

CRIM 306-003 Criminal Justice Ethics – CRN-71971

Fall 2017: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM, Art and Design Building 2026
George Mason University, Fairfax Campus

Instructor: Thomas A. Faison, Adjunct Professor
Senior Special Agent
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (Retired)

Office: Fairfax Campus - Room TBD

Office hours: I will be available for meetings before and after class and by appointment

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College 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 may also be included in the links below.

General University Information / Weather: www.gmu.edu

Office of Disability Services: ods.gmu.edu

Writing Center: <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>

Counseling and Psychological Services: caps.gmu.edu

English Language Institute: eli.gmu.edu

Learning Services: caps.gmu.edu/learning.services

University Catalog: <http://catalog.gmu.edu>

University Policies: <http://universitypolicy.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.

Honor Code Policy:

All students are expected to be familiar with the University's Honor Code, which may be found in the University Catalog. Ignorance of the policy is not a valid excuse and all violations will be reported. For the purposes of this class, pay particular attention to section B. *plagiarism*. (*The following was reproduced from the University Catalog*):

B. Plagiarism encompasses the following:

- *Cutting and pasting from other sources*
- *Improper/lack of proper citations*
- *Using someone else's ideas, thought and/or words without citing*
- *Using poor paraphrasing*

- *Submitting someone else's work as your own*
- *Coping word for word without citing*

Students are expected to abide by the requirements of the University regarding academic integrity, to include lying, cheating or stealing. (See "Academic Integrity" in the George Mason University Catalog; OAI.gmu.edu) Students who present false information will be treated in accordance with the University's Policies.

Privacy Policy:

There is an expectation that class discussion will bring out various topics and opinions. Please keep an open mind and respect the privacy of students who may disclose personal information in the class. Also, please respect everyone's right to freely choose whether to disclose or not disclose personal information.

Weather and Other Emergencies:

It is advisable to check Mason's homepage (www.gmu.edu) to see if classes are cancelled due to bad weather or other emergency circumstances. If I should have to cancel a class due to a personal emergency, I will make every attempt to email you at your Mason email address, as soon as possible. **Please be sure to frequently check your Mason email.**

Add/Drop Period:

Last Day to Add (Full-Semester Course)	No Tuition Penalty	September 6
Last Day to Drop (Full-Semester Course)	33% penalty	September 20
Last Day to Drop (Full-Semester Course)	67% penalty	September 30

Course Description and Objectives

To explore the ethical issues that confront Law Enforcement Officers and other Public Service Officials in today's fast paced society. We will examine this issue in an academic way by extensively covering the Braswell Textbook, **Justice, Crime, and Ethics** a well-known publication in this field.

We will also explore this topic through famous real world examples, most notably the Knapp Hearings that roiled the NYPD during the early 1970's. To do this, we will read Robert Daley's classic work **"Prince of the City"** as well as view the film that was derived from it.

I have invited experts in various criminal justice and military fields to provide their views on ethical issues from a *real world* perspective. I know and have worked with these 3 men in the past and can personally attest to their knowledge and expertise.

Please print and fill out the Student Bio Sheet found in the Blackboard Program associated with this course and bring it with you to the first day of class

Examinations

Quizzes will be based on the week's scheduled reading. **Midterm** will be a brief video related project with an associated 2 page essay/paper. **Final Examination** will consist of essay questions that will incorporate material covered in *Braswell and Daley*. Quizzes will be multiple choice. If you are going to miss a quiz or have missed a quiz due to an illness or emergency, you will need to notify me immediately. **Makeup exams** may be allowed, depending on the circumstances and timeliness of notification of absence and at my discretion. Makeup exams may be in a different format than the regularly scheduled exam and will be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor. Quizzes cannot be made up but I will drop the lowest score from your average.

Class Preparation/Participation

We will be utilizing Mason's online Blackboard program for the PowerPoint slides used in class, instructions for assignments, grades and any other course materials. Below is an explanation of how to access Blackboard:

- Go to: courses.gmu.edu
- Log on using your email username and eight-digit password. If your email account is, for example, tfaison@gmu.edu, then your user name will be tfaison

Student Guide to Blackboard: <http://tap.gmu.edu/bbstudentguide.pdf>. If you need additional assistance with the Blackboard system, email courses@gmu.edu or contact the Collaborative Learning Hub; (311 Johnson Center or 703-993-3141).

One of the critical, if not indispensable ingredients of a viable ethics course is preparation and discussion. It is important that you prepare for each class by reading the materials highlighted in the syllabus. I will make sure to let you know of any other reading assignments for the next week, before the end of each class. Additional class material will be provided to students, on Blackboard, after the lecture date. It is my intention to involve students in class discussion; thus, **20%** of your grade will consist of class attendance, preparation and participation.

Finally, there may be some issues discussed in class that may evoke strong emotions such as the death penalty, racial profiling, firearms possession, use of force and arrest. This is a reminder to all students to be respectful of others, their opinions, and be open to other perspectives during these discussions.

Overall Grading/Examinations

Weekly Quizzes – 40% of grade in the aggregate

Midterm 20% of grade

Final Exam – 20% of grade

Attendance and participation – 20% of grade

I plan to call on students frequently to learn their opinions and ascertain their knowledge of the subject matter.

The following is the numerical conversion to the corresponding letter grade scale that will be used:

A+	97 – 100%	(4.0)	B-	80 – 82%	(2.67)	F	0 – 59%	(0)
A	93 – 96%	(4.0)	C+	77 – 79%	(2.33)			
A-	92 – 90%	(3.67)	C	73 – 76%	(2.0)			
B+	87 – 89%	(3.33)	C-	70 – 72%	(1.67)			
B	83 – 86%	(3.0)	D	60 – 69%	(1.0)			

Texts

Primary: *(required)*

Michael C. Braswell et.al, Justice, Crime, and Ethics, Eighth Edition, Anderson Publishing (2015)

Robert Daley, Prince of the City, Warner Books (1978)

I welcome you to the class and look forward to meeting you on August 29th.

Class Schedule

As outlined below, the subject matter that will be covered during the course of the semester has been grouped by chapters. In preparing for class, it is imperative that the material be read. It should also be noted that it is the student's responsibility to stay abreast of assignments, changes to the schedule, etc., all of which will be announced with adequate notice, during class.

August 29	Introduction to Course
August 31	Chapters One (1) and Two (2): Basic Terms and Approaches to Ethics
September 5	Chapter Three (3): Peacemaking, Justice and Ethics
September 7	Chapter Four (4): Police Ethics
September 12	Chapter Five (5) and Six (6): Police Training and Interrogation Techniques
September 14	Chapter Seven (7): Police Misconduct: Which Behaviors lead to Crime and Misconduct <i>Start Reading Prince of the City</i>
September 19	Chapter Eight (8): Prosecutors, Defense Attorneys and Trials
September 21	Chapter Nine (9): Ethical Challenges for Prosecutors <i>Guest Speaker: James P. Vann, Division Counsel, ATF Washington Field Division</i>
September 26	Chapter Ten (10) and Eleven (11): Sentencing, Punishment, and their associated Ethical Dilemmas
September 28	Chapter Twelve (12): The Death Penalty
October 3	Chapter Thirteen (13): Ethics in Probation, Parole and Community Corrections
October 5	Chapter Fourteen (14): Restorative Justice, Returning Detainees back into society
October 10	No Classes
October 12	TBD
October 17 and 19	Chapter Fifteen (15) and Sixteen (16): Prisons and their Problems <i>Guest Speaker: Gary F. Cornelius, Deputy Sheriff Fairfax County Sheriff's Office (Retired)</i>
October 24 and 26	Midterm Presentations

October 31	Chapter Seventeen (17): Myths, Opinions and Public Information Guest Speaker: Jeff Pegues CBS News
November 2	Chapter Eighteen (18) Juvenile Justice Issues
November 7	Chapter Nineteen (19) White Collar Crime and Public Corruption
November 9	Midterm Presentations Due
November 14 & 16	The Military, Terrorism and Ethics Guest Speaker: Richard Parker, Colonel, United States Army Judge Advocates General Corps. (Retired)
November 21	TBD
November 23	No Class
November 28	Prince of the City: Book and Film
November 30	Prince of the City: Book and Film Guest Speaker: Richard Benderoth, Inspector, Treasury IG for Tax Administration (Retired)
December 5	Chapter Twenty Two (22) Ethics in the Future
December 7	Final Review and Questions

This schedule is a preliminary outline. Adjustments will be made to take into account emergencies, weather issues and guest speaker schedules.