

CRIJ4312-110,120 Ethics Spring 2021

Course Dates

This course runs from January 19, 2021 and runs through May 14, 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:

Learn How to Use Canvas

[Canvas Overview](#)

[Canvas Student Guide for Help with all topics](#)

[How do I download the Canvas Student app on my iOS device?](#)

[How do I download the Canvas Student app on my Android device?](#)

[For student access to WebEx](#)

[WebEx App](#)

[Instructions for installing Office 365](#)

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 24-48 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 using 911Cellular. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

Covid-19 Safety Measures (For Anyone Visiting Campus)

To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University-Central Texas has adopted policies and practices to minimize virus transmission. All members of the university community are expected to adhere to these measures to ensure their own safety and the safety of others. Students must observe the following practices while participating in face-to-face courses, course-related activities

(office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.) and co-curricular programs:

Self-monitoring Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely and should not participate in face-to-face instruction. Students required to quarantine must participate in courses and course-related activities remotely and must not attend face-to-face course activities. Students should notify their instructors of the quarantine requirement. Students under quarantine are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities.

Face Coverings Face coverings must be worn inside of buildings and within 50 feet of building entrances on the A&M-Central Texas Campus. This includes lobbies, restrooms, hallways, elevators, classrooms, laboratories, conference rooms, break rooms, non-private office spaces, and other shared spaces. Face coverings are also required in outdoor spaces where physical distancing is not maintained. The university will evaluate exceptions to this requirement on a case-by-case basis.

Students can request an exception through the Office of Access and Inclusion in Student Affairs.

If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave the class, the faculty member should report that student to the Office of Student Conduct. Additionally, the faculty member may choose to teach that day's class remotely for all students.

Physical Distancing Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in the course and course-related activities.

Classroom Ingress/Egress Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways and maintain 6-foot physical distancing when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.

The university will notify students in the event that the COVID-19 situation necessitates changes to the course schedule or modality.

Writing Instructive (WI)

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 Textbooks

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.

Study Packets (30%) Students will complete study packets that contain study materials, participation exercises, and quizzes.

- Narrated lecture slides review and expand on the material. To earn credits students must certify that they have viewed the slides and contacted Dr. Q with any questions.
- Chapter Review Quizzes assess reading and *basic* understanding of the core concepts in the book (see CLO 1 & 2). Quizzes are multiple choice. Students receive limited feedback with their score. Students are allowed 2 attempts per quiz. Canvas will record the highest of the 2 scores.
- Most study packets also contain videos related to the topics. Videos expand on the material and present it in a different way for students. This will help students prepare for writing assignments and exams. Students are quizzed at the end of some videos. Students receive unlimited attempts on video quizzes.

Extra Credit Join me in the virtual classroom for lively discussions about the material. There will be at least 10 classes, each class attended is worth 10 points, for a total of 100 points. *See Canvas for class dates and time.

Short Answer Exams (Worth 30%) Short answer exams assess a student's understanding of the material (see CLOs 1-5). 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 *representative examples*. Exams are not timed and are open note/book and any other course materials. **Do not look up answers on the internet.**

Written Assignments (WA) (Worth 40%) are short papers that ask students to work through dilemmas in criminal justice (see CLOs 3-7). Each assignment has different writing requirements, so see instructions for details. Writing assignments must be well written and provide comprehensive answers to the questions posed. Students complete 3 Writing Instructive (WI) assignments to help prepare them for written assignments. Students are also required to

meet with a writing tutor. Submissions receive thorough feedback and the opportunity to resubmit WA 1 and 2. WA 3 cannot be resubmitted. One WA grade is dropped.

Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

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

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.

*If you are struggling with the material, email me as soon as possible so that I can help you.

Early Assignments, Late Assignments, Missed Assignments Students can mostly work at their own pace as long as exam due dates and writing assignment due dates are met. All materials, exams, and assignments are posted at the start of the semester so students can work ahead if they like. I provide due dates for study packets to help keep students on track. However, quizzes and videos can be completed until the final week of class.

16 Week Course Calendar

Week and Topic	Assignments <small>Writing Instruction (WI) / Writing Assignment (WA)</small>
Week 1 Hedonism: Its Powerful Appeal & Is Happiness All that Matters?	Study Packet, Syllabus Quiz
Week 2 Getting What You Want & Problems for the Desire Theory	Study Packet, WI: 1
Week 3 Morality and Religion	Study Packet, Exam 1
Week 4 Natural Law	Study Packet, WI: 2
Week 5 Psychological Egoism	Study Packet, WI: 3
Week 6 Ethical Egoism	Study Packet, Exam 2
Week 7 Consequentialism: Its Nature and Attractions	Study Packet, WA: 1
Week 8 Consequentialism: Its Difficulties	Study Packet
Week 9 The Kantian Perspective: Fairness and Justice	Study Packet
Week 10 The Kantian Perspective: Autonomy and Respect	Study Packet
Week 12 The Social Contract Tradition: The Theory and Its Attractions & The Social Contract Tradition: Problems and Prospects	Study Packet, WA: 2
Week 13 Ethical Pluralism and Absolute Moral Rules & Ethical Pluralism: Prima Facie Duties and Ethical Particularism	Study Packet
Week 14 Virtue Ethics	Study Packet
Week 15 Feminist Ethics	Study Packet, Exam 3
Week 16 Ethical Relativism, Moral Nihilism & 11 Arguments Against Morality	Study Packet, WA: 3, Final Exam

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, 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].

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

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 [\[https://tamuct.mywconline.com/\]](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/). In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at 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 [\[http://tamuct.libguides.com/index\]](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index).

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

Copyright Notice

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