

# **CRIJ4312, Ethics, Fall 2021**

## **Texas A&M University – Central Texas**

### **Course Dates**

This is a 16-week course that runs from August 24<sup>th</sup> through December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

### **Course Modality**

**This is a 100% online course and uses the Canvas Learning Management System.** Students must be able to use Canvas to access the learning materials and submit all assignments. I designed the course so that it may be completed using the Canvas smartphone app. This may be helpful to students with inconsistent internet or computer access. **All professor/student communication will occur through Canvas and meetings take place on WebEx.** Students unfamiliar with Canvas or new to online learning are encouraged to review the following:

### **Contact Information**

Dr. Michele Quiñones (Dr. Q for short) You can learn a little about me from my [Faculty Member Profile](#).

**Communication** Students can contact me using the [Canvas Inbox function](#). I respond to emails within 24 hours, Monday - Friday, 8AM - 5PM. I will communicate important course information through Canvas Announcements. Please sign up for notification alerts in Canvas. Click the Account link, then click the Notifications link, to set [notification preferences](#).

**Office Hours** I hold office hours by appointment only. I am available 8-5 Monday - Friday. However, I can meet students in the evening and on weekends, schedule permitting. All meetings take place in my virtual classroom in [WebEx](#). You can also join by phone by calling (415) 655-0001 access code: 920409658.

### **Warrior Shield**

**Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas** Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account. Connect to Warrior Shield by 911Cellular [<https://www.tamuct.edu/police/911cellular.html>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

**Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan.** For the most recent campus information regarding COVID-19 see the Texas A&M University-Central Texas [Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan \(Links to an external site.\)](#) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

### **Writing Instructive (WI) Course Description**

This is a Writing Instructive (WI) course. Writing is an important component of any criminal justice career. Criminal justice agents communicate what they do in police reports, administrative reports, as data analysis, when performing community outreach, and when they work with other agencies. Whatever your field, writing will be important! To help you improve written communication, writing will be an integral component of most assignments. The goal is to help you, not penalize you, so students receive feedback on all assignments and the opportunity to resubmit, if necessary.

Students are also expected to work on their own, with the University Writing Center. To schedule time with the UWC, visit <https://tamuct.mywconline.com>

**Plagiarism** Plagiarism is a form of theft. Plagiarism occurs when someone presents another person's thoughts or work as their own. Someone presents another person's thoughts as their own when they do not give credit to the

source of the information by including a citation at the end of the statement sentence. Students will avoid plagiarizing by completing a tutorial and familiarize them with plagiarism and proper APA citation style. Sources and citations are required for all assignments.

### **Course Description**

CRIJ4312 (WI) Criminal Justice Ethics This course presents an analysis of contemporary ethical issues in crime and justice. Classical and contemporary ethical theories will be applied to the discussion of such issues as discretion, corruption, use of force, racism, deception, professionalism, and the nature and meaning of justice.

### **Course Learning Objectives (CLO)**

The goal of the course is to help students become familiar with some fundamental philosophies of morality and apply them to justice related issues. By the end of this course students should be able to,

1. demonstrate basic understanding of moral concepts.
2. identify ethical issues commonly occurring during criminal justice operations.
3. demonstrate writing skills appropriate to the discipline of criminal justice.
4. apply reasoning to resolve common moral dilemmas encountered in criminal justice practice.
5. demonstrate understanding of the value of upholding criminal justice ethics by explaining its connection to real world issues.
6. demonstrate understanding of the nature of justice by examining unjust practices and the impact it has on people.
7. demonstrate multicultural awareness, understanding of bias, and respect for cultural diversity.

### **Course Textbook**

Shafer-Landau, R. (2018) *The Fundamentals of Ethics*, 5th edition. Oxford University Press. ISBN 9780190058319 (paperback), ISBN 9780190058326 (ebook).

### **Recommended**

Braswell, M., Miller, L., and Pollock, J. (2012) *Case Studies in Criminal Justice Ethics*, 2nd edition. Waveland Press. ISBN 9781577667476.

### **Major Course Requirements**

Writing is a significant aspect of this course and significantly affects scores. Overall, writing should be concise, without losing important information, and submission should be well organized. Please review the [Writing for the Social Sciences](#) page for guidance.

There are 21 chapters, so you should try to complete at least 1.5-2 chapter's worth of assignments per week. The material is portioned out into chunks according to what is covered on the exam. E-reserves video quizzes are about 1 hour long, Media Quizzes and Narrated Slides are usually less than 10 minutes long. Every chapter contains about an hour of media materials to review and take notes on.

**Chapter Review Quizzes (10%)** The purpose of chapter review quizzes is to assess a student's basic understanding of the material in the textbook only.

**Media Quizzes (10%)** Media quizzes present the course information in a different manner. Students watch videos and listen to podcasts that relate to the course content and are quizzed on the material. Transcripts are available in the video controls. Transcripts for YouTube videos are available in YouTube. I recommend using the transcripts to

help you complete the quizzes. Links to e-reserve videos and YouTube videos can change and I may not be aware. If you encounter a problem with a video link, please let me know. (see CLO 1 & 2)

**Attendance (20%)** Students receive narrated slides and discussions about the material. Students earn points for certifying that the slides were reviewed, and the lecture listened to. Narrated slides have transcripts available in Canvas. Canvas records whether the video was watched completely or skipped through. Only videos that are watch completely receive credit. (see CLO 1 & 2)

**Writing Instructive Assignments (Worth 20%)** Writing instructive assignments consist of writing development assignments. The purpose of these assignments is to help improve writing skills. See the assignment instructions for details. . (see CLOs 3-7).

**Short Essay Exams (Worth 40%)** Exams consist of short answer questions to assess a student's understanding of the material. Students should be able to craft well written responses that demonstrate they understand the material by interpreting it *in their own words*, using terminology correctly, and providing accurate examples. Responses copied from the book or any other source receive a 0. (see CLOs 3-7). Exam Reviews are posted in the modules so that students can work on the questions before the exam. Exams are not timed.

### **Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion**

**Accessing Grades** Students can view their grades in the Canvas Gradebook by going to “Grades” link on Canvas. Most grades are available immediately. Grades for written assignments are returned within 7-10 days of the due date.

**Important Note** Students earn 20 points for certifying the narrated slides were watch, notes were taken, and Dr. Q was contacted with any question. I review every student's interaction with the narrated slides at the end of the semester, if Canvas shows the slides were skipped through, I will assign a 0 and the matter will be referred to Academic Integrity.

**Grading Rubric** A C grade is average, to earn an overall grade higher than a C you must consistently produce high quality and outstanding work. See individual assignments for more detailed rubrics.

- A, 90-100: Outstanding work and mastery of material.
- B, 80-89: High quality work and good understanding of the material.
- C, 70-79: Satisfactory work and basic understanding of the material.
- D, 60-69: Missing work and insufficient understanding of the material.
- F, <59: Missing work and no understanding of the material.

### Student Attendance and Performance

**Attendance** A student is considered attending the course if they are completing assignments regularly. If students do not complete assignments regularly, they may be marked as “not attending” which can affect enrollment status and financial aid. Students are responsible for keeping up with the course outline.

**Performance** Canvas records student’s interactions with the platform which allows professors to see how often students access the course and view pages; how much time is spent on exams, exam questions, and when answers are changed; and whether videos are watched, for how long, and if they were skipped. I use this information for grade disputes. If you want to learn more about the information faculty can see, visit

- [Course Analytics](#)
- [Quiz Log](#)

**Late Policy** There is no need to contact me about late or missing assignments. Due dates for this course are generous. Assignments are posted at the beginning of the semester to allow students to work around their schedules. One written assignment is due per month to allow students several weeks to complete them. Written assignments will be accepted up to 5 days late (no exceptions) before receiving a 0. Media quizzes and exams can be completed until the end of the semester without penalty.

### 16 Week Course Calendar

Date	Details
Sun Aug 29, 2021	<a href="#">Writing Self-Assessment &amp; Working With a Writing Tutor</a>
Sun Sep 5, 2021	<a href="#">Avoiding Plagiarism</a>
Sun Sep 12, 2021	<a href="#">Autonomy, Brave New World</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 1 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 2 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 3 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 4 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Exam 1: Hedonism and Desire Satisfaction</a>
	<a href="#">Hedonism, How Salary Affects Happiness</a>
	<a href="#">How to Correct for Bias in Decision Making</a>
	<a href="#">Introduction Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Lecture Slides: Hedonism</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Desire Satisfaction</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Introduction to Ethics</a>
	<a href="#">What Is Right?</a>
	<a href="#">Desire Satisfaction, Winning the Lottery</a>
	<a href="#">How do you measure happiness?</a>
Sun Oct 10, 2021	<a href="#">Exam 2: Psychological Egoism, Egoism, Morality and Religion, and Natural Law</a>
	<a href="#">5 Major Religions</a>
	<a href="#">Altruism/Objectivism, Ayn Rand</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 10 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 5 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 6 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 7 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 8 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 9 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Consequentialism/Utilitarianism</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Morality and Religion</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Natural Law</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Psychological and Ethical Egoism</a>
	<a href="#">Natural Law, Letter from Birmingham Jail</a>
<a href="#">The Kindness of Strangers: Altruism and Human Nature</a>	

	<a href="#">The Trolley Problem</a>
	<a href="#">What Is True? An Introduction to Secular Humanism</a>
Sun Nov 14, 2021	<a href="#">Exam 3: Utilitarianism, Kantian Ethics, Social Contract, Pluralism, Virtue Ethics, and Feminist Ethics</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 11 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 12 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 13 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 14 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 15 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 16 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 17 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 18 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Feminist Ethics, Carol Gilligan</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Ethical Pluralism</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Feminist Ethics</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Kantian Ethics</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Social Contract Theory</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Virtue Ethics</a>
	<a href="#">Veil of Ignorance (1)</a>
	<a href="#">Veil of Ignorance (2)</a>
	<a href="#">Veil of Ignorance (3)</a>
	<a href="#">Virtue Ethics, The Trial of Socrates</a>
	<a href="#">Survival of the Friendliest</a>
	<a href="#">Virtue Ethics, The Ring of Gyges</a>
Fri Dec 10, 2021	<a href="#">Chapter 19 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 20 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 21 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Chapter 22 Quiz</a>
	<a href="#">Exam 4: Objectivism, Relativism, Moral Nihilism, 11 arguments.... and is Moral Knowledge Possible</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: 11 Arguments and Skeptical Arguments about Morality</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Nihilism</a>
	<a href="#">Narrated Slides: Relativism</a>

### Important University Dates

<https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>

### Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

#### Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

#### Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

### **Other Technology Support**

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: [helpdesk@tamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu), Phone: (254) 519-5466, Web Chat: [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]. Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

## **University Resources, Procedures, And Guidelines**

### **Drop Policy**

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the Drop Request Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2FSubmit%2FForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

### **Academic Integrity**

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, working with others in an unauthorized manner, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more information regarding the Student Conduct process, [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may submit a report,

[[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\\_id=0](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0)].

### **Academic Accommodations**

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion Canvas page (log-in required)

[<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

### **Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related

to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit Student Affairs [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html>]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these requirements and guidelines online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>]. Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

### **Tutoring**

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing [studentsuccess@tamuct.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@tamuct.edu). Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### **University Writing Center**

The University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free service open to all TAMUCT students. For the Spring 2021 semester, all services will be online as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The UWC is also offering hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via WOnline [<https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

### **University Library**

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments. Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our Library website [<http://tamuct.libguides.com/index>].

For Spring 2021, all reference service will be conducted virtually. Please go to our Library website [<http://tamuct.libguides.com/index>] to access our virtual reference help and our current hours.

### **Copyright Notice**

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