

Montgomery County Community College
CJS 205
Ethics and the American Criminal Justice System
3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

“Ethics and the American Criminal Justice System” presents an introduction to the ethical issues arising in the law, to the methodology by which ethical deliberations are resolved, and to the personal-societal implications of decision-making. The course will focus upon the judicial system as an institution, the legal system philosophy, criminality, liability, corrections, the role of law enforcement and current legal issues.

REQUISITES:

Previous Course Requirements

CJS 100 Introduction to Criminal Justice

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Discuss the body of philosophical thought and its accepted terminology that facilitates a study of ethics and the criminal justice system.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions; Case Study Analysis of ‘Real-World’ Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study Analysis of ‘Real-World’ Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
2. Explain how one's personal ethics, as well as societal and institutional factors, influence and shape the kinds of ethical decisions that we make in our daily professional lives.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System* AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System
3. Identify the steps of the ethical deliberative process and its application to real-life and workplace issues.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System* AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research* Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System*
4. Analyze organizational and institutional ethics within the three major components of the American criminal justice system: law enforcement, the courts, and the correctional system.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
5. Apply both personal introspection and reflection, and objective analysis of the behavior of others, in relation to ethical topics and case studies.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System
6. Explain the importance of integrity in service, especially for criminal justice professionals.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System
7. Demonstrate proficiency in research skills and written and oral communication within the conceptual framework of understanding ethics and ethical problems in the context of the American criminal justice system.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study Analysis of 'Real-World' Ethical Dilemmas in the Criminal Justice System

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior
2. Determining Moral Behavior
3. Making Ethical Decisions
4. The Origins and Concepts of Justice
5. Law and the Individual
6. Ethics and the Criminal Justice Professional
7. The Police Role in Society: Crime Fighter or Public Servant
8. Corruption and the "Code"
9. 'Noble Cause' Corruption
10. Ethics and Legal Professionals
11. Justice and Judicial Ethics
12. The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections
13. Ethics and Institutional Corrections
14. Ethics and Community Corrections
15. Ethical Choices and the "War on Terror"

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Pollock, Joycelyn M. (2016). *Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice* (9th ed.). Cengage/Wadsworth. Plus Mindlink for Mindtap

Textbooks are retained or changed at the discretion of the division. The decision to retain or change a textbook will be effective with the Fall term. When a textbook is retained, its latest edition will be adopted as of the Fall term.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Donald A. Nypower	Date: 5/12/1995
Revised by: Angela M. Ambers-Henderson	Date: 10/1998
Revised by: Benn Prybutok and Barbara May	Date: 6/18/2008
Revised by: Benn Prybutok	Date: 6/30/2012
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 8/24/2012
Revised by: Benn Prybutok	Date: 2/22/2013
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 2/25/2013
Revised by: Jayden Sampson	Date: 12/16/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Date: 12/18/2017

W. J. F. W.

This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.