

Syllabus
CRIJ 3310 section 001
Spring 2022

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(The best way to contact me is by using the messaging function in Canvas.)

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday from 11am-1pm and by appointment. Furthermore, I am available throughout the week, so do not hesitate to send me a message and we can arrange an in-person office session or one via Zoom.

Course Overview: The purpose of this course is to expose you to the complex problems criminal justice students and practitioners confront in the criminal justice system. You will become familiar with the considerations that determine ethical thought and how it pertains to decision making in the criminal justice system. You will be able to intellectually discuss the role of the police, the law, and corrections within the context of ethical dilemmas. This is especially relevant for you today as you prepare yourself for a career in the criminal justice system or as a student of the criminal justice system.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1) Justify reasons moral and ethical actions and decisions are essential to individuals and organizations affiliated with the criminal justice system.
2) Compare and contrast deontological ethical systems, teleological ethical systems, and ethics of virtue.
3) Summarize the major approaches of moral development.
4) Demonstrate proficiency with the APA documentation style, 7 th ed.
5) Summarize the ethical issues individuals in law enforcement confront.
6) Describe the complexity of police decisions as it relates to the dilemmas police officers are confronted with daily in their decision making.
7) Summarize the ethical issues individuals in the legal profession confront.
8) Explain the ethical issues affiliated with corrections policy in the United States
9) Summarize the dilemmas individuals working in corrections confront.
10) Synthesize the complexity of solving moral dilemmas as a criminal justice professional.

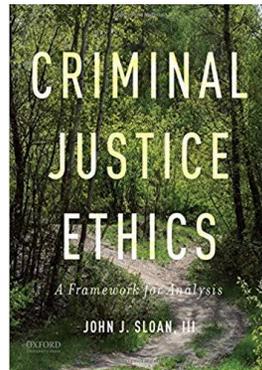
Overall “Big Question” we will be focused on all semester: How can the criminal justice system achieve an acceptable standard of justice in the United States? (This is a question that transcends this course and relates to all of the courses I teach; and can be used for you to be an objective and critical thinker in all criminal justice courses).

Main concepts/questions: I will keep the Ethical Issues in Criminal Justice course content revolving around (1) What are the ethical dilemmas in the criminal justice system and how does it relate to the overall big course question? (2) What must the police, court personnel, and corrections employees continuously consider when striving towards ethical decision making? And, (3) What are the challenges

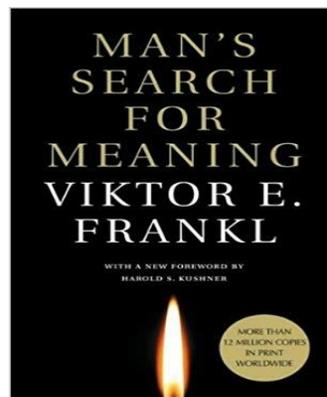
criminal justice practitioners are confronted with daily that impinge their ability to achieve ethical decisions?

Required Textbooks and Readings:

Sloan, J. J. (2019). *Criminal Justice Ethics: A Framework for Analysis*. New York, NY: Oxford Press. ISBN: 978-0-190-63913-6.

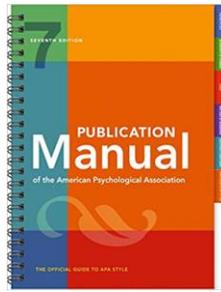


Frankl, V. E. (1992). *Man's Search for Meaning*. Cutchogue, NY: Buccaneer Books, Inc. ISBN: 978-0-8070-1429-5



Recommended:

APA. (2019). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.)*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. ISBN: 978-1-4338-3217-8



Assignments and weights/percentage values

1. Getting Started Module Assignments (Padlet, Quiz, Discussion Board)	5%
2. Chapter Quizzes	20%
3. In Class Learning Activities	10%
4. Post Class Reflections (Discussion Boards)	15%
5. Reflection Papers (each worth 10%)	30%
6. Final Exam	<u>20%</u>
	100%

Grading Scale:

A	90% or greater
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
D	60 – 69%
F	below 60%

**keep in mind, I round up. This means a 89.45, rounds to a 89.5, which rounds to a 90.0

Late Work and Make-Up Exams: Unfortunately, illnesses, deaths in the family, or other traumatic events are part of life. Such events are unwelcomed and because I understand how difficult these times are, if you contact me within 24 hours of the event **and** provide documentation, I will be happy to give you a make-up quiz or extend an assignment deadline.

The general rule is I will not accept any late assignments. Please pay particular attention to the due dates for each assignment.

Attendance Policy: You are expected to attend every class session. There will be important information being discussed in class that you will need to ensure your success in this course. So, unless you are ill or have a family situation that precludes your attendance (but please let me know if you will not be in class), you are expected to be in class. It is important you read the reading assignments prior to class and arrive ready to discuss the material. Again, I recognize extenuating circumstances arise that can make it difficult to attend each and every class session. In other words, life happens! If a serious family emergency occurs, please let me know as soon as the event occurs or within 24 hours.

UT Tyler does have a [Class Attendance policy](#) in the catalog.

Graded Course Requirements Information:

Class Assignments:

You are expected to be in the classroom every day we have class. Why is this important? There will be activities that you will receive credit for, but you can only receive the credit if you are in the classroom.

Chapter Quizzes:

Each week you will be responsible for reading the chapter prior to our Tuesday class session and taking the chapter quiz. I tried not have these accountability measures, but quickly learned (again) that if I don't have students take an assessment for the reading material, many students will not read the material—and are thus, ill prepared for classroom learning. Just look at the weekly modules in Canvas and/or the schedule of events in this syllabus to see which weeks you are responsible for a quiz. Make sure the quizzes are completed prior to our Tuesday class, thus, prior to 930am. You have two opportunities to take the quiz. I will average your scores. Read, study, and take the quiz and you will be better prepared to learn during our class sessions.

Post Class Reflections (Discussion Boards):

There are a few post-class reflections via discussion boards (Weeks 1, 4, 10, and 11). These will help me review your thoughts, your writing, ability to paraphrase and incorporate reading into your argument, and APA intext and reference compliance. These are due on the Friday (at 11:59pm) on the week each is assigned. Make sure you complete at least a 250 word initial post and reply to at least two other students. You are also required to paraphrase the readings using APA and provide an APA compliant reference.

Reflection Papers:

There will be three reflection papers that you will prepare throughout the semester, they are due on Friday, no later than 11:59pm as stipulated in the Calendar. You will be required to complete a written assignment/reflection by incorporating course content along with at least two peer-reviewed sources you identify in the library as applicable for your argument. The reflections will be based upon movies you will be exposed to during the semester during weeks 5, 9, and 12. Your papers must be a minimum of three full pages, two (2) peer-reviewed sources, double spaced, one inch margins, using Times New Roman with 12 pt. font, and documented in the 7th edition to the APA style (all elements). *[The page minimum does not include the title page and reference page]*

Final Exam:

There will be one (1) examination during the semester. The exam will occur in class according to the University Final Exam Schedule that will be posted later in the semester.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

This is a tentative course schedule

Week 1	January 10-14
	“What is Ethics About?”
	Reference material: Chapter 1
	Learning Activities: Lecture and Class discussion
	Discussion Board is due by Friday at 11:59pm!

Week 2 January 17-21
 "Learning How to Think within an Ethical Construct"
 January 17-University is closed for MLK, Jr. Holiday
 Reference material: Chapter 2

UT Tyler is closed on Monday January 17 for the MLK Holiday

Week 3 January 24-28
 "The Ethical World of the CJ Practitioner"
 Reference material: Chapter 3
 Learning Activities: Lecture and Class Activities

******* January 24 is Census Day**

Week 4 January 31-February 4
 "Thinking Constitutionally"
 Reference material: Chapter 4
 Learning Activities: Lecture and Class Activities
 Discussion Board is due by Friday at 11:59pm!

Week 5 February 7-11
 "Overcoming the Ethical Conundrum"
 Reference material: Chapter 5
 Learning Activities: Lecture and Class Activities

Week 6 February 14-18
 "Documentation"
 Reference Material: Review of APA
 Assignment: Review past papers for APA compliance due Feb 18
 Learning Activities: Lecture and Class Activities
 First Reflection Paper Due by Friday at 11:59pm!

Week 7 February 21-25
 "Thinking about Ethics and Policing"
 Reference material: Chapter 6
 Learning Activities: Lecture and Class Activities

Week 8 February 28-March 4
 "The Application of Ethics for Policing"
 Reference material: Chapter 7
 Learning Activities: Lecture and Class Activities

March 7-12—Spring Break, thus—NO CLASSES!!

