

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: CRIM 339		Number of Credits: 3 Course credit policy (105)													
Course Full Title: Professional Ethics in Criminal Justice Course Short Title: Professional Ethics															
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences		Department/School: Criminology and Criminal Justice													
Calendar Description: Examines professional ethics in the criminal justice system, with a special focus on law enforcement. Key subject areas include ethics education, dominant theoretical approaches, development of professional ethics, ethical leadership, and ethics with respect to racialized and marginalized groups.															
Prerequisites (or NONE):		45 university-level credits including CRIM 100, CRIM 103, and 3 additional credits of 200-level CRIM.													
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):		NONE													
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):		NONE													
Antirequisite Courses (<i>Cannot be taken for additional credit.</i>) Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>		Course Details Special Topics course: No <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: No <i>(See policy 207 for more information.)</i> Grading System: Letter grades Delivery Mode: May be offered in multiple delivery modes Expected frequency: Annually Maximum enrolment (for information only): 30													
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar</td> <td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total hours</td> <td>45</td> </tr> </table>		Lecture/seminar	45									Total hours	45	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) PLAR is available for this course.	
Lecture/seminar	45														
Total hours	45														
Scheduled Laboratory Hours Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Transfer Credit (See bctransferguide.ca) Transfer credit already exists: Yes Submit outline for (re)articulation: No <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>													
Department approval		Date of meeting: February 5, 2025													
Faculty Council approval		Date of meeting: March 14, 2025													
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval		Date of meeting: August 28, 2025													

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze ethical issues within criminal justice.
2. Engage in critical thinking and informed moral debate about ethical issues in criminal justice.
3. Conduct a comparative analysis of moral theories.
4. Discuss professional ethics and codes of conduct.
5. Articulate gaps and recommendations in professional ethics and codes of conduct with respect to Indigenous Peoples and other racialized and marginalized groups.
6. Apply decision-making models and related codes of conduct to resolve practice-based dilemmas and problems.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Final exam:	30%	Quizzes/tests:	30%	Assignments:	40%
	%		%		%

Details:

Assignments may include research term papers, case studies and analyses, in-class writing assignments, online discussion posts, critical self-reflections, and presentations.

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lecture, group work, debate, written work, and individual study.

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	Evans, D.R. and MacMillan, C.S.	Ethical reasoning in criminal justice and public safety, 4th edition (Emond Montgomery Publications)	2014
2. Textbook	Rachels, J and Rachels, S.	The elements of moral philosophy, 10th edition (McGraw Hill)	2023
3. Textbook	Perez, D.W, Moore, J.A., and Volk, R.	Police ethics: Matter of Character (Vital Source)	2013
4. Textbook	Barenthin, G., Dhanota, A., LePard, D., and Skrypka, P.	Ethics in criminal justice and public safety, 5th edition (Emond Publishing)	2022
5.			

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)***Course Content and Topics**

- Ethics and universal values
- Critical thinking and ethical reasoning
- Theoretical approaches to ethical decision-making
- Frameworks for ethical decision-making
- Professional code of ethics
- Equity, diversity, and inclusion issues in professional ethics and codes of conduct
- Authority, discretion, and use of force in policing, corrections, and security
- Impacts of discretion and use of force on Indigenous Peoples and other racialized and marginalized groups
- Public safety corruption
- Roles and responsibilities of public safety officers
- Ethical issues for lawyers and judges
- Challenges to ethical living
- Ethical leadership