Course Description

Examines ethical dilemmas pertaining to the criminal justice system, including those in policing, courts and corrections. Focuses on some of the specific ethical choices that must be made by the criminal justice professional. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a better understanding of how moral and ethical decisions are a part of the everyday decision-making process of criminal justice professionals and how many of these perplexing decisions challenge one’s personal integrity as well as organizational integrity.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

   a) demonstrate a working knowledge of the nature of ethics.
   b) describe and provide an in-depth analysis of ethical issues within the criminal justice system.
   c) demonstrate the ability to use ethical systems in order to deal with ethical and moral dilemmas within the criminal justice system.

Major Topics to be Included

   a) introduction to ethics, ethical dilemmas, ethical systems, and ethical values.
   b) explain the nature and importance of ethics.
   c) describe the relation between ethics and morals.
   d) explore ethical issues in policing.
   e) explore ethical issues in the court system.
   f) explore ethical issues in the correctional system.
   g) explore ethical issues with probation and parole.
   h) describe critical issues related to ethics.
   i) discuss the ethics of American crime control policies.
   j) describe personal, interpersonal, and organizational integrity.

Extra Topics (Optional)

Related topics at the discretion of the instructor.