

## Course Syllabus

Philosophy 248 AND Criminal Justice 248

Ethics in Criminal Justice

Winter 2009

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Class meets online

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

You must have:

- Internet access
- Text
- An open mind

### 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 subject...

#### 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.

## SPECIAL COMMENT

At the beginning of this class an undercover police scenario is conducted. During this lecture and discussion 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 add discussion. However, since this is an online class PARTICIPATION IN THIS EXERCISE in some fashion IS MANDATORY, and is an integral part of the overall classroom discussion. Advise ME PRIOR TO THE SECOND DAY OF CLASS IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS OR APPREHENSIONS CONCERNING THIS MATTER.

- Technological Objective:

To master the simple use of any computer that happens to be available. Many of your assignments and readings will be located on the Internet. Outcomes: You will be expected to research information on a website. With that information, you will be expected to create a paper and to post your research in the discussion forum.

- Praxis Objective:

To recognize differences between theory, factual knowledge, and the application and synthesis of that knowledge in praxis. Outcomes: You will apply theoretical discussions to examples within their own institutions, as they relate to race and ethnicity. Focus on conceptually linking criminological theory to current events and personal narratives shared in discussions.

What you can expect in this class:

- Etiquette and Netiquette

Netiquette:

Threaded discussion posts in online course spaces are an integral part of online learning environments. A feeling of safety is basic for any collaborative dialogue. An overview of the process of creating and participating in a safe discussion environment is provided in the online course space.

#### Critical Engagement Criteria:

In addition to the netiquette guidelines for online collaboration, you will be expected to participate in the online discussions in a way that engages with the topic and with the other participants. An overview of the criteria used in this course to evaluate your participation through your original and response posts is provided in the online course space.

#### Critical Thinking

The ability to think and write critically are essential skills in many walks of life. Critical thinking skills are developed and refined through practice, self-reflection, and the critique and support of peers and instructors. Throughout this course you will have many opportunities to exercise your analytical thinking, synthesize information, and apply knowledge to real-life situations.

Deadlines/Due Dates - All due dates and deadlines are firm. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval from me. The absolute final deadline for ALL course work is every Sunday no later than 11:55 PM PST.

Communicating - It is your responsibility to communicate to me any emergency and/or other situations in a timely manner prohibiting you from completing a task. Communicating to me your emergency is important for you to receive any extension on any assignments, exams, etc.

Groupwork: You may work in study groups on all exercises, assignments, quizzes, and exams. Cooperative learning groups are strongly encouraged.

**WARNING: THIS IS NOT YOUR TRADITIONAL COURSE WHERE I LECTURE AND YOU QUIETLY TAKE NOTES. I ENCOURAGE A COOPERATIVE LEARNING APPROACH AS WELL AS SEVERAL EXPERIMENTAL AND INNOVATIVE TEACHING/LEARNING TECHNIQUES. GROUPWORK IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN THIS COURSE!**

What you can expect for assignments:

1. Assigned textbook reading (About 1 chapter a week)
2. Ten (10) 2 page Written Papers (must be turned in to pass this class)
3. Ten (10) Weekly Discussion Board assignments
4. One (1) Final Exam (timed)
5. One Final Paper (5 pages in length)

Weekly Discussions:

You will apply principles you are learning and participate in discussion with the online class on the information covered in the assigned reading. You must participate in each discussion and must respond to at least two (2) discussions.

Research Projects: Service Learning.... (To be determined)

Grading:

All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course. Your course grade will be calculated in the following way:

- (10) Ten 2 page papers
- (10) Discussion Board assignments
- Final Paper: 100 points

- Final Exam: 100 points

### Grades and Grading

- Grades on assignments are calculated using a 100-point scale

A	A-	B+	B	B-
100-95	94-90	89-85	84-80	79-75

C+	C	C-	D	F
74-70	69-65	64-60	59-51	50-0

### Due Dates:

All assignments are due on the dates listed in the course schedule:

All assignments must reach me through Assignment drop box or email by midnight on the due date.

### Exceptions:

You may turn in your Papers late only if issues arise are out of your control and by arranging it with me on or before the due dates.

For all modules there are indeed chapter readings consisting of about 1 chapter a week. All of the necessary material is contained in the "lectures" and demonstrations in each week's module.

### Course Work

#### Assignments:

General breakdown and basic description of assignments. Refer to full description of assignments in each week's module.

## Exam:

There will be one exam which will cover the course material. The exam is in multiple-choice or short answer format. For each, your score on the exam will be the percentage of questions you answered correctly. Grading follows a straight-scale format. In extraordinary situations a make-up exam will be made available to a student who misses a regularly-scheduled exam. This exam must be completed within one week of the original deadline date.

The exam is 90 minutes in duration, and are administered such that each question is shown on the screen. You can go on or return to a previous if needed. Further, should you not complete all questions before the 90-minute deadline, any unanswered questions will be counted as incorrect. This format makes it imperative that you begin the exam well-prepared.

## Plagiarism

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](mailto: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

