

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY and CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE 4100/02 – ETHICS in CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRN #81346
SYLLABUS – FALL 2015

Instructor: Prof. Peter Fenton
Phone: 470-578-2292
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Office: 4065 Social Sciences

Class times: Tuesday/Thursday
5:00 pm – 6:15 pm
Room 2030 Social Sciences
Office hours T/Th 2:00-4:00 pm

TEXT:

Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice, 8th Edition, Pollock, Wadsworth Publishing, Belmont, California, 2014. 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 D2L 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 laptop or tablet computers, cell phones, or other electronic devices during class, except for the purpose of taking notes. The instructor reserves the right at any time to observe the screen content of any device used during class. If content other than class notes or other relevant material is visible, the student will be required to shut off the device 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 D2L. Students are urged to check their D2L site regularly. All electronic communications with the instructor regarding course-related matters must be submitted through the D2L mail feature, **NOT** the standard KSU email system.

ATTENDANCE: Regular class attendance is directly related to academic success. Therefore, attendance in class should be a priority, and a mandatory attendance policy will be enforced. Each student will be allowed a maximum of two absences during the semester. These are at the student’s discretion – no doctor’s notes or other documentation

is required. However, upon the third and subsequent absence, one letter grade will be deducted from the student's final grade for each class missed.

Roll will be called at the start of each class. Students who arrive late are solely responsible for checking in with the instructor IMMEDIATELY AFTER CLASS. Two late arrivals are the equivalent of one absence.

The only exceptions to this policy are for documented mandatory military service or a court subpoena or summons.

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

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)

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| August 18 | Introduction/ review syllabus |
| August 20-25 | Chapter 1 |
| August 27 | Chapter 2 |
| Sept. 1 | Chapter 2 continued |
| Sept 3 | Ethics exercise |
| Sept 8 | FIRST ASSIGNMENT |
| Sept 10-15 | Chapter 3 |
| Sept 17-22 | Chapter 4 |
| Sept 24 | SECOND ASSIGNMENT |
| Sept 29-Oct 1 | Chapter 5 |
| Oct 6-8 | Chapter 6 |
| Oct 13-15 | Chapter 7 |
| Oct 20 | THIRD ASSIGNMENT |
| Oct 22-27 | Chapter 8 |
| Oct 29-Nov 3 | Chapter 9 |
| Nov 5 | NO CLASS |
| Nov 10 | Chapter 10 |
| Nov 12 | FOURTH ASSIGNMENT |
| Nov 17 | Chapter 11 |
| Nov 19 | Chapter 12 |
| Nov. 23-29 | FALL BREAK – NO CLASSES |
| December 1 | Chapters 13 & 14 |
| Dec. 3 | FIFTH ASSIGNMENT |
| Dec 10 | FINAL EXAM 6:00 – 8:00 pm |