

# CJ-1320: ETHICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: CJ-1320 : Ethics in Criminal Justice**

**Board of Trustees:**

2018-01-25

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2018

**Subject Code**

CJ - Criminal Justice

**Course Number:**

1320

**Title:**

Ethics in Criminal Justice

**Catalog Description:**

Police conduct is examined relative to ethical and legal principles. Application of federal and state, civil, criminal and administrative law. Sources of potential ethical lapses for law enforcement are analyzed and strategies are formulated to address them both proactively and administratively.

**Credit Hour(s):**

2

**Lecture Hour(s):**

2

## Requisites

**Prerequisite and Corequisite**

ENG-1010 College Composition I, or concurrent enrollment.

## Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Explain the role of ethics and integrity in the criminal justice profession, and the higher standard expected of criminal justice professionals.

**Objective(s):**

1. Explain Kohlberg's moral development stages and how they can be applied to issues in criminal justice.
2. Explain the difference between ethics, morality, and the law.
3. Explain key elements of choice, values, and ethics.
4. Recommend ways to use ethics to improve decision making in the criminal justice system.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Analyze the issues pertinent to codes of conduct and / or the ethics of duty.

**Objective(s):**

1. Analyze the ethical issues involved with balancing means and ends in the criminal justice field.
2. Examine the key elements of virtue and character.
3. Analyze basic questions about morality, norms, and values.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Explain why and how the concept of justice is important to the field of criminal justice.

**Objective(s):**

1. Examine reasons for and effective ways to apply critical ethical thinking to criminal justice issues.

2. Discuss the role of ethical decision making for the future of the criminal justice profession.
3. Recommend ways to use ethics to improve decision making in the criminal justice system.
4. Examine the concepts and effectiveness of reward and punishment.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Write clearly and concisely about ethics and leadership in criminal justice using proper writing mechanics.

**Objective(s):**

1. Explain Kohlberg's moral development stages and how they can be applied to issues in criminal justice.
2. Use technology and information resources to research issues in ethics and leadership in criminal justice.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Analyze leadership skills significant to the criminal justice professional.

**Objective(s):**

1. Examine the key elements of virtue and character.
2. Discuss the role of ethical decision making for the future of the criminal justice profession.
3. Explain key elements of choice, values, and ethics.
4. Analyze various philosophical approaches for ethical decision making and the effectiveness and limits of each approach for making ethical choices.
5. Analyze basic questions about morality, norms, and values.

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**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Midterm and final examinations
2. Term project
3. Research paper
4. Team project
5. Case study
6. Presentation
7. Quizzes

**Course Content Outline:**

1. The interaction between ethics and the Criminal Justice System
  - a. The importance of ethics in criminal justice
  - b. The meaning of ethics
  - c. The value of ethics
  - d. Ethical dilemmas
  - e. Ethical issues in criminal justice
2. Police ethics: the nature of policing and police corruption
  - a. Ethics and policing
  - b. Police culture
  - c. Police discretion
  - d. Ethics and codes of ethics
  - e. Police corruption
  - f. Whistle-blowing
3. Police ethics: use of force, investigations, interrogations, and lying
  - a. Police use of force
  - b. Policing, mental illness, and crisis intervention teams
  - c. Ethical issues in investigation, interrogation, and custody
4. Racial discrimination in the Criminal Justice System
  - a. Ethical background
  - b. Historical context
  - c. Hate crimes
5. Judges, lawyers, and ethics
  - a. Legal ethics: historical context
  - b. The nature of professional ethics
  - c. Defense lawyers

- d. The prosecutor
- e. Judicial ethics
- 6. Ethics in corrections: the nature of corrections
  - a. The prison explosion
  - b. Power and authority in prison: controlling the inmates
  - c. Private prisons
- 7. Ethics in corrections: guarding ethically
  - a. The experience of guarding
  - b. Guarding ethically
  - c. Guarding with discretion
  - d. Unethical situations
  - e. Corruption
  - f. Ethical issues in probation and parole
- 8. The importance of character
  - a. Virtues
  - b. Aristotle and happiness
  - c. Egoism, pleasure, and indifference
  - d. Stoicism
  - e. Hedonism
  - f. Moral development
  - g. Kohlberg's theory of moral development

## Resources

Braswell. *Justice, Crime and Ethics*. 7. Anderson Publishing, 2010.

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Williams, C. R. Arrigo, B. A. *Ethics, Crime and Criminal Justice*. 2. Upper Saddle River, N.J., Prentice Hall-Pearson, 2012.

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Delattre. *Character and Cops: Ethics in Policing*. 6th. Rowan and Littlefield, 2011.

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Souryal, Sam S. *Ethics in Criminal Justice: In Search of the Truth*. 6th. Anderson Routledge, 2015.

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Cheeseman. *Everyday Ethics for Criminal Justice*. 2nd. Carolina, 2016.

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