

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY and CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE 4100/01 – ETHICS in CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRN #81141
SYLLABUS – FALL 2012

Instructor: Prof. Peter Fenton
Phone: (678) 797-2292
Email: pfenton@kennesaw.edu
Office: 4065 Social Sciences

Class times: Monday/Wednesday
12:30-1:45 pm
Room 2025 Social Sciences
Office hours M/W 10:00-12:00

TEXT:

Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice, 7th Edition, Pollock, Wadsworth Publishing, Belmont, California, 2010. Required

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand basic ethical principles as they apply to criminal justice.
2. Examine specific ethical concerns in each component of the criminal justice system.
3. Explore techniques for establishing and maintaining ethical values and conduct among criminal justice practitioners.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Attend class regularly.
2. Read assigned material and come to class prepared.
3. Participate in class discussions and activities.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS:

Ethical dilemmas – Throughout the semester, students will be assigned to small work groups. Each group will be given an ethical dilemma to consider for discussion in class. Members of each work group are encouraged to collaborate on developing responses to their respective ethical issue, but each student is responsible for preparing his or her own written response.

A numeric grade will be assigned for each written assignment plus the student's participation in discussion of the assigned topic. **You must be present in class and prepared to participate in order to receive a grade for each assignment. Thus, papers may not be submitted electronically or delivered to the instructor outside of class, nor will late submissions be accepted. This means you must come to class ready to submit your written work AND ready to intelligently discuss the assignment. Failure to do either will result in a grade of 0 for that particular assignment.**

You will have 5 assignments over the course of the semester; the 4 highest grades will count toward your final grade for the course. If all 5 assignments are completed, your lowest grade will be dropped.

All assignments will be posted on Vista on the dates indicated in the Course Schedule below. Papers must be typed, using standard margins and fonts. Most written assignments will be 1-3 pages in length, but no specific length is required. **Note: no handwritten corrections or additions to the paper will be read or considered.**

Each assignment is worth 20% of the final grade.

Final exam – A comprehensive final exam will be given on the date and time listed in the Course Schedule. Please note that this is the **ONLY** time the final will be given; there is no opportunity to make up or reschedule this exam.

The final will consist of a mix of multiple choice and short-answer/essay questions. Students may refer to their notes during the exam. This is worth 20% of the grade for the course.

No “extra credit” work will be assigned. Don’t even ask.

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Students are not permitted to use cell phones or other electronic devices during class. Laptop computers may be used **ONLY** for the purpose of taking notes. The instructor reserves the right at any time to observe the screen content of any laptop used during class. If content other than class notes is visible, the student will be required to shut off the laptop and will not be allowed to use it in class thereafter.

GRADING: The final grade will be assigned as a letter grade, based on the following scale:

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

D = 60 – 69

F = 59 and below

A grade of Incomplete will be given only in rare circumstances, for good cause shown, such as a serious illness that precludes completion of the course. An Incomplete will not be given solely for failure to complete assignments on time. The instructor and the department chair shall have sole discretion in granting an Incomplete grade.

Grades, announcements, and schedule changes will be posted on Vista. Students are urged to check their Vista site regularly. All electronic communications with the instructor regarding course-related matters must be submitted through the Vista mail feature, **NOT** the standard KSU email system.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section III of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University’s

policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious or intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which may include an informal resolution by a faculty member resulting in a grade adjustment or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject the student to the minimum one-semester suspension required by the Code of Conduct.

Cheating or plagiarism in any form will result in a grade of F for the course. In addition, a report will be filed with the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.

COURSE SCHEDULE
(Tentative)

August 20	Introduction/ review syllabus
August 22-27	Chapter 1
August 29	Chapter 2
Sept 3	LABOR DAY – no class
Sept 5	Chapter 2
Sept 10	FIRST ASSIGNMENT
Sept 12-17	Chapter 3
Sept 19-26	Chapter 4
Oct 1	SECOND ASSIGNMENT
Oct 3-8	Chapter 5
Oct 10-15	Chapter 6
Oct 17-22	Chapter 7
Oct 24	THIRD ASSIGNMENT
Oct 29-31	Chapter 8
Nov 5-7	Chapter 9
Nov 12	Chapter 10
Nov 14	FOURTH ASSIGNMENT
Nov 19	Chapter 11
Nov 21	FALL BREAK – NO CLASS
Nov 26	Chapter 12
Nov 28	Chapter 13
Dec 3	Chapter 14
Dec 5	FIFTH ASSIGNMENT
Dec 10	FINAL EXAM 1:00-3:00 pm