I. RATIONALE:

The American Bar Association recently identified Ethical Issues as a leading problem confronting the criminal justice system and recommended that ethics be included as a core area of study in law based curricula.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:
Students will develop an understanding of the ethical, social and legal issues that challenge the criminal justice system.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Identify and critique contemporary criminal justice ethical issues.
A-2 Evaluate social issues that affect the criminal justice system.
A-3 Analyze and discuss the legal ethical issues that criminal justice practitioners must confront.

GOAL B:
Students will develop an understanding of the variety of approaches to the study of criminal justice ethics.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Compare and contrast the utilitarian and deontological approaches to criminal justice ethics.
B-2 Evaluate and discuss the concept of justice in the context of ethics.
B-3 Evaluate and discuss the concept of Liberty within the context of ethics.
B-4 Examine the application of a code of ethics to professional behavior.
B-5 Analyze and discuss the role of the legal advocate for ethics in the criminal justice system.

GOAL C:
Students will develop an understanding of the concept of individual moral responsibility.
Learning Outcomes: The student will:

C-1 Critique the dual relationships that develop on a professional level that may lead to abuse.
C-2 Analyze and discuss the abuses of force and authority in the criminal justice system.
C-3 Review falsification of documents.
C-4 Analyze and discuss lying, perjury and enhancement of testimony.
C-5 Define appropriate use of discretionary authority.
C-6 Examine and discuss the personal obligation that is required to report the wrongful actions, omissions and commissions of fellow employees.

GOAL D:
Students will develop an understanding of the operational issues associated with maintaining ethical standards in a criminal justice setting.

Learning Outcomes: The student will

D-1 Examine the role of Internal Affairs Units, Ethics and Accountability Divisions and the Inspector General in the maintenance of ethical behavior in policing.
D-2 Discuss the development and enforcement of the organizational code of ethics.
D-3 Discuss the application of ethics in the courts by attorneys and other “moral agents”.
D-4 Examine and discuss corruption and control in correctional settings.
D-5 Assess ethical issues in probation and parole.
D-6 Review model codes of ethics through internet research.

GOAL E:
Students will develop advanced written and verbal communication skills.

Learning Outcomes: The student will

E-1 Utilize professional writing skills to analyze and cite appropriate sources (e.g. APA format) to express and convey empirical research.
E-2 Research, construct, and deliver professional presentations using a variety of communication tools and techniques.
E-3 Engage in class discussion in a manner than enhances the group’s learning experience on the subject at hand.
E-4 Discuss and analyze case studies on identified course issues.