

**CRIM 306 - 004 Criminal Justice Ethics**  
*College of Humanities and Social Sciences*  
*Criminology, Law, and Society*  
*George Mason University*

**Spring 2017**

**Instructor:** David Huchler, Adjunct Professor

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**Office Hours:** By Appointment

**Class Time:** Tuesday, 7:20 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**Location:** Krug Hall 242

**Course Description (GMU Course Catalog):**

Analyzes ethical principles relevant for those working in criminal justice.

**I. Learning Goal (Text Book Overview)**

By the end of the course, students will develop the ethical decision-making skills that are essential in the field of criminal justice.

The text *ETHICAL DILEMMAS AND DECISIONS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE*, 9th Edition is packed with current, real-world examples that cover ethics across all three arms of the criminal justice system: the police, the courts, and corrections. It combines coverage of the philosophical principles and theories that are the foundation of ethical decision-making with the latest challenges and issues in criminal justice -- militarization of the police, mass imprisonment, wrongful convictions, the misuse of power by public servants, and more.

**Course Requirements and Grading**

- 20% - Chapter Assignments - *Assignments will be completed on Blackboard using the MindTap subscription-based learning service. This entails weekly take-home quizzes, video reviews and scenario based questions.*
- 20% - Mid-Term Exam
- 20% - A five (5) page, double spaced, paper on a topic approved by the instructor. The paper should use class readings and discussion to form a defensible position on the selected topic. In addition to the assigned text, students are required to cite at least three different sources. Papers will be written using the APA formatting and style guide (<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/writing-resources/helpful-links>).
- 20% - Final Exam
- 20% - Participation – *includes attendance, class participation and opinion essay/responses on the Blackboard Discussion Board.*

### Grading Scale

A	100 – 93 %	C+	79.9 – 77 %
A-	92.9 – 90 %	C	76.9 – 70 %
B+	89.9 – 87 %	D	69.9 – 60 %
B	86.9 – 83 %	F	59.9 and below
B-	82.9 – 80 %		

## II. Schedule of topics and assignments

Week 1	1/24	Text – Chapter 1		Introduction & Overview
Week 2	1/31	Text – Chapter 2 & 3		
Week 3	2/7	Text – Chapter 4		
Week 4	2/14	Text – Chapter 5		
Week 5	2/21	Text – Chapter 6		
Week 6	2/28	Text – Chapter 7		
Week 7	3/7	<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>		
Week 8	3/14	<b>Spring Break – NO CLASS</b>		
Week 9	3/21	Text – Chapter 8		
Week 10	3/28	Text – Chapter 9		
Week 11	4/4	Text – Chapter 10		
Week 12	4/11	Text – Chapter 11	PAPER DUE	
Week 13	4/18	Text – Chapter 12		
Week 14	4/25	Text – Chapter 13		
Week 15	5/2	Text – Chapter 14		
Week 16	5/9	<b>Reading Day – NO CLASS</b>		
Week 17	5/16	<b>Final Exam</b>	7:30pm – 10:15pm	

## III. Required Reading

Joycelyn M. Pollock: Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice, 9<sup>th</sup> edition

2 options that can be purchased at the GMU Bookstore

- Loose-Leaf Version, 9th + LMS Integrated MindTap® Criminal Justice, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card (9781337150163)
- LMS Integrated for MindTap® Criminal Justice, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card for Pollock's Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice, 9<sup>th</sup> (9781305640511)

*Student will use the Cengage MindTap subscription based service described below, which will be integrated with GMU Blackboard. Access can be purchased through the George Mason University Book Store. Students will then log into their Blackboard account in order to activate the subscription. The log in for Cengage MindTap can be found in the MindTap folder in the Content area of Blackboard. Once the subscription is activated students will only have to log into Blackboard to access the digital platform.*

*MindTap on Blackboard Registration and Login:*

<https://www.cengage.com/services/resource/7338>

#### IV. Optional Reading

Optional readings will be placed in the Content area of Blackboard to support the text book readings and lectures.

#### V. Honor Code

George Mason University has an Honor Code, which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. **Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited.** All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity. See <http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code-2/> for more detailed information.

#### VI. University Policies

##### **Campus Resources:**

The Writing Center, University Libraries, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and the Office of Disability Services are available to assist students. Links to the University Catalog and the University Policies website for all other university academic and non-academic policies can be found in the links below.

- General University Information / Weather: [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu)
- Office of Disability Services: [ods.gmu.edu](http://ods.gmu.edu)
- Writing Center: <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>
- Counseling and Psychological Services: [caps.gmu.edu](http://caps.gmu.edu)
- University Catalog: <http://catalog.gmu.edu>
- University Policies: <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu>
- University Library: <http://library.gmu.edu/>

##### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703.993.2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

##### **Add/Drop Period:**

January 30 – last day to add

January 30 – last day to drop with no tuition penalty

February 13 – last day to drop (33% tuition penalty)

February 24 – final drop deadline (66% tuition penalty)

##### **Class Cancellations:**

Check Mason's homepage ([www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu)) to see if classes are cancelled for bad weather or any other emergency circumstances. You can also register for Mason's emergency alert system at <https://alert.gmu.edu>. If I should have to cancel a class due to a personal emergency, I'll make every attempt to email you ASAP at your Mason email address. Be sure to check your email regularly so you can receive important information in a timely manner.