
Ethical and Philosophical Foundations in Criminal Justice

3 Credits

Fall 2018

Thursdays 6.00pm to 9.30 pm

I. Course Information

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Ntasha Bhardwaj

Instructor's Email: ntasha.bhardwaj@rutgers.edu

Office: Center for Law and Justice, Room 577

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Overview:

Ethical and philosophical issues and moral dilemmas within the field of criminal justice, including principles of justice, deontology and utilitarianism; philosophical issues in sentencing; police and ethics; ethics and research; and the scope of state control.

Prerequisite

None

B.S., Criminal Justice Program Learning Goals

Upon completion of the B.S. in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University-Newark, students should be able to:

- 1) Describe the development and functions of major criminal justice institutions (e.g., police, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice), the activities of actors within these institutions, and how they relate to one another as well as the broader social, political, and economic world.
- 2) Describe the mechanisms, correlates, theoretical underpinnings, and situational contexts of crime, criminal behavior and opportunity, and techniques for prevention and treatment.
- 3) Apply and analyze theories related to the policies and practices of the criminal justice system and its major institutions.

4) Demonstrate the ability to gather, explain, and apply empirical research in the field of criminal justice.

5) Obtain a comprehensive knowledge about the process of conducting criminal justice research, and develop the skills to conduct criminal justice research with appropriate methodologies.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the core ethical and philosophical foundations in Policing, Law and Corrections.
2. Understand issues that arise based on these ethical and philosophical foundations.
3. How to carry out ethical research in the realm of criminal justice. Considerations to be made while formulating policies to address various criminal justice issues.

Required Readings

Pollock, J.M. (Ninth Edition) .Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice. Cengage Learning.

Supplemental Readings

Additional readings may be assigned and can be found on Blackboard prior to class. These readings will provide a contextualized, in-depth understanding of specific topics being covered in class. Unless specified these readings will be required towards preparing for class and final papers.

Course Requirements

Attendance and Class Participation

Attendance is required and will help you do better on the course. Class participation will account for 10% of your grade. In case you need to miss class please let the instructor know before class and provide a valid reason. If you have a medical issue, please provide the instructor with a medical certificate.

Course Structure

The course will be based on the readings and class discussions. PowerPoint presentations with the outline for the class will be provided before each class.

II. Course Schedule

Dates	Topic	Reading
Sept. 6 th	Introduction	No Reading
Sept. 13 th	Morality, Ethics and Human Behavior	Chapter 1
Sept. 20 th	Justice and Law	Chapter 3
Sept. 27 th	Police	Chapter 5
Oct. 4 th	Film	Research Question Due
Oct. 11 th	Police	Chapter 6
Oct. 18 th	Law	Chapter 8
Oct. 25 th	Law	Chapter 9
Nov. 1 st	Corrections	Chapter 11
Nov. 8 th	Film	Draft 1 Due
Nov. 15 th	No Class	No Class
Nov. 22nd	Thanksgiving Break	Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 29th	Corrections	Chapter 12
Dec. 6th	Wrap Up	Chapter 14

III. Grading

There will be three assignments that need to be completed for this class. There will be no make up or extra credit assignments. *All assignments are due the day of the class by 6pm.*

Research Question: 10% (*Due: October 4th*)

Draft 1: 30% (*Due: November 8th*)

Final Paper: 50% (*Due: December 13th*)

Class Participation: 10%

The following grading scale will be used for this course:

A 90–100%

B+ 85-89%

B 80-84%

C+ 75-79%

C 70-74%

D 60-69%

F <60%

IV. Course Policies

Classroom Rules

Academic Integrity

As a member of the Rutgers University community you are not to engage in any academic dishonesty. You are responsible for adhering to basic academic standards of honesty and integrity as outlined in the Rutgers University Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students <http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity>

Your academic work should be the result of your own individual effort, you should not allow other students to use your work, and you are required to recognize and reference any material that is not your own. Violations of the university's policy will result in appropriate action.

Academic Resources

Students with Disabilities

Rutgers University is committed to providing equal educational opportunity for persons with disabilities in accordance with the Nondiscrimination Policy of the University and in compliance with § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For additional information please visit the website <https://ods.rutgers.edu/> or contact the representative for the Newark Campus.

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Robeson Campus Center, Suite 352
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Website: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Psychological and Counseling Services

If you experience psychological or other difficulties as a result of this course, or because of other issues that may interfere with your performance in the course, please contact the university's psychological and counseling service center (<http://www.counseling.newark.rutgers.edu>; 973-353-5805), which is located in Blumenthal Hall, room 101. The center offers a variety of free, confidential services to part-time and full-time students who are enrolled at Rutgers.

If you are interested in finding out more about

- Accelerated Master's Program (B.S. /M.A.)

• Criminal Justice National Honor Society (Alpha Phi Sigma)
Please refer to the School of Criminal Justice website <http://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/>

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