

Northeastern University  
College of Criminal Justice  
CJU 102  
Ethics, Values and Diversity in Criminal Justice

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Days: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
Time: 9:15 AM – 10:20 AM  
Room: 224 Hurtig Hall  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-4 PM  
                  Thursdays 2-4 PM

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The primary goal of this course is to examine and understand the ethical decisions and dilemmas that affect every aspect of the Criminal Justice system. The objectives of this course include: 1) to introduce the student to the basic concepts of ethics; 2) to examine the different ethical perspectives that may influence criminal justice decisions; 3) to examine ethics within all areas of the Criminal Justice system; including criminal justice institutions, criminological research, the media, and offenders; 4) and to get students to think critically about the Criminal Justice system.

### TEXTBOOK

Pollock, Joycelyn M. (2007). *Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth

### GRADING

The final grade will consist of:

Written Assignments (2)	25 points each
Exams (2)	100 points
Participation/Attendance	25 points
Group Project	25 points

**Assignments:** Each student will be required to write two 3-5 page papers over the course of the semester. Each paper should identify a particular problem relating to Ethics, Values and Diversity in one of the criminal justice disciplines. The paper should identify the problem (giving historical background) while presenting both sides of the issue, and should also provide recommendations to correct these trends.

In addition to the two papers, there will be both a midterm and a final exam. Questions for the exams will be taken both from the assigned readings, as well as from class discussions.

Finally, there will be a small series of group exercises/activities that will include presentation of group results as well as preparing a typed report of group results to be turned in.

**Participation:** Very Simple: **PARTICIPATION IS EXPECTED.** There will be more than enough to discuss and everyone has an opinion. You are expected to read the material prior to class and come prepared to discuss varying viewpoints. Do not hesitate to ask questions of the instructor or guest lecturers during class sessions. In addition, since ethics often encompasses sensitive issues with no straightforward answers, students are expected to treat their classmates with the utmost respect and sensitivity. For this reason, I will mediate the discussions and reserve the right to end a discussion if it is becoming too emotional. Also, if, for any reason, you do not feel comfortable with the topic of discussion, please do not hesitate to leave the classroom.

**Attendance:** Very simple: **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.** Missing classes will result in falling behind. Because the pace is very quick and the material covered is cumulative, missing classes will have snowball effect.

**Make-Up Policy:** If you fail to attend on an exam date for any reason, you are required make arrangements for a make-up exam within 24 hours of the exam. You must provide a legitimate documented reason for missing the exam (e.g., illness, death of an immediate family member, religious holiday, etc). Failure to do so will result in a zero (0) for the exam.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc) will not be tolerated under any circumstances. If you are caught engaging in such behavior, you will receive a zero (0) for the exam or assignment in question. Depending on the severity, you may receive a zero (0) for the class and also may be subject to university disciplinary action. Keep this in mind, as *you are responsible and accountable* for your actions in this class. Please refer to the Student Handbook &/or <http://www.lib.neu.edu/tutorials/plagiarism.html>

**Special Needs:** If you have special educational needs that may require accommodations for this course, please let me know. The Disability Resource Center (DRC), which is located in 20 Dodge Hall, can provide you with information and other assistance to help manage any challenges that may affect your performance in your coursework. The University requires that you provide documentation of your disability to DRC.

**Other Issues:** Although the course is well outlined above and will likely follow the dates and topics listed below, some degree of flexibility is expected. During the course of the semester every effort will be made to adhere to the course outline however, events do occur that require changes and amendments. In addition, I reserve the right to modify the course content, expectations, and grading as I see fit during the semester. Lastly, you should anticipate additional readings and/or films to be incorporated into the course throughout the semester. As much advance notice will be given in the event that additional time will be needed to accommodate these additions.

**Tentative Course Outline:**

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
January 7 <sup>th</sup>	Course Introduction and Survey	Pollock Ch. 1 Banks Ch. 1
January 14 <sup>th</sup>	Defining Ethics and Ethical Systems	Pollock Ch. 2
<i>January 21<sup>st</sup></i>	<i>No Class – MLK, Jr. Day</i>	
January 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Ethics, Values, and the Individual Offender	Pollock Ch. 3 Sykes & Matza
January 28 <sup>th</sup>	Ethics, Values, and the Individual Offender	Pollock Ch. 4
February 4 <sup>th</sup>	Ethics and Research in Criminal Justice	Humphreys
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Criminal Justice and the Media	Glasser Seagal
<i>February 18<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>No Class – President’s Day</i>	
February 21 <sup>st</sup>	EXAM #1	
<i>March 3<sup>rd</sup></i>	<i>No Classes – Spring Break</i>	
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Ethics and the Police	Pollock Ch. 7 Pollock Ch. 8
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	FIRST PAPER DUE Ethics and the Police cont.	Pollock Ch. 9 Klockars
March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Ethics and the Courts	Pollock Ch. 10
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Ethics and the Courts cont.	Pollock Ch. 12
April 7 <sup>th</sup>	Ethics and the Prison System	Pollock Ch. 13
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	SECOND PAPER DUE	
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Final Day of Classes	
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Finals Begin	