RCJU303 – Ethics in Criminal Justice

Master Course Syllabus

Course Overview (QM Standards 1.2)

Course description:

This class provides the student with techniques for employing ethics in law enforcement. **E**thical clarity is especially critical for the police professional – perhaps uniquely so – because the ethical point of view determines the way "police competence" is understood. In addition to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, this course promotes an "ethic to live by" for officers and other professionals, and applies various schools of ethical thought to practical examples in policing. This course will provide the tools necessary for making intelligent, impartial decisions from a positive perspective.

This eight week course schedule will be broken into four Learning Modules with multiple parts for ease of access. Each Module will offer students opportunities to test their knowledge through interactive exercises, assessments, and quality discussions. In additional to the primary learning outcomes, students are encouraged to expand their knowledge on homeland security issues and the ever changing current events of our country.

Course Goals and Objectives:

- Identify and explain the ethical systems covered in the text and in class
- Explain the psychological theories of moral development covered in the text and in class
- Identify and explain the moral and ethical issues facing police officers, corrections officers, prosecutors, and defense attorneys
- Given scenarios, demonstrate the ability to identify and resolve ethical issues
- Identify from current events ethical issues in criminal justice

Pre-Requisites (QM Standard 1.6)

- Employment in the criminal justice field

Minimum Technical Requirements and Online Resources (QM Standards 1.5 & 1.7)

In addition to a web browser (preferable Firefox) that is Blackboard compatible, you will need the following software in order to complete the activities in this class:

1. Word processing package capable of reading and creating .doc, .docx or rich text formatted (rtf) documents.
2. *Adobe Acrobat Reader*: If you do not have *Adobe Acrobat Reader*, you can download it free from http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html
3. PDF Creator Software: If you are using a MAC or do not have software capable of saving a file as a .doc or .docx file and do not have the capability on your campus to print files to PDF, you can download a free version of *CutePDF* at http://www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp This software installs a virtual printer on your PC that allows you to print files to the PDF format.
4. Virus Protection Software**:** This course requires you to download and upload files from your PC. Virus protection software protects your computer and my computer.

Online Resources: This course makes use of many online resources. I have made every effort to make sure the links I have are up-to-date. However, due to the changing nature of the web, you may find that a resource is temporarily unavailable or has been removed. If this should happen, please send me an email and I will find an alternative resource or modify the assignment accordingly.

Instructor Information (QM Standards 1.8 & 5.3)

Individual instructors complete this information.

Virtual Office Hours
I am available in my virtual office by appointment only. Send me an email to set up an appointment.

Personal Commitment
My personal commitments to you as a participant include:

I will reply to course mail messages within 24 hours;

I will read all discussion postings and will reply where appropriate within 3 days

I will acknowledge my receipt of every course mail message immediately upon reading it. If I am unable to respond to the request or concern at the time of initial reply, I will give you an estimated time for my next reply.

If I am going to be away from the course space for more than a day or two, I will send a message to you indicating the length of my absence.

I will regularly update information regarding due dates in the course announcements.

Optional/Required Course Materials (QM Standard 4.6)

You will find your required textbook information in the course catalog at http://ilearn-wvrocks.wvnet.edu. All other required readings and videos are included in each of the modules.

Grading Policy (QM Standard 3.2)

Each module consists of a series of assignments, discussions and/or quizzes, each having specific point values. For each assignment or discussion you will be given the rubric or grading criteria from which you will be evaluated.

Discussions (8*35 points) and (1*5 points)	285
Papers (6*20 points) and (1*40)	160
Quizzes (4*20 points) and (3*15)	125
Total:	570

The grading scale is as follows:

A = 570-513 pts.
B = 512- 456 pts.
C = 455- 399 pts.
D = 398 - 342 pts.
F = < 341 pts.

Module Objectives and Assessments (QM Standard 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 3.4, 3.5, 5.1)
Module 1

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- Describe ethical formalism. [M1A2: Module 1 Discussion, M1A3: Module 1 Quiz]
- Describe utilitarianism. [M1A2: Module 1 Discussion, M1A3: Module 1 Quiz]
- Explain the differences in the eras of American Policing. [M1S1: Self-Assessment, M1A2: Module 1 Discussion, M1A3: Module 1 Quiz]
- Identify the different forms of police corruption. [M1A4: Module 1 Paper, M1A3: Module 1 Quiz]

Module 2

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- Discuss the different factors that impact ethical decision making. [M2A1: Module 2 Discussion, M2A2: Module 2 Quiz]
- Explain why the different factors impact ethical decision making. [M2S1: Self-Assessment, M2A1: Module 2 Discussion, M2A2: Module 2 Quiz]

- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in a scenario based assessment. [M2A1: Module 2 Discussion, M2A2: Module 2 Quiz]
- Identify and explain the tree types of power. [M2A2: Module 2 Quiz, M2A3: Module 2 Paper]
- Define moralizing. [M2A2: Module 2 Quiz, M2A3: Module 2 Paper]

Module 3

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- Explain judgments about possibilities. [M3A1: Module 3 Discussion, M3A3: Module 3 Paper]
- Explain the different types of justice. [M3S1: Self-Assessment, M3A1: Module 3 Discussion, M3A3: Module 3 Paper]
- Explain the "good." [M3A1: Module 3 Discussion, M3A3: Module 3 Paper]
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in a scenario based assessment. [M3A1: Module 3 Discussion, M3A3: Module 3 Paper]
- Define intelligence quotient. [M3A2: Module 3 Quiz, M3A3: Module 3 Paper]
- Define emotional intelligence. [M3A2: Module 3 Quiz, M3A3: Module 3 Paper]
- Define social intelligence. [M3A2: Module 3 Quiz, M3A3: Module 3 Paper]
- Explain the commonalities and differences in the three types of intelligence. [M3A2: Module 3 Quiz, M3A3: Module 3 Paper]

Module 4

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- Define absolutism. [M4A1: Module 4 Discussion, M4A3: Module 4 Paper]
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses of absolutism. [M4S1: Self-Assessment, M4A1: Module 4 Discussion, M4A3: Module 4 Paper]
- Define utilitarianism. [M4A1: Module 4 Discussion, M4A3: Module 4 Paper]
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses of utilitarianism. [M4A1: Module 4 Discussion, M4A3: Module 4 Paper]
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in a scenarios based assessment. [M4A2: Module 4 Quiz, M4A3: Module 4 Paper]

Module 5

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- Define merit. [M5A1: Module 5 Discussion, M5A2: Module 5 Quiz]
- Define equality. [M5S1: Self-Assessment, M5A1: Module 5 Discussion, M5A2: Module 5 Quiz]
- Define socialism. [M5A1: Module 5 Discussion, M5A2: Module 5 Quiz]
- Define virtue. [M5A1: Module 5 Discussion, M5A2: Module 5 Quiz]

- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in a scenario based assessment. Explain the elements of an ethical dilemma. [M5A2: Module 5 Quiz, M5A3: Module 5 Paper]
- Explain the elements of an ethical question. [M5A2: Module 5 Quiz, M5A3: Module 5 Paper]
- Identify the differences between and ethical dilemma and an ethical question. [M5A2: Module 5 Discussion, M5A3: Module 5 Paper]

Module 6

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- Identify theories that are related to crime causation. [M6A1: Module 6 Discussion, M6A2: Module 6 Quiz]
- Define and explain three causes of police misconduct. [M6S1: Self-Assessment, M6A1: Module 6 Discussion, M6A2: Module 6 Quiz]
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills by pairing causes of crime with theories of crime through explanation.[M6A2: Module 6 Quiz, M6A3: Module 6 Paper]
- Define and explain the five types of police misconduct. [M6A2: Module 6 Quiz, M6A3: Module 6 Paper]
- Identify the difference between internal affairs and civilian review boards [M6A2: Module 6 Quiz, M6A3: Module 6 Paper]
- Identify the differences between the multiple standards of conduct. [M6A2: Module 6 Quiz, M6A3: Module 6 Paper]

Module 7

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- Identify a successful police review system. [M7S1: Self-Assessment, M7A1: Module 7 Discussion, M7A2: Module 7 Quiz]
- Identify a police review system failure. [M7A1: Module 7 Discussion, M7A2: Module 7 Quiz]
- Describe ethical formalism. [M7A1: Module 7 Discussion, M7A2: Module 7 Quiz]
- Describe utilitarianism.[M7A1: Module 7 Discussion, M7A2: Module 7 Quiz]

Module 8

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- Identify the importance of education. [M8S1: Self-Assessment, M8A1: Module 8 Discussion, M8A2: Module 8 Paper]
- Identify the aspect of morality. [M8A1: Module 8 Discussion, M8A2: Module 8 Paper]
- Develop a plan for ethical leadership. [M8A1: Module 8 Discussion, M8A2: Module 8 Paper]