE TAKE HOME FINAL WILL BE POSTED ON THE CLASS WEBSITE. PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THEM AS THE FORMAT MUST BE FOLLOW PRECISELY.**

Your "Bottom Line" paper generates a score which can either take your cumulative test average up five (5) points or down fifteen (15) points. That's right, if you fail to do the paper, or, if you do an unsatisfactory job, as much as fifteen (15) points will be deducted from your cumulative score after all three exams are added up and the total divided by three. On the other hand, if you do a good job as much as five points could be **added to** your cumulative score. The details of how this paper is to be constructed and the subject matter will be posted on the class website and discussed extensively in class, please pay careful attention to these instructions. The due date for the paper will also be announced in class and posted on the website.

EXTRA CREDIT OPTIONS:

There are several ways to earn extra credit points during this course. The first is "Big L" points. These points are acquired each time you respond **in class** to a question that substantially contributes to the course subject material. (This usually means you have prepared yourself by reading the text and doing the assignments and/or researching relevant material). Second, is to post on the Vista Bulletin Board a response to an **extra credit topic**. These topics are given out in class so be sure to watch for them. Here is the procedure you must adhere to in order to receive credit for your posting. 1. Research the topic, write a paragraph or two describing the information you have found and state your opinion of it. 2. Post the paragraph and the article, link, etc., you have located. If your posting is noteworthy for the class I will respond to you in the Vista email site with the instructions to "print and bring" your posting. You will print out your posting and **write your first and last name across the top**. You will then bring the posting to the next class session and turn it in to me. All Big L and Extra Credit points are cumulative grade points; this means that after your exams are averaged these points are added to your score. You can readily see how valuable these points can be to your final grade.

ASSIGNMENTS:

There will be three (3) assignments in this class which **MUST BE COMPLETED**. Each assignment will consist of a five page paper, typed, double spaced. These assignments must be completed in a timely manner (two weeks after they are assigned). You will **NOT** be graded for these assignments, however, **IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE ALL THREE OF THEM FIFTEEN POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR CUMULATIVE GRADE SCORE**. These assignments are not difficult but require you to pay careful attention to small details, please do not take them lightly. The topic of these assignments and the due dates will be posted on the class bulletin board on the **vista** website. **THESE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE TURNED IN (HARD COPY) DURING CLASS TIME ARE THE INDICATED DATES, LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**. Please note that if you submit a paper that is not acceptable it will be returned to you for re-submittal. You have one week to do the re-write.

If you want more information regarding any aspect of this class please **LET ME KNOW DURING CLASS OR** see me after class.

PLAGERISM:

The BCC Student Code is also very clear about the seriousness of cheating and the actions that faculty members are required to take in cases of plagiarizing: The BCC Student Code prohibits cheating, stealing, plagiarizing, knowingly furnishing false information to the college, or submitting to a faculty member any work product that the student fraudulently represents as his or her own work for the purpose of fulfilling or partially fulfilling any assignment or task required

as part of a program of instruction. All forms of cheating, stealing, and plagiarizing will be reported to the Dean of Instruction.

Other Important Notes:

BCC Technical Support
Troubleshooting for WebCT or Vista

First: Check the• WebCT Server Status page to find out if there are reported problems

Second:• If the problem is with your class, not the system, contact your instructor to report the problem

Third: If you cannot reach your instructor, contact the• Distance Education office at (425) 564-2438 or landerso@bcc.ctc.edu

Guide to Documentation, APA Style

Bellevue College writing lab website address:
<http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/APA.html>

The Academic Tutoring Center offers one-on-one and group tutoring sessions for college credit courses.

Location: D204

Phone: (425) 564-2468

Students and community members can find career planning and job search assistance in the Career Center. The Center provides one-on-one career advising, classes and workshops, work-study and internship opportunities, and many computerized resources.

Location: B231

Phone: (425) 564-2018

Academic, career, and personal counseling services and credit classes are available to all enrolled BCC students.

Location: B234

Phone: (425) 564-2212

DRC provides advocacy and classroom accommodations, including specialized materials, technology and equipment for eligible students with disabilities.

Location: B132

Phone: (425) 564-2498 or 564-4110 (TTY line)

The Childcare Center provides affordable, quality childcare to children ages 3 months to 7 years, an on-site Head Start program, and resources and classes for parents.

Location: Building Q

Phone: (425) 564-2240

Educational Planning Resource Center

Advisors, counselors and resources are available for students who wish to transfer to a four-year university, pursue a career or are undecided about their major.

Location: B232

Phone: (425) 564-2437

Learning & Computer Labs

Many academic learning labs and nearly 1,300 computers are dedicated for student use at BCC. View our complete list of labs including those located in the library and across campus.

Location: Various

Library Media Center

In addition to traditional library resources, the LMC provides access to electronic periodicals, research assistance, books and publications, computers with Internet connections, material reservation, media lab, study rooms and other helpful resources.

Location: D124

Phone: (425) 564-225

Multi-Cultural Student Services (B233)

MCS provides culturally-sensitive academic and support services to BCC students. MCS services include outreach, advising, counseling, cultural events planning, and curriculum and policy development.

Location: B233

Phone: (425) 564-2208

SPECIAL NOTE: THERE ARE SPECIAL PROJECTS FOR THIS CLASS WHICH ARE ONLY DISCUSSED OR ASSIGNED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD OF THE VISTA WEBSITE, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK IT REGULARLY.

GRADING POLICY:

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

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS GRADING PROCEDURE PLEASE CONTACT ME AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.