BASICS COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE: Ethics in Criminal Justice

COURSE NUMBER: CRJ 412

I. RATIONALE:

Many leaders in the field of criminal justice believe that all studies dealing with the profession must start with a firm grounding in professional ethics.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:
Students will become acquainted with the study of ethics.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Define morality.
A-2 Define truth.
A-3 Define ethics.
A-4 Discuss the sources of truth, values and morality.
A-5 Discuss the contributions of some of the ethical philosophers including Socrates, Plato, Aquinas, Augustine, Hobbes and Nietzsche.
A-6 Discuss the ethical theories, concepts and issues raised by the various ethical schools of thought.

GOAL B:
Students will develop an understanding of criminal justice ethics.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Discuss the ethics of law including the concepts of Legitimacy, Positive Law, Ethical Discretion and Incorruptibility.
B-2 Review professional codes of ethics including the ethics of public service.
B-3 Discuss the ethics of natural law as it relates to the criminal justice profession.
B-4 Answer questions relating to how the various religious testaments pose moral implications for developing ethical behavior in criminal justice.
B-5 Describe ethical behavior from the criminal justice perspective.

GOAL C:

Syllabus is sole property of Wilmington University
Students will develop an understanding of how ethical themes affect the various criminal justice agencies.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

C-1 Discuss ethical issues in criminal justice management.
C-2 Examine the problems associated with lying and deception in criminal justice.
C-3 Examine abuse of authority by criminal justice professionals.
C-4 Discuss egoism as an ethical issue in criminal justice.

**GOAL D:**
Students will apply theories of ethics to the operational practices of the criminal justice agencies.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

D-1 Discuss the problematic nature of policing, the nature of police power and the ethics of shunning corruption.
D-2 Discuss the major aspects of corruption committed by corrections personnel.
D-3 Discuss the common unethical practices committed by probation and parole officers.
D-4 Examine the unethical behaviors that contribute to the public’s lack of confidence in the American trial process.
D-5 Review a variety of case studies and apply the ethical issues that confront the criminal justice practitioners in all levels of the profession.

**GOAL E:**
Students will use advanced writing and oral communication skills.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

E-1 Prepare and present written reports using APA style.
E-2 Use appropriate oral communication skills in class presentations.