CRIME, JUSTICE AND ETHICS Justice Studies 475
2017

Professor: Gary Reed Justice

Studies Program Social Science Division Lewis-Clark State College

Administration Building #16 (basement) 500 8th Ave. Lewiston, ID 83501-2698 Phone: (208) 792-2794
E-mail: gereed@lcsc.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday 1:45pm – 2:45pm Wednesday 1:45pm – 2:45pm Thursday 1:45pm – 2:45pm and
by appointment.

Website: Blackboard

Class Meets: Monday/Wednesday 3-415pm in ACW #128

Course Description: This course addresses the ethical implications of decision-making in the criminal
justice field, including the police, court, and corrections systems. In addition, students will utilize ethical
systems to analyze current justice policies.

Goals: It is expected that students will become more adept at utilizing social scientific analysis to
understand the relationships between the perceptions and handling of criminal justice dilemmas and
their consequences. The written work and verbal presentations of students should reflect systematic,
logical arguments that are clearly supported by theory and research.

Course Requirements: Class Participation -Written Reports 25% Midterm Exam 25% Term Paper 25%
Final Exam 25%

Class Structure:

Most class meetings will consist of seminar-type discussions of the day’s readings and topics. On
occasion the class will consist of a lecture. Please bring your books to class to facilitate discussions.

Class Participation: Participation includes short reports (approximately two-three typed pages) on
selected issues in the readings (to be assigned in class) AND a formal debate. The reports are important
because they will serve as preparation for discussions. The reports will be evaluated on the quality and
thoughtfulness of your social scientific analysis of the assigned material. They will be graded as:
excellent, surpassing expectations (A), good, competent work (B), satisfactory (C), not satisfactory (D),
failing (F). REPORTS WILL BE DUE IN CLASS. LATE REPORTS WILL BE PENALIZED A FULL LETTER GRADE
(e.g. a late “B” will become a “C”). FOUR (4) REPORTS WILL BE ASSIGNED. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO
SUBMIT THREE (3). YOU MAY SUBMIT A FOURTH REPORT IF YOU NEED EXTRA CREDIT. The extra credit
will be applied towards your participation grade. An “A” extra credit report adds three percent to your
participation grade, a “B” is worth two percent, and a “C” is worth one percent. In addition, your oral
presentation of your term paper will be averaged with your report grades. Also note that your reports
must contain references for paraphrased and quoted material. See the term paper assignment for the
required style of reference citations. The debates will consist of sets of debate teams (3-5 students per
team) discussing the pros and cons of controversial justice policies throughout the semester. Students’
grades will be an average of their group and individual performances. The grade will be worth the equivalent of a report. More details will be provided later in the semester.

Exams: Two exams (including the final exam) consisting of essay questions will be administered in class. Study questions will be available prior to the exams to help you prepare.

Term Paper: Students will choose a topic on a criminal justice dilemma to analyze in an approximately 10- page term paper. Students will be expected to utilize theoretical frameworks presented in the class and class readings. Students are encouraged to pick topics early in the term and discuss them with me. Students will present a summary of their papers to the class near the end of the term. Students must follow the term paper guidelines at the end of the syllabus.

Student Conduct: Any student with questions as to what constitutes cheating or plagiarism should consult the instructor in order to avoid any misunderstanding. Students must also keep copies of any written work turned in. Moreover, we will be dealing with controversial issues at times and it is essential that discussions remain constructive and respectful. 3 Please refrain from gaming, web surfing or using your cell phone during class.


Topics and Assignments: (Due to the nature of academic discussions, the topics listed below will not always correspond to the days’ discussions.)

Jan 18: Introduction to the class Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior Reading: Pollock, chapter 1
Jan 23-25: Determining Moral Behavior Reading: Pollock chapter 2
Jan 30-Feb 1: Justice and Law Reading: Pollock, chapter 3 Written Report #1 (Feb 1)
Feb 6-8: Becoming an Ethical Professional Reading: Pollock chapter 4
Feb 22: Police Discretion and Dilemmas Reading: Pollock chapter 6 Written report #2 (Feb 22) Midterm Exam study questions distributed
Feb 27-March 1: Police Corruption and Misconduct Reading: Pollock chapter 7
March 1: Midterm Exam
March 6-8: Law and Legal Professionals Reading: Pollock chapter 8 Written Report # 3 (March 8)
March 13-15: Zealous Advocates Reading: Pollock chapter 9
March 20-22: Justice and Judicial Ethics Reading: Pollock chapter 10
March 27-31: Spring Break
April 3-5: The Ethics of Punishment and Corrections Reading: Pollock chapter 11
April 10-12: Discretion and Dilemmas in Corrections. Reading: Pollock chapter 12 DEBATES
April 17-19: Correctional Professionals: Misconduct and Responses. Reading: Pollock chapter 13 Written Report #4 (April 19)

TERM PAPER DUE, APRIL 26 IN CLASS

April 24-26: Making Ethical Choices I Reading: Pollock chapter 14 Student Presentations

May 1-3: Making Ethical Choices II Reading: Pollock chapter 15 Final Exam Study Questions Distributed

May 10: FINAL EXAM (EXAM #2)

TERM PAPER ASSIGNMENT Your task is to choose a criminal justice dilemma to analyze in an approximately ten (10) page (typed and double-spaced) term paper (unique to this class). You will be expected to utilize theoretical frameworks and concepts from class meetings and readings. Be sure to show explicit and substantial use of course readings; however, this is a research project, so do not solely rely upon the course materials (or other courses) for your material. You must also incorporate materials on the topic you have uncovered from outside sources. You are to approach the topic by examining several of the potential perspectives relevant to the subject (where possible). This is not an extended editorial. I will be most happy to discuss more details, outlines, or rough drafts with you; however, I ask that you do not wait until the final days before the paper is due for feedback. In addition, you will be required to give an oral presentation summarizing your key findings. The presentations will be scheduled the last two weeks of class. Some more things to consider: 1. There will be grade deductions of one percent per calendar day for late papers. 2. You must include a half-page abstract of your paper at the beginning of your essay. Your abstract must include: a) The paper title b) A brief explanation of the topic and why this is an important ethics in criminal justice issue, c) Research and analysis methods (e.g. types of sources, theories/concepts used, d) Brief results and conclusions. 3. Make a copy of your paper before you turn it in. In the unlikely case that a paper is found to be missing, you will be expected to be able to produce another copy. 4. YOUR REFERENCES MUST INCLUDE AT MINIMUM: Four ACADEMIC sources (books or journals, not internet sources) and of these academic sources, two must be books or an articles from the class, and two must be from outside the class. YOU MUST ALSO USE AT LEAST ONE SOURCE FROM NCJRS. I encourage you to use Internet sources, but they will not count toward the minimum six sources (unless they are peer-reviewed journals available on-line via sources such as NCJRS). 5. YOU MUST INCLUDE PHOTOCOPIES OF THE FIRST THREE PAGES OF TWO OF YOUR SOURCES OF INFORMATION FROM OUTSIDE OF THE CLASS. THESE MUST BE ACADEMIC BOOKS OR ARTICLES. MAKE SURE THE PAGES IDENTIFY THE SOURCE. THEY MAY NOT BE INTERNET SOURCES (unless they are peer-reviewed journals available on-line via sources such as NCJRS). STAPLE THE PHOTOCOPIES TO THE BACK OF YOUR ESSAY. Papers will not be graded until these photocopies are provided. 6. Reference all paraphrasing and quotes. Use block quotes for quotes longer than 2 sentences. Include a reference page. You are required to use a modified APA style referencing: A recent study (Smoe, 1996) reveals knowledge is good. A more specific paraphrase: Joe Smoe 6 (1996:2) found 90 percent of the people believe knowledge is good. A long quote should be indented on both margins and single-spaced: All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. (Smoe, 1996:3) Here are some useful referencing sites: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_docsocio.html http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_apa.html When in doubt, it is better to err on the side of over-referencing sources. If you plagiarize, you will receive an “F” for the assignment. 7. Clear
and concise writing, with accurate spelling and proper grammar, makes your analysis flow more smoothly. Awkward grammar and spelling mistakes hinder analysis. The university writing center may be of some assistance. 8. I encourage you to utilize gender-neutral language. 9. The content of your paper should include a description of the topic, a discussion of why the topic is an important and/or interesting ethics issue, and the majority of the paper should be a social scientific analysis of the topic. Assume the reader is not familiar with the field; therefore, you should clarify concepts and theories. Remember to keep the focus of the paper manageable given the paper’s length. Avoid a superficial treatment of a very broad topic. 10. If you are having trouble getting started, browse through the readings for topics, look at the sources referenced in the readings, and think about issues that relate to the connections between the various social institutions covered in the class, such as the economy, family, education, culture, and politics. 11. Remember the paper is worth 25% of your final grade. Visit or e-mail me with any further questions. Your grade will be based upon how well you have addressed the issues above. 12. Your paper must have the following sections labeled with these headings to receive a passing grade: Topic Description Topic Importance Stakeholders Involved Empirical Issues – What research supports the positions and what research challenges them? Topic Analysis Future Implications and Conclusions

LEWIS-CLARK STATE COLLEGE Syllabus Addendum Consumer Information In 2008, the federal government required all post-secondary institutions offering federal financial aid programs to provide key data to both prospective and current students. To comply with this requirement, Lewis-Clark State College has developed a consumer information page, which may be accessed at http://www.lcsc.edu/consumer-information/ Disability Accommodations Students requiring special accommodations or course adaptations due to a disability and/or a health-related issue should consult their course instructors and the LCSC Student Counseling Center immediately (RCH 111, 792-2211). Official documentation may be required in order to provide an accommodation and/or adaptation. Student Rights and Responsibilities Students have the responsibility for knowing their program requirements, course requirements, and other information associated with their enrollment at LCSC. Students should review the LCSC General Catalog (http://webdev.lcsc.edu/catalog and the LCSC Student Handbook (http://www.lcsc.edu/media/2157659/Student-Handbook.pdf ) for more information. Accidents/Student Insurance Students participating in LCSC classes normally must look to their personal health insurance policy (Student Health Insurance Plan or comparable private coverage) should an accident occur. In the event of an accident, please seek medical help, if necessary, and report the incident to LCSC Security (792-2226). Field trips or other special student activities may also require students to submit a signed participation waiver (forms can be obtained from the supporting Division Office). Enrollment Verification/Attendance Students who are not actively pursuing their classes may have to repay part or all of their financial aid awards depending upon the circumstances. Academic Dishonesty Academic dishonesty, which includes cheating and plagiarism, is not tolerated at LCSC. Individual faculty members may impose their own policies and sanctions regarding academic dishonesty after offering the student an opportunity to explain his or her actions. Sanctions imposed by the faculty member are limited to grades on the assignment(s) in question and/or on the course grade. On matters of academic dishonesty, faculty members do not have the authority to dismiss a student from class indefinitely nor to disenroll a student from a program without corroboration from a Division Chair (or program ethics committee where applicable), the appropriate instructional dean, and the Vice President for Student Affairs. Students who are accused of being academically dishonest may be referred to the VP for Student Affairs for official disciplinary action. Illegal File Sharing Students using LCSC’s computers and/or computer network must comply with the college’s appropriate use policies and are prohibited
from illegally downloading or sharing data files of any kind. Specific information about the college’s technology policies and its protocols for combating illegal file sharing may be found on the VP for Student Affairs’ web page (http://www.lcsc.edu/student-affairs/student-code-of-conduct/). Diversity Vision Statement Regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation, you will be treated and respected as a human being. Disclosures During this course, if you elect to discuss information with me which you consider to be sensitive or personal in nature and not to be shared with others, please state this clearly. Your confidentiality in these circumstances will be respected unless upholding that confidentiality could reasonably put you, other students, other members of the campus community, or me in danger. In those cases or when I am bound by law to report what you have told me, such as incidents involving sexual assault or other violent acts, I will submit a report to appropriate campus authorities. Student Feedback Students shall be provided the opportunity to formally evaluate each course in which they are enrolled. Notification of student feedback opportunity and timelines will be made through the official LCSC student email (currently LCMail) or online course learning management (currently Blackboard Learn) systems. Approved by VP for Student Affairs & Provost 5/12/2015