

**What:**

- CRIJ 5322/HLS 5322: Advanced Criminal Justice Ethics, Fall 2021

**Who:**

- Instructor: Lynn M. Greenwood, PhD

**When:**

- Aug 23-Dec 10 2020

**Where:**

- Online through Canvas

**Why:**

- This is a required course for all graduate students in the Criminal Justice and Homeland Security programs.

## Frequently asked questions

### How do I get in touch with you, Dr. Greenwood?

- Office location: 204D Heritage Hall
- Phone number: 512-525-9173\*
- Email: [lgreenwood@tamuct.edu](mailto:lgreenwood@tamuct.edu) \*\*
  - Canvas email also okay
- Office hours: virtual appointments only – email or text to schedule appointments

\*Please, please, if you call me, recognize that this is my personal phone number and act accordingly. If you leave a message, identify yourself, or I probably won't return your call. *Text messages are preferred to phone calls.*

\*\*Please, please, please, if you email me, identify yourself and the class you are emailing me about! If you don't, I probably won't respond.

### So, what's this course all about?

#### *Course Description*

In this course students study the practical implications of moral philosophy and ethics in a free society during the day-to-day administration of a criminal justice agency.

**Course Learning Objectives.** By the end of this course students should be able to demonstrate they understand ethics and can critically examine ethical issues in criminal justice. The objectives of the course are to

- understand how we create crime, why we have law, and how we justify punishment
- understand the role government plays in regulating morality
- understand the moral duties of criminal justice agents
- identify the philosophies guiding criminal justice policies and practices
- identify and examine contemporary ethical issues in policing, courts, correction, and juvenile justice

## What books do I need for the class?

**Required Reading.** Shafer-Landau, R. (2018) *The Fundamentals of Ethics*, 4th edition. Oxford University Press. ISBN 9780190631390.

If you intend to succeed in this course (i.e. earn a B or A) you must have a basic understanding of the material covered in *The Fundamentals of Ethics* before diving into the other sources I will provide. The additional reading materials are appropriate for an advanced ethics course. In advanced ethics, students read excerpts of influential texts and essays, such as:

- Aristotle. *Nichomechean Ethics*
- Bentham, J. *An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation*
- Hobbes, T. *Leviathan*
- Kant, I. *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*
- Locke, J. *Two Treatises of Government*
- Mill, J. S. *Utilitarianism*
- Rawls, J. *A Theory of Justice*
- Rousseau, JJ. *The Social Contract*

These items will be provided in Canvas.

**Recommended Reading.** American Psychological Association Style Guide, 6<sup>th</sup> edition:

[https://www.apastyle.org/index?\\_ga=2.140112884.619170283.1557952406-713042726.1557952406](https://www.apastyle.org/index?_ga=2.140112884.619170283.1557952406-713042726.1557952406)

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/general\\_format.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html)

***Are these books required?***

Yes.

**This is an online course, right?**

Yes. This course uses the TAMUCT CANVAS system. To be able to successfully complete this course, you must have reliable and frequent access to a computer and to the Internet. In addition, you must be able to access Canvas. If you are unfamiliar with Canvas, there is a Canvas Student Quick Start Guide found in the Orientation Module in Canvas. Do not contact your instructor with non-course-related issues regarding Canvas; contact the help desk for Canvas-related issues.

### **What else do I need to know about an online course?**

- 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.**
  - **Accessing Canvas:** In your web browser go to <https://tamuct.instructure.com>. Log in using your myCT username and password.
  - 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 notifications:** You should opt in to Canvas notifications. To opt in to notifications (and other items), log in to Canvas, click on your account, click on notifications, and opt in to the items you wish to receive notifications about. At a minimum, you should select announcements, grading, and conversations (this is the Canvas name for mail).
- **University email:** You should claim and use your university email account. All university-level announcements are delivered to your university email. You may miss out on vital announcements and information if you do not check your university email regularly. In addition, you should communicate with professors using your university email.
- **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.
- **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): [http://hdc.tamu.edu]
  - *Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.*
- For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

## 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) [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](https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/) [https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/]

## What should I expect from the instructor?

- This is an online course, so most communication between the instructor and students will be online. Students are welcomed and encouraged to make an appointment for an online video appointment.
- I will be checking and replying to student emails daily - students should expect a response within 24 hours. Emails sent on a weekend will be responded to the following Monday, unless it is a holiday. Any deviations from this will be announced in Canvas. During daytime working hours, emails will be responded to more quickly, and other methods of communication can also be utilized if pre-arranged (e.g., Canvas chat or Webex video chat).

- There will be a discussion board available for students to post general questions that will be checked and responded to on a regular basis – students should expect a response within 48 hours. This is highly recommended for general questions (for example, what chapters will be covered on an exam), so that all students in the class may benefit from the answers.
- Most assignments will be graded within one week of submission. Depending on length, writing assignments will be graded within two weeks of submission. Deviations from this will be announced in Canvas. All grades will be posted in Canvas. Feedback on writing assignments will be provided in Canvas\*. Students are encouraged to track their progress in the course through the Canvas gradebook.
  - \*You cannot see feedback on the Canvas mobile app; you must use a computer to be able to see feedback on written assignments.
- *Grading of written assignments: I will provide detailed feedback on the first few paragraphs/first page of any written assignment; I will not mark all writing issues. I will provide general feedback for the entire assignment.*

## What do I have to do to pass this course?

### Discussions (0-25 points/350 points total)

There will be 14 discussion topics posted in Canvas throughout the semester. In order to properly answer the discussion questions/prompts, you might be required to read or view additional material. These additional materials will be posted with the discussion question/prompt. You will earn points for your submission if you answer discussion questions/prompts on time, adequately, and completely. Students are required to post their initial response (typically about one-half page, single-space type) to the issue and comment on a minimum of two other student responses. Students may respond to more than two student responses, but are required to respond to a minimum of two.

Quality of Discussion Posts: The responses to other student posts should be very well-thought-out, comprehensive answers to each question, along with thoughtful replies to other student answers. Many students provide only a cursory answer (2 or 3 lines) for their initial response and follow-up with “I agree....” or “I disagree....” responses to other student answers. **This is not acceptable**, especially in a graduate course. I expect to see substantive responses, approximately one-half page to the Canvas discussion question for an initial response from a student. The two replies to other students that you are required to make do not have to be as long as your initial response, but more substantive than 5-6 words of “I agree with you on that.” Students should provide support for their statements, pro or con, with appropriate reference citations tied to the respective course materials, websites, etc.

Proofreading your discussion board postings will also increase readability for others; you should also be checking for grammar, spelling, and content to make sure others would

understand your point. In addition, please make discussion postings relevant to the topic under discussion. These aspects will be considered when grading the discussions.

### **Exams (0-100 points/200 points total)**

There will be two exams, a mid-term and a final. See calendar for due dates. Exams in this course will be in essay format.

### **Annotated Bibliography (0-100 points).**

Students will complete an annotated bibliography of contemporary ethical issues in criminal justice. Students will select 10 peer-reviewed articles published over the last 10 years that focus on ethical issues in law enforcement, courts, corrections, victimology, social justice, or juvenile justice. Students can focus on 1 or more of these areas. Annotated bibliographies should be no longer than 250 words. Each entry must contain a proper citation and concise summary of the article.

### **How do I submit assignments?**

- All assignments must be submitted through Canvas.
- All annotated bibliographies and reaction essays must be in Microsoft Word format - make sure when you save a final draft of any assignment that it is either a .doc or .docx document. If you do not know how to do this, I suggest visiting the computer lab.
- Discussion/journal responses should be typed in the discussion board text box. Do not attach a document to discussion boards. Best practice would be to write everything in a Word document first, then copy and paste into the discussion box; save this work.

### **What about extra credit?**

There is no extra credit built into the course. *Do not expect extra credit and do not ask for it.*

### **Do you accept late assignments?**

Late assignments will be accepted past the recommended due date with no penalty.

Assignments submitted after the recommended due date will not receive as much feedback as those submitted on time. Feedback is important to improve upon subsequent coursework.

### **How do I figure out my grade?**

Final course grades will be assessed on the following scale:

Assignment	Points	My Grade
Discussions	350 (14x25)	
Exams	200 (100x2)	
Annotated bibliography	100	
Total	<b>650</b>	

## When are readings and assignments due?

### Course Calendar

- Subject to revision, if necessary, during the semester.
- **All assignments must be posted in Canvas by 11:59pm by Sunday of each week, unless otherwise specified by the instructor.**
- Assignments the last week of class are due by 11:59pm on Friday, December 11, 2020.

### Week of Aug 23-Aug 29

- Reading: Introduction: The Fundamentals of Ethics
- Discussion 1
  - Due Aug 29

### Week of Aug 30-Sep 5

- Reading: Chapter 1: Hedonism: Its powerful appeal
- Reading: Chapter 2: Is happiness all that matters?
- Reading: Hedonism: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/hedonism/>
- Discussion 2
  - Due Sep 5

### Week of Sep 6-Sep 12

- Reading: Chapter 3: Getting what you want
- Reading: Chapter 4: Problems for the desire theory
- Reading: Desire: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/desire/>
- Discussion 3
  - Due Sep 12

### Week of Sep 13-Sep 19

- Reading: Chapter 5: Morality and religion
- Reading: Religion and morality: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/religion-morality/>
- Discussion 4
  - Due Sep 19

### Week of Sep 20-Sep 26

- Reading: Chapter 6: Natural law
- Reading: Natural law: <https://iep.utm.edu/natlaw/>
- Reading: The natural law tradition in ethics: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/natural-law-ethics/>
- Discussion 5
  - Due Sep 26

### Week of Sep 27-Oct 3

- Reading: Chapter 7: Psychological egoism
- Reading: Chapter 8: Ethical egoism

- Reading: Egoism: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/egoism/>
- Reading: Egoism: <https://iep.utm.edu/egoism/>
- Discussion 6

- o Due Oct 3

### **Week of Oct 4-Oct 10**

- Reading: Chapter 9: Consequentialism: Its nature and attractions
- Reading: Chapter 10: Consequentialism: Its difficulties
- Reading: Consequentialism: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/consequentialism/>
- Reading: The history of utilitarianism: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/utilitarianism-history/>
- Reading: Mills' moral and political philosophy: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/mill-moral-political/>
- Reading: Utilitarianism: J.S. Mill (read chapters one through five at the bottom of the page – they are short chapters): <https://www.utilitarianism.com/jsmill.htm>
- Discussion 7

- o Due Oct 10

### **Week of Oct 11-Oct 17**

- Midterm exam (essay)

- o Due Oct 17

### **Week of Oct 18-Oct 24**

- Reading: Chapter 11: The Kantian perspective: fairness and justice
- Reading: Chapter 12: The Kantian perspective: autonomy and respect
- Reading: Kant's moral philosophy: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/kant-moral/>
- Reading: Kant's ethics: <https://iep.utm.edu/kantmeta/#H8>
- Discussion 8

- o Due Oct 24

### **Week of Oct 25-Oct 31**

- Reading: Chapter 13: The social contract tradition: the theory and its attractions
- Reading: Chapter 14: The social contract tradition: problems and prospects
- Reading: Social contract theory: <https://iep.utm.edu/soc-cont/>
- Reading: Contractarianism: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/contractarianism/>
- Reading: Hobbes' moral and political philosophy: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/hobbes-moral/>
- Reading:
- Discussion 9

- o Due Nov 31

### **Week of Nov 1-Nov 7**

- Reading: Chapter 15: Ethical pluralism and absolute moral rules
- Reading: Chapter 16: Ethical pluralism: prima facie duties and ethical particularism
- Reading: William D. Ross: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/william-david-ross/>



- Reading: Value pluralism: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/value-pluralism/>
- Reading: Moral particularism: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/moral-particularism/>
- Discussion 10
  - o Due Nov 7

### **Week of Nov 8-Nov 14**

- Reading: Chapter 17: Virtue ethics
- Reading: Aristotle's ethics: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/aristotle-ethics/>
- Reading: Virtue ethics: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/ethics-virtue/>
- Reading: Virtue ethics: <https://iep.utm.edu/virtue/>
- Discussion 11
  - o Due Nov 14

### **Week of Nov 15-Nov 21**

- Reading: Chapter 18: Feminist ethics
- Reading: Feminist philosophy: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminist-philosophy/>
- Discussion 12
  - o Due Nov 21
- Annotated bibliography
  - o Due Nov 21

### **Week of Nov 22-Nov 28**

- Reading: Chapter 19: Ethical Relativism
- Reading: Moral relativism: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/moral-relativism/>
- Discussion 13
  - o Due Nov 28

### **Week of Nov 29-Dec 5**

- Reading: Chapter 20: Moral nihilism
- Reading: Chapter 21: Eleven arguments against moral objectivity
- Discussion 14
  - o Due Dec 5

### **Week of Dec 6-Dec 10**

- Final Exam
  - o Due Dec 10

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. To insure you comply with the standards of academic integrity set forth by TAMUCT, please read the following information, and follow the links. By now you should all understand what plagiarism is and is not. If you are unsure, please follow the link I've provided and read all material on the subject. **Any student caught plagiarizing will receive a 0 (zero) for that assignment and may be referred to the university for further discipline/education.**

## **Academic Integrity**

Texas A&M University - Central Texas expects all students to maintain high standards of personal and scholarly conduct. Students found responsible of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. The faculty member is responsible for initiating action for each case of academic dishonesty and report the incident to the Associate Director of Student Conduct. More information can be found at

<http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/studentconduct/facultyresources.php>.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism, most simply defined, is not properly crediting your sources of information through the use of textual citations and the provision of a works cited list. If something is not your own original idea, thought, words, or the product of your original data collection and analysis, you need to cite your source in the text. You may expand on work you have submitted in other classes. If you would like to do so, please contact me to discuss the terms. To learn more about plagiarism, please visit <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/02/>

## **Course Conduct**

Mastery of course content is greatly enhanced through professional conduct in the classroom, whether virtual or physical. You will be expected to conduct yourself in a professional manner in this class. In an online course, professionalism includes but is not limited to:

- As in any Criminal Justice and Social Science course, the issues of racial and ethnic diversity must be considered part of the course content. In addition, topics may come up in class that not everyone will be comfortable with or agree upon. Civility and courtesy to everyone in the class, including the instructor, is expected. Incivility or discourtesy to anyone in the class will not be tolerated and may result in your expulsion from the classroom.
- **Netiquette – Communication Courtesy Code:**
  - All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. If I deem any of them to be inappropriate or offensive, I will forward the message to the Chair of the department and the online administrators and appropriate action will be taken, not excluding expulsion from the course.

***Copyright Notice***

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