

# Ethical Issues in Criminal Justice

Summer 2020 5WK2

Course: CJUS 3700.900/950

## **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:**

Instructor:	Andrekus Dixon	<a href="mailto:Andrekus.Dixon@unt.edu">Andrekus.Dixon@unt.edu</a>
Graduate Assistant:	Abigail Carpus	<a href="mailto:AbigailCarpus@my.unt.edu">AbigailCarpus@my.unt.edu</a>
Office:	Chilton Hall 273C	
Office Hours:	By Appointment	
Phone:	(940) 565-4475	

The Graduate Assistant (GA) for this course is Abigail Carpus. Abigail will be assisting with maintaining course documentation and grading. Abigail will serve as your first point of contact. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, etc. then please direct them to Abigail first. If Abigail feels that I (Professor Dixon) need to weigh in on the matter then she will forward your email on to me. Abigail is also available to answer questions and discuss class material.

**Email expectations:** Include the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 3700) in the subject line of all email correspondence. Only emails sent through your UNT email account (username@my.unt.edu) will receive a response. Allow 24 hours on weekdays for a response; emails sent over the weekend or on holidays will generally be answered on the next business day.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

A study of ethical issues facing the criminal justice system. Problems confronting police, the courts and the juvenile and correctional systems are addressed.

This course will serve as an intense (but hopefully enjoyable) “ethical boot-camp,” investigating the ways that ethics is pertinent to professionals working in the criminal justice system. Although (approximately) the first third of the course will cover ethical *theory*, we will spend the remainder of the course “in the trenches,” learning about the day-to-day ethical dilemmas and experiences that such criminal justice professionals may expect to encounter in their future *practice*. (3 credit hours)

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Analyze the leading theories and foundations of ethics;
- Discuss a comprehensive understanding of how various ethical traditions impact the form and function of our criminal justice systems;

- Describe various ethical challenges and dilemmas that criminal justice professionals (including police, parole, probation and correctional officers) will likely encounter in their future work;
- Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of how ethics is constructed and evaluated in criminal justice work;
- Evaluate criminal justice legal policies based on how they impact people's lives and serve the interests of our communities;
- Analyze individual perspectives of what is good and bad, right and wrong in our administration of justice; and
- Compare and Contrast interests and ideas with others in a way that demonstrates an openness to change.

**TEXT:** The assigned text listed below is required for all students enrolled in this class. Reading assignments are noted in the Course Calendar. All students are expected to read the assigned chapters prior to the date specified in the Course Calendar.

**Required Reading:**

Pollock, J. (2017). Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice. (10<sup>th</sup> ed.). Cengage Publishing. ISBN: 9781337558549 (MindTap is REQUIRED for this course)

**Cengage MindTap:** This program was designed by the publisher of your text to provide additional helpful material that corresponds with your text. Some examples of what you'll find in MindTap are a digital copy of your text (that is searchable), flash cards and other study tools, chapter videos, etc. MindTap **IS required** in order to review the supplemental material for the course along with the graded chapter video assignments. In Canvas under Modules, you will find the Module for **"Getting Started with Mindtap"** which will get you setup with Mindtap and access to the numerous tools available.

**ACCESS & NAVIGATION**

**Access and Log in Information**

This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas' Learning Management System, Canvas. To get started with the course, please go to:  
<https://unt.instructure.com/login/ldap>

You will need your EUID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: <http://ams.unt.edu>.

**Student Resources**

As a student, you will have access to:

- Student Orientation via Canvas. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials within the Orientation to better equip you in navigating the course.
- It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials to better equip you to navigate the course.
- From within Canvas, you will have access to the “*UNT Helpdesk*” tab which provides student resources and Help Desk Information.

## **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS / ASSISTANCE**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course.

UNT Technical Support: <https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk>

Canvas Student Guides: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701>

Canvas Video Guides for Students:

[https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/videoguide#jive\\_content\\_id\\_Students](https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/videoguide#jive_content_id_Students)

Basic Technical Requirements for Canvas: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721>

Canvas VPAT: <https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility>

Minimum Technical Skills:

This is not a computer skills course and as such, students are expected to have a minimum skill set in order to access course materials and complete course assignments. Specifically, students should know how to access a Web site when given an address, use the features of their Web browser, download files, attach files to emails, use word processing software, copy and paste ...etc.

## **Student Support**

The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Canvas and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:

Email: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

Phone: 940.565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Regular hours are maintained to provide support to students. Please refer to the website (<http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/hours.htm>) for updated hours

## **RESOURCES**

UNT Portal: <http://my.unt.edu>

UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users:

<http://www.library.unt.edu/services/for-special-audiences/offcampus/information-for-off-campus-users>

UNT Computing and Information Technology Center:

<http://citc.unt.edu/services-solutions/students>

General access computer lab information (including locations and hours of operation) can be located at: <http://www.gacl.unt.edu/>

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

### **How the Course is Organized?**

First, make sure you adhere to the “**Getting Started with Mintap**” module for the course. Next, review the links in the “Let’s Get Started” module. The course is divided into weekly Modules. At the conclusion of each chapter you will take a quiz and complete a chapter video assignment related to the specific material covered in that chapter. At the conclusion of weeks 2-5 there will be an Exam. Each week new materials will unlock in line with that noted in the syllabus. Each module will contain learning objectives, weekly Power Points, weekly reading list, assignments that are due. You will be expected to complete all activities within each Module by the time frame allotted.

Updates to the course and important information will be shared on the Announcements page or an email will be sent to students. It is important that you are logging into the course daily to make sure that you are aware of any emails or announcements sent. Finally, students can view their Grades in the course using the Grades tab in Canvas.

### **What Should Students Do First?**

Upon entrance into the online classroom, students should spend some time navigating course materials and links to ensure they are able to locate all required materials. All course emails will be sent through your UNT email address; therefore **it is your responsibility to check it regularly or have it set up to an email address that you do check regularly.**

Correspondence for the course may also take place via Canvas announcements which should also go to your UNT e-mail. Due to privacy regulations, we will not communicate with students using their personal email addresses. If you send an email to me, you must do so from your UNT student email address.

You will be responsible for completing the assignments listed in the syllabus by the due dates. **No late assignments will be accepted** (Please read below for more information on assignments, tests, and due dates).

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

For questions regarding this course, please contact Abigail at the email above. She will handle all routine matters regarding this course. If Ms. Carpus believes that Professor Dixon needs to consider the matter, she will forward the message to him for consideration. If the issue is a technical one involving Canvas, contact the Help Desk at (940) 565-2324.

This course will take place completely online and will use Canvas.

### **ANTICIPATED GRADED REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS:**

Exam 1	50 points
Exam 2	50 points
Exam 3	50 points
Exam 4	50 points
Quizzes (14 @ 10 points each)	140 points
Chapter Videos (14 @ 5 points each)	70 points
Discussions (2 @ 20 points each)	40 points
Total Points:	450 points

<b><u>Final Grade Scale</u></b>
405 - 450 = A
360 - 404 = B
315 - 359 = C
270 – 314= D
269 and Below = F

**\*\*All work (quizzes, exams, and discussions) submitted through Canvas must be done by laptop or PC (personal computer).**

**\*\*Do not submit any work from tablets, iPhones, iPads, or cell phones – as the Canvas system, regardless of your Apps, frequently does not recognize these devices or the work submitted from them, which will result in you receiving a grade of “0”**

#### **ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION AND COURSE WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Classroom participation is essential to the educational process. Class participation is generally defined as regular class attendance, completing assignments in a timely manner, and participating in class discussions. However, in an internet-based course we will not have standard classroom participation. Instead, we have electronic participation. Specifically, we will have electronic forums on a variety of topics through Canvas.

#### **Respondus Lockdown**

You must download the Respondus lockdown browser to access the exams and quizzes. All exams and quizzes are protected by this browser. If you have problems downloading the browser, please contact UNT Canvas support team <https://clear.unt.edu/services/lms-support>.

**QUIZZES:** There will be 14 quizzes in this course (one for every chapter) each is worth 10 points. Your quizzes will be timed; from the time you log in to take a quiz, you will have **15 minutes** to complete the quiz. The correct answers for the quizzes will not be available until the quiz closes. Your questions will be shown one at a time. Your quizzes will be over the material covered in each chapter. See the course schedule as to when the quizzes are due. The quizzes will close promptly at 11:59pm on Sunday (with the exception of Module 5—see course calendar below).

**Chapter Video Assignments:** You will complete 14 video case assignments. Each video case assignment is worth five (5) points. After watching the entire video (all the way through), you will answer five (5) questions about the video. Again, you must watch the entirety of the video before answering the questions or your score will not be viewable in Canvas.

You will have **two** chances to complete the assignment. The videos are approximately 3-5 minutes long. You are allowed to watch the video multiple times before you start taking the quiz. **Once you take the quiz and are ready to submit your answers, click “submit” and then click “submit for grading”. If you do not watch the video until the end, and submit answers, your grade will not be submitted. Again, you MUST watch the entire video.** If you have issues please contact the Cengage Technical Support team.

**EXAMS:** There will be four exams in this course; each is worth 50 points of your final grade. Your exams will be timed; from the time that you log in to take an exam, you will have **60**

**minutes** to complete the test. It is imperative that you log in to take it with more than 1 hour left in the allotted time frame, because when the time is up, Canvas will log you out of the exam and all incomplete questions will be marked incorrect by default. In other words, if you have until 11:59 pm to complete an exam and you log in at 11:29 pm, you will only have 30 minutes to finish before the system automatically stops the test at 11:59 pm. See the course schedule as to when the exams will be given (see Module 5 for time frame exception). **Given the time frame for the exams, there will not be a study guide given.**

### **Canvas Discussion Assignments/Activities:**

Each student will be responsible for completing 1 Canvas Discussion Assignment (in addition to your Introduction Discussion) throughout the course. This assignment will be worth 20 points. Your rubric will be posted in Canvas. Your initial discussion post must be a minimum of 250 words. Moreover, for each discussion, students must reply to at least 1 classmate for full points. Participation post responding to your classmates should be a minimum of 100 words. All responses should contain 100% original content for this course and should contain appropriate citations when necessary. If you do not know what APA format is, please visit [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_style\\_introduction.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html) or you can visit the UNT writing center.

Responses are not based on your personal opinion (unless the Professor ask you to provide it), but should reflect careful considerations of the course materials and required readings. Failure to be responsive to the particular discussion assignment will result in loss of points. To earn points such comments must be more than trivial and in fact be substantial and substantive (think of these as the discussion you would have if we were having class on campus). Submit your discussion in Canvas only—do not email your discussion response to me directly. ***If for some reason you have technical difficulties and are not able to submit your response, you may email me your response and receive partial credit, as long as the time stamp on the email is in accordance with the time frame listed above.***

When engaging in an online discussion I ask that you remain civil with each other and operate the same way you would if the person was in the same room as you. Use discussions to develop your skills in intellectual conversations about the various topics that we will cover. In the event that there is any foul language or disrespect in the online environment, these issues will be dealt with by the Professor and if the situation merits meeting with the Department Chair or Dean, action will be taken.

Lackadaisical discussions will result in a loss of points for discussions. The rubric for your assignment will be present on Canvas.

**LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:**

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE BY THE ASSIGNED DUE DATE. I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE ASSIGNMENTS!! NO EXCEPTIONS, PERIOD!**

Please note that with the exception of the last week (8/3 – 8/7), normally you have a full week to complete all of your assignments. This is more than enough time to accomplish what you have been assigned. I **HIGHLY** encourage you to stay on top of your assignments and DO NOT procrastinate and wait until the last minute. That is the surest way to struggle in this course.

**Student Conduct and Discipline**

Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Student Code of Conduct Policy.

**ONLINE ETIQUETTE**

With this course being online, traditional contact with your classmates will of course operate differently. I encourage you to utilize Canvas's messaging system to communicate with each other, form study groups, review for exams, etc. The objective of an online discussion is to be collaborative, not combative. I ask only that you all remain civil to each other and operate the same way you would if the person was in the same room as you. Use discussions to develop your skills in collaboration and teamwork. Treat the discussion areas as a creative environment where you and your classmates can ask questions, express opinions, revise opinions, and take positions just as you would in a more "traditional" classroom setting. That being said, please note that any collusion (see Academic Dishonesty section below) is strictly prohibited and if detected will lead to disciplinary action.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY/INTEGRITY**

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation]. I regret that I should even have to mention the issue of cheating, but here it is: If I catch you, the very least you can expect is an F. Honor and integrity is the very core of Criminal Justice and I value my profession and its reputation very highly. Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of conduct and Academic Dishonesty policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct at [http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student\\_conduct/index.html](http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html) for complete provisions of this code.



**ADA STATEMENT:**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Add/Drop Policy**

Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Add/Drop Policy.

**STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS (SPOT)**

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 4 and 5 of the summer course to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](mailto:no-reply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at [www.spot.unt.edu](http://www.spot.unt.edu) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

**SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARRASSMENT, & ASSAULT**

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT's Dean of Students' website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: [http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources\\_0](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0). Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT's

Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help

## **EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES**

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

### **Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses**

#### *Federal Regulation*

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website at <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov>. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at "Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G)" and can be found buried within this document: <http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=8&PART=214&SECTION=2&TYPE=TEXT>

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

#### *University of North Texas Compliance*

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-5652195 or email [internationaladvising@unt.edu](mailto:internationaladvising@unt.edu)) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

### **Copyright Notice**

Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies.

Additional copyright information may be located at:

<http://copyright.unt.edu/content/untcopyright-policies>.

### **RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS**

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about students' records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE and DUE DATES:**

**\*\*All weekly Modules will open on Monday at 6:00am and closes on Sunday at 11:59pm\*\***

**However: Module 5 Week 5 Opens Monday at 6:00am and closes Friday at 11:59pm**

Date	Readings, Discussion Boards, Assignments	Due Dates (Central Time)
<b><u>Module 1 Week 1:</u></b> 7/6 – 7/12	Complete Introduction Discussion Read Chapters (1-2) Review Learning Objectives (Chapters 1-2) Review Visual Summary (Chapters 1-2) Review Power Points (Chapters 1-2)	7/12 at 11:59PM

	Chapter Videos (1-2) Chapter Quizzes (1-2)	
<b><u>Module 2 Week 2:</u></b> 7/13 – 7/19	Read Chapters (3-4) Review Learning Objectives (Chapters 3-4) Review Visual Summary (Chapters 3-4) Review Power Points (Chapters 3-4) Discussion Assignment #2 Chapter Videos (3-4) Chapter Quizzes (3-4) <b>Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4)</b>	7/19 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Module 3 Week 3:</u></b> 7/20 – 7/26	Read Chapters (5-7) Review Learning Objectives (Chapters 5-7) Review Visual Summary (Chapters 5-7) Review Power Points (Chapters 5-7) Chapter Videos (5-7) Chapter Quizzes (5-7) <b>Exam 2 (Chapters 5-7)</b>	7/26 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Module 4 Week 4:</u></b> 7/27 – 8/2	Read Chapters (8-10) Review Learning Objectives (Chapters 8-10) Review Visual Summary (Chapters 8-10) Review Power Points (Chapters 8-10) Chapter Videos (8-10) Chapter Quizzes (8-10) <b>Exam 3 (Chapters 8-10)</b>	8/2 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Module 5 Week 5:</u></b> 8/3 – 8/7	Read Chapters (11-14) Review Learning Objectives (Chapters 11-14) Review Visual Summary (Chapters 11-14) Review Power Points (Chapters 11-14) Chapter Videos (11-14) Chapter Quizzes (11-14) <b>Exam 4 (Chapters 11-14)</b>	<b>8/7 at 11:59 PM</b>

\*\*\* Please note that Canvas will shut down for scheduled maintenance every Saturday night from 11PM – 2AM. In this time you will not have access to any of your Canvas courses. This also means that if you are in the middle of an assignment, quiz, exam, etc. at 11PM on a Saturday then Canvas will kick you off and you will not be able to answer any questions that you didn't get to. Please consider this your warning. I WILL NOT be reopening assignments for students that fail to heed this warning and/or plan ahead.\*\*\*