

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW AT CANTON
CANTON, NEW YORK**



COURSE OUTLINE

JUST 314 – Ethics in Criminal Justice

Prepared By: Lisa E. Colbert

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
APRIL 2015**

- A. **TITLE:** Ethics in Criminal Justice
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 314
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** (3)
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** (15 weeks)
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall and Spring
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 lecture hours per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**
 This course will provide the student with theories and practices of ethics and professionalism in criminal justice. Areas of concentration will be law enforcement, courts, and corrections. This course will require the student to exercise critical thinking skills to solve issues that test the morals and ethics of criminal justice professionals on a daily basis. Students may not earn credit for both BSAD319/Professional Ethics and JUST314/Ethics in Criminal Justice.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:** A minimum of 45 credit hours in Criminal Investigation, Criminal Justice: Law Enforcement Leadership or Homeland Security or instructor's approval.
- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**
 By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<i>Course Objective</i>	<i>Institutional SLO</i>
a. Identify the terms ethics, professionalism, and morals;	1. Comm. Skills 2. Crit. Thinking 3. Prof. Competence 4. Inter-Intra Skills
b. Research ethical dilemmas and practices in criminal justice situations using theories of ethical development.	1. Comm. Skills 2. Crit. Thinking 3. Prof. Competence 4. Inter-Intra Skills
c. Explain the categories of moralistic behavior;	1. Comm. Skills 2. Critical Thinking 3. Prof. Competence 4. Inter-Intra Skills
d. Explain how discretion and discrimination affects law enforcement;	1. Comm. Skills 2. Crit. Thinking 3. Prof. Competence

e. Discuss the significance of ethics and professionalism within the courts and corrections;	1. Comm. Skills 2. Crit. Thinking 3. Prof. Competence 4. Inter-Intra Skills
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K. TEXTS: Pollock, J. (2014). *Ethical dilemmas & decisions in criminal justice*, (8th ed.). Belmont, CA. Wadsworth: Cengage Learning.

L. REFERENCES: None.

M. EQUIPMENT: Technology enhanced classroom

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

N. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

- Assessments
- Assignments
- Research paper
- Class participation

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

- I. Ethics and the Criminal Justice System
 - A. Morality, ethics, and human behavior
 - B. Determining moral behavior
 - C. Justice and law
 - D. Becoming an ethical professional

- II. Police
 - A. The police role in society
 - B. Police discretion and dilemmas
 - C. Police corruption and misconduct

- III. Law
 - A. Law and legal professionals
 - B. Discretion and dilemmas in the legal profession
 - C. Ethical misconduct in the courts

- IV. Corrections
 - A. The ethics of punishment and corrections
 - B. The discretion and dilemmas in corrections
 - C. Corrections professional misconduct
 - D. Making ethical choices