Welcome to this class at Kennesaw State University (KSU); enjoy the experience and learn much! Read this syllabus closely and ask questions, as necessary. Work both smart and hard to earn the points you need to get the grade you want. Answers should be found at the lowest level possible as a matter of self-reliance. You will need reliable access to D2L and Turnitin.com (both are available at KSU labs). Technical difficulties, work, personal matters, etc. are not an excuse for poor/missing/late performance. Always read the footnotes!1

Course Description

This course prepares students to think critically about ethical issues they will encounter in the criminal justice profession. Topics include uses of force, increasing cultural diversity, and the balance between freedom and security.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to be self-reliant: to work productively as an individual and a member of a self-selected group; to think critically; to participate in the conversation; to identify correct and incorrect statements about criminal justice ethics; to teach others about the course material, and to follow the conversation wherever it might lead.

Methods of Learning & Assessment

This class consists of reading, lecture/discussion, assessments, writing, and networking. Points will be attached to attendance and performance on activities, quizzes, and a final exam.

Required Text


1 Enrollment in this course represents the consent of the student to the terms of this syllabus, which are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Notice of any changes will be given orally in class or on D2L. Unexcused absences, general tardiness or inattention are not excuses for non-compliance. Silence is interpreted as agreement; if you have questions, get the answers to them by thinking something through yourself; by working with your cohort; by asking the instructor a question on how to get the answer yourself. Teachers open doors, but students must choose to walk through them on their own. You have to choose to live the self-examined life as a matter of your individual will; it will not come by chance or gift.
Email Policy

Email me directly at kwhite88@kennesaw.edu. I will strive to reply to all emails within around 48 hours. Do not send me email through D2L. I may send you and/or the class an email through D2L, however, so you need to monitor both your D2L and KSU emails.

Course Policy

The policy of this course is self-reliance, which means to do one’s best and take responsibility for that which one can control regarding one’s performance and experience.

Grade Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>89.5-100%</td>
<td>Excellent!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>79.5-89.49%</td>
<td>Better than good enough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>69.5-79.49%</td>
<td>Good enough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>59.5-69.49%</td>
<td>Almost good enough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59.49%</td>
<td>Not good enough</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attendance is measured by a sign-in sheet or roll-call. Tardiness is equivalent to an unexcused absence, i.e., not good enough. It is your responsibility to sign the sign-in sheet; there are no retroactive sign-ins permitted. After the second unexcused absence or tardiness, every event thereafter results in a loss of five points. Also, after the second unexcused event, the student must initiate a counseling session with the instructor on the risks associated with poor attendance; otherwise, the student risks not earning any future points in the course. The excessively absent student may earn negative attendance points. Showing up is a critical part of success at a university.

Participation

Participation is measured by your performance on a Socratic, in-class reading/discourse exercise. Each student, in alphabetical order, will be on the “hot-seat” in class for the purpose of reading course material and participating in answering/asking questions in an instructor-led discourse exercise. Other students will be measured by their non-interruption of the discourse with the student on the “hot-seat,” as well as by their willingness to “jump-in” to the discourse when invited by the instructor or the student on the “hot-seat.” An “excellent” performance is operationalized as being: silent (when an audience member) until invited in the discourse; knowledgeable about the course material (having read the material before class); articulate (communicate ideas clearly); accurate/correct in that articulation; thorough in that articulation (address the material...
participation (be relevant to the issue being discussed). Please see the Participation Grade Rubric for the way scores will be recorded.

**Participation Grade Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A = 10</th>
<th>B = 8.5</th>
<th>C = 7.5</th>
<th>D = 6.5</th>
<th>F = 0-5.5</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledgeable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Articulate</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accurate</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Complete</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-point</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: An audience member who does not comply with the *silent-until-invited* principle of Socratic discourse may lose one point (-1) per unauthorized interruption. Raising one’s hand or asking to be invited into the discourse is encouraged and not considered to be an interruption. The student on the “hot-seat” is not responsible for the conduct of the audience.

**Quizzes and Final Exam**

There will be seven quizzes offered in the class and one final exam. The first five quizzes are required; the last two are optional and for extra credit. On true/false questions, identify whether the statement is, overall, objectively correct or objectively incorrect; read the statement very carefully. A statement that contains a piece(s) of true information may still be false. These assessments are not designed to “trick” students; rather, they are designed to test not only substantive course content awareness, but also analytical reasoning skills and the ability to think through the relationship between ideas. Words have meaning, so small changes to grammar/syntax in a statement can have a substantive impact on veracity. The assessments are comprehensive, and they build on themselves in the sense that they may be used to help you study for future exams in the class.

In my experience, diligent students need to take the first quiz to get a sense of “how” these assessments are constructed. After the first quiz, you should be in a better position to consider the way the assessments are constructed as part of your test preparation.

Network with your cohort on the quizzes, which are take-home and open-book. Quizzes must be submitted to Turnitin.com by the required time/date. **Do not wait until the last hour or so to submit your work;** technical difficulties is not a valid excuse for not uploading work. The final exam is in-class and closed note/book/electronic device/etc.

**Paper**

Students will research and write a paper on three distinct “lessons” chosen by you and approved by the instructor. The paper will be graded by the quality of the organization of the paper, presentation of ideas, and sources. The questions of the paper are, *What do you want others to know about the course material? Why are those three things important to know?* The Paper Rubric table will be used to score the paper. *Citations* refers to your ability to correctly, completely, and consistently attribute, i.e., use citations for every reference, paraphrase, or direct quotation to academic articles, books, or primary sources.

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2 Incorrect information cannot be true; one fly ruins the whole soup, so-to-speak.
e.g., judicial opinion or textbook. *Thesis Statement* refers to a single sentence at the end
of the first introductory paragraph that indicates the subject and purpose of the paper.³

*Headings* refer to “Introduction,” “Lesson 1,” “Lesson 2,” “Lesson 3,” and “Conclusion.”⁴

*Grammar/Syntax* refers to the avoidance of revision and editing errors, e.g., grammar,
syntax, spacing, consistency of words/ideas/structure, flow, etc. *Correct* refers to
presenting accurate information. *Complete* refers to addressing the assignment without
any omission of required information. *On-point* refers to presenting relevant information.

### Paper Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citations</th>
<th>A = 4.29</th>
<th>B = 3.65</th>
<th>C = 3.22</th>
<th>D = 2.79</th>
<th>F = 2.36</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thesis Statement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Headings</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar/Syntax</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correct</td>
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<tr>
<td>Complete</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-point</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Paper Due Date

The paper must be submitted through Turnitin.com by 11:59pm. The paper is due by the
date of the final exam: 12/11/14. Students should have their paper topics (lessons)
approved by the instructor before 11:59pm on the add/drop deadline: October 8th. Failure
to have the paper approved by then will result in a 10% grade reduction (per week).

### Excused Absences - Late Work - Missing Work

Students are expected to attend every class and to complete activities and assessments on
time. An absence or missed activity or assessment may be excused, if the circumstances
are beyond the student’s control and relatable to the ordinary, reasonable, and prudent
(ORP) student, e.g., medical necessity, jury duty, military or university service, etc. To be
excused, the absence must be documented by a neutral third party, e.g., physician’s
note (not receipt), court/military order, etc. You have access to health care (see
http://www.kennesaw.edu/col_hhs/hc/illness.html). Technical difficulties, transportation,
employment, volunteering, personal matters, etc., are generally not considered to be
beyond the control of the ORP student. **Plan for Murphy’s Law** (see Borenstein 2012).

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³ Your purpose is to teach a reader from a general audience about three ideas that you think are important to
know from the course material. An example of a thesis statement is: In this paper, I will explain what
Lesson 1, Lesson 2, and Lesson 3 are, and I will also discuss the importance of each idea.

⁴ Be descriptive in your headings for the three lessons, e.g., Lesson 1: Aristotle’s Character Ethic.
Make-up work or late work is very strongly discouraged. Make-up work or late work is allowed, if at all, at the sole discretion of the instructor. If permitted, there may be a penalty from 0-50% (depending upon the circumstances).

Students must communicate with the instructor by email within 48 hours of a missed due date to discuss the possibility of an excused absence, make-up work, or late work. If you know you are going to be absent, e.g., for jury duty, then please make arrangements before the absence with the instructor.

How to Get Missed Information

Students must have access to at least three of their classmates’ names and official KSU email addresses to network with and get answers. Students should rely on these classmates to get missed information from lectures or discussions and/or work through the course material. Make new friends, if necessary (network with your cohort).

Friend #1’s Email:________________________________________________________
Friend #2’s Email:________________________________________________________
Friend #3’s Email:________________________________________________________

Grade Dispute

Under university policy, to successfully dispute a grade, students have the burden of showing that their grade unfairly suffered, because (1) the instructor did not follow course/university policy, and/or because (2) the instructor discriminated against a student based on a student’s protected class status, and/or because (3) the instructor made a clerical error. Grade disputes must be timely. Disputing students must email the instructor within 48 hours of the grade(s) being posted on D2L or risk being considered as having “waived interest” in the grade(s).

Please, take time after learning about a grade to “cool-off” first and try to understand how the grade might be fair under the syllabus; please, do not complain about a grade all of a sudden after a poor performance and/or at the end of the term after the 48-hour window has passed. Be professional: Explain via email the nature of the dispute and suggest a remedy; provide supporting evidence and reference course/university policy in the email.

While I do not hope it happens, I do consider grade disputes to be a fundamental part of a student’s right to due process. I think it also affords an opportunity for further learning to both the instructor and the student. Please, do not hesitate to raise a perceived injustice. I understand, as an instructor, that it is frustrating for a student to work hard but not get the grade one wants; of course, a “tough” exam or a successful academic performance in the past cannot be the bases of grade complaints. Passion unguided by reason or base pleas for “mercy,” etc. are to be avoided. There has to be an objective reason to change an earned grade to preserve the integrity of the academic setting for all students.
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 II 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 malicious/intentional misuses of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an “Informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Electronic Recording Policy

Absent official documentation from DisAbility Services, there is no electronic recording of lectures or discussions permitted. The classroom is a conversation, not a press conference. Handwritten notes or typed notes are not considered to be an electronic recording.

Statement on Disabilities

KSU, a member of the University System of Georgia, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin, disability, or sexual orientation in employment or provision of services (see: http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/home/home.html). If you need anything to help accommodate the learning environment/process, please see the instructor for assistance.

Student Success Services

A university should be challenging and engaging, but not overwhelming. Student Success Services offers a range of services to help KSU students succeed, including psychological counseling (see: http://www.kennesaw.edu/studentsuccessservices/).

Technical Support

If you have a question about technical support, please contact support at 770-499-3555.

Advising

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) offers an Undergraduate Advising Center (UAC) for one-on-one advising regarding course offerings and availability, as well as creating a graduation plan. Students are encouraged to make an appointment (see: http://www.kennesaw.edu/hssadvising/home.php).
**Hours of Study**

Benjamin Franklin (N.d., par. 1) said: “The U.S. Constitution doesn’t guarantee happiness, only the pursuit of it.” Similarly, the payment of tuition and fees is an opportunity to pass a class, not a guarantee of credit. While most students know the way to succeed at university, some students set themselves up for failure by not reading this syllabus and/or the assigned material. Other students sabotage their success by taking on more than possible, e.g., by definition one cannot go to school “full time” and work “full time” simultaneously. Once the cup of time is full, more time cannot be added to it. Other students sabotage their success by procrastinating or not trying to do one’s best. Do not put off to tomorrow what you can do today, and give your best effort to everything you choose to do, i.e., such as enroll in this class.

To give you a sense of the amount of time required in every university class, on average, consider what Gibbs and Simpson (2004, 3) say on the matter, “Students are normally expected to spend between about one and four hours out of class for each hour in class.”

**Thoughts on the Educational Process: The Instructor as a Tool**

What does it mean to teach? Perhaps Henry David Thoreau (1993, 75) gets at it here:

“The greatest compliment that was ever paid me was when one asked me what I thought, and attended to my answer. I am surprised, as well as delighted, when this happens, it is such a rare use he would make of me, as if he were acquainted with the tool.”

Thoreau has inspired me to write you a poem.

*Please consider me, your teacher, to be a tool.*

*I am here to help you succeed.*

*A hammer cannot build a house,*

*But, like me, it can help,*

*If you know how to use the tool.*

What should this poem be called? Every poem—like every academic paper, like every human being—needs a name. How about, *Teacher = Tool?* or, *Hammer Time?* Let me know your thoughts on poetry, the human condition, the educational process, the course material, or whatever else I can help you with during “Qs? Cs?” in class or on the discussion feature in D2L. I wish you good luck in your academic career at KSU!5

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5 Hint: Try to make your own luck. If there is a moral will, and, if there is a moral way, then it can be done.
## Fall 2014 Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Key Topics</th>
<th>Course Material</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08/18/14-</td>
<td>Ethics, politics, philosophy, theory, empirical, normative, bases of ethics, ancient v. modern,</td>
<td><strong>PART ONE: Areas of Ethics in CJ</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/08/14</td>
<td>right, justice, categorical imperative, utilitarianism, character, virtue, virtues, stoicism,</td>
<td>Chapter 1: The Importance of Ethics in CJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>hedonism, egoism, Rawls’ theory of justice, ethic of care, culture, use of force, corruption,</td>
<td><strong>PART TWO: Ethical Theories</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>whistle-blowing, entrapment, dirty harry problem, hate crime, racism, race, ethnicity, death</td>
<td>Chapter 10: Categorical Imperative: Kant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>penalty disparities, adversary system, inquisitorial system, roles in a trial, misfeasance</td>
<td>Chapter 11: Utilitarianism: Mill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>malfeasance, theories of punishment, history of corrections, types of security facilities,</td>
<td>Chapter 12: Character Ethics: Aristotle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>convict code, types of authority in corrections, war on drugs, moral panic policy, policy cycle,</td>
<td>Chapter 13: Self-Interest, Hedonism, Stoics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cost/benefit analysis, truth in sentencing, terrorism, torture, targeted killing, due process,</td>
<td>Chapter 14: A Theory of Justice: Rawls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ticking-time-bomb scenario, roles of the media, frames, media event</td>
<td>Chapter 15: Care and Concern: Feminism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/28/14</td>
<td>First quiz</td>
<td>Submit via Turnitin.com by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/11/14</td>
<td>Second quiz</td>
<td>Submit via Turnitin.com by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/25/14</td>
<td>Third quiz</td>
<td>Submit via Turnitin.com by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/08/14</td>
<td>Paper Topics Approved</td>
<td>D2L Discussion by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/09/14</td>
<td>Fourth quiz</td>
<td>Submit via Turnitin.com by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/23/14</td>
<td>Fifth quiz</td>
<td>Submit via Turnitin.com by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/06/14</td>
<td>Sixth quiz</td>
<td>Submit via Turnitin.com by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20/14</td>
<td>Seventh quiz</td>
<td>Submit via Turnitin.com by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/24-11/30</td>
<td>Fall Break</td>
<td>Thanksgiving for Unalienable Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/11/14</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>8:30-10:30pm <strong>BRING BLUEBOOK</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/11/14</td>
<td>Paper Due</td>
<td>Submit via Turnitin.com by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: During the last few weeks of classes, the university will email you a link to your official KSU email address for **Digital Measures**, which is the online survey for students to evaluate their instructors. Your participation in this important process is sincerely appreciated.

**Turnitin.com Login Information**

- **Course ID:** 8295439
- **Pass:** CrimEthics

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Works Cited


