



CJCB 303 Ethics, Values & Professionalism in Policing Course Syllabus

Instructor: Jimmy Womack

Virtual Office Hours: Email as needed

Preferred Email Address: James.Womack@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: 24 7 days a week

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

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**A textbook is not assigned for this class. All reading assignments are provided with links to Internet sources and/or document files Course Description/Explanation.*

This course examines the many difficult decisions that criminal justice professionals make in an environment of competing interests. The decision making of criminal justice professionals is often impacted by their ethical dilemmas. Emphasis is placed on addressing moral issues and concerns of our justice process in personal, social, and criminal justice contexts.

Course Objectives

1. Introduce students to the study of ethics as a necessary component of the Criminal Justice System.
2. Place morality, ethics, and human behavior in context within the Criminal Justice system.
3. Analyze ethical dilemmas.
4. Introduce the various ethical systems.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the differences between morality and ethics.
2. Differentiate between the various ethical systems.
3. Identify the origins and components of justice.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of ethics in the criminal justice professions.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will need a reliable computer and Internet access for this course. Specific capabilities of the computer are discussed later in the syllabus. Students are required to demonstrate proficiency in myLeo navigation in order to participate in this course. Fluency in programs like Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel may further contribute to student success in this course.

Instructional Methods

This course is 100% online. As such, communication and assignment submission is all done electronically. Power points, resources, assignments and tests are all located within the online course.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Students are encouraged to thoroughly read **all** assignments and view relevant videos as directed. Critical thinking exercises will help students with practical application of the concepts presented, and students are encouraged to read through them after completing each module.

Students are encouraged to e-mail the professor as they encounter concepts that after reading and utilizing course resources (supplemental documents, Youtube videos, etc.), should you still do not understand.

GRADING*

Assignments for this course will be scored using a points system. Below is an explanation of how each assignment type will be scored.

Assignment Type	Point Value
Final Projects: Rawls vs Nozick essay Rittle & Webber essay	100 each essay
Four Discussion Topics	100 each discussion topic
Post Test	100
Total points	700

Final Grade Calculation

The final grade will be assigned by taking the average posttest, discussion topics, and the grade of the two essay projects.

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

F = 79% or Below

*Students are required to achieve an 80% or higher on their posttest in each competency and on the two essay projects in order to pass the course.

GRADING

Grades will be available in the gradebook so that students can track their progress in the course in 'real time'.

Grading for the final projects follow this scale:

Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	Level 0
90 points	80 points	70 points	60 points	0 points
Assignment is <u>well developed</u> and addresses all aspects. Meets page length requirements	Assignment is <u>adequate</u> and briefly addresses relevant aspects.	Assignment <u>does not address</u> all aspects.	Assignment is late.	Assignment is not done.
10 points	10 points	10 points	10 points	0 points
Provides accurate citations where applicable.	Provides accurate citations where applicable.	Provides accurate citations where applicable.	Provides accurate citations where applicable.	

Assessments

Discussion topics:

You will be required to participate in four discussion topics based upon ethical situations questions law enforcement are faced with during their careers. Your written responses on each discussion topic will be worth up to 100 points for each discussion topic. It is important to review each discussion question ahead of time so that you will be prepared to participate with your classmates. Your grade will be based on how well you answer each of the posed discussion topics. **Students must respond to a minimum of two other student's discussions in order to receive maximum points.**

Pretest and Posttest

The purpose of the pretest is to provide a baseline understanding of your knowledge in each module. The Posttest is an assessment of your knowledge of the material required for the module. If you score less than 80% you will have an opportunity to review the material and re-take the module Posttest. You will have up to three attempts at passing each competency. If you have not passed the posttest in three attempts, you will receive a letter grade of an "F." In order to demonstrate competency, a score of 80% or higher is required.

Projects and Assignments

There are two essay projects, four discussion assignments, and posttest for this course which will be graded based on a score of 80% or higher is required. The essay projects will be based on expanding your knowledge and applying the information you have learned in a practical exercise. Passing scores on each of these assignments and projects are **required** for course completion.

Final Grade Calculation

The final grade will be assigned by taking the average of the posttest, four discussion topics, and the grade of the two projects. The Posttest is an assessment of your knowledge of the material required for the modules. A score of 80% or higher is required on the Posttest to demonstrate competency. If you score less than 80% on the posttest you will have an opportunity to review the material and re-take the posttest. You will have up to three attempts at passing each competency. If you have not passed the competency in three attempts, you will receive a letter grade of an "F." In order to demonstrate competency, a score of 80% or higher is required.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements:

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and Internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace (D2L), please contact Brightspace (D2L) Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor. Allow up to 24 hours to receive a response.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Participation from students regularly is encouraged. Students are encouraged to participate with the required assignments as regular exposure to course content will result in a better chance at successful completion of the course. The required assignments in this course are the pre-test, four discussion topics, posttest, and the two final projects. While pre-test is **required** to pass the course, this grade does not count toward your final grade.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

Student Conduct

University Specific Procedures All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so.

Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web URL:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report all violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

APA Citation Format Policy

It is very important that you learn how to cite properly. In some ways, citations are more important than the actual text of your paper/assignment. Therefore, you should take this task seriously and devote some time to understanding how to cite properly. If you take the time to understand this process up front, it will save you a significant amount of time in the long run (not to mention significant deductions in points).

In the social and behavioral sciences (including Criminal Justice), we use APA (American Psychological Association) 7th edition format. As a rule of thumb, one cites whenever they are paraphrasing other people's words or when they quote other's words directly. You may learn to cite from a variety of different sources including the APA Tutorial and the sources listed below and in the CJ 500 Orientation Course.

www.apastyle.org

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/02/>

www.library.cornell.edu/resrch/citmanage/apa

It is the student's responsibility to understand how to cite properly. If you have questions, feel free to ask.

Module 1—Ethics and the Criminal Justice System

	<p>Readings</p> <p><i>Chapter 1:</i> Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior</p> <p><i>Chapter 2:</i> Determining moral behavior</p> <p><i>Chapter 3:</i> Justice and Law</p> <p><i>Chapter 4:</i> Becoming and Ethical Professional</p> <p><i>Discussion Topic:</i> Intro to Ethics</p>
	Students are to complete the course pre-test

Module 2—Police

	<p>This module covers the basics of police roles, discretion, and corruption.</p> <p>Chapter 5: The police role in society</p> <p>Chapter 6: Police discretion and dilemmas</p> <p>Chapter 7: Police corruption and responses</p> <p>Discussion Topic: Police and Ethics</p>
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Module 3—Law

	<p>This module covers the basics of ethics as they relate to law and legal issues.</p> <p>Course Project: Read the articles by Rawls vs Nozick and complete your project paper</p> <p>Chapter 8: Law and legal professionals</p> <p>Chapter 9: Discretion and dilemmas in the legal profession</p> <p>Chapter 10 Ethical misconduct in the courts and responses</p> <p>Discussion Topic: Legal Ethics</p>
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Module 4—Corrections

	<p>This module covers the basics of ethics in the correctional system.</p> <p>Chapter 11: The ethics of punishment and corrections</p> <p>Chapter 12: Discretion and dilemmas in corrections</p> <p>Chapter 13: Correction professionals: Misconduct and Responses</p> <p>Chapter 14: Making ethical choices</p> <p>Discussion Topic: Professionals in Corrections</p>
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Module 5—Wicked Problems, Wrap-up, and Course Conclusion

	<p>Assess this website for further information on this week's topic of study: http://plato.stanford.edu/</p>
	<p>Course Post-test due</p>
	<p>Course project: Rittle and Webber essay due</p>