El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

Subject:	AJ
Course Number:	116
Descriptive Title:	Ethics in Law Enforcement
Division:	Health Sciences and Athletics
Department:	Administration of Justice
Course Disciplines:	Administration of Justice
Catalog Description:	This course will explore the ethical, legal and moral complexities of law enforcement, define the principles of a person's character as it relates to ethics and examine how ethical choices impact the professional law enforcement environment and the subsequent effect on police services. This course takes into consideration how character and personal values influence the training, supervision, management, and leadership of successful law enforcement organizations. This course addresses the implications of societal changes and the challenges they create in modern police work.
Prerequisite:	
Co-requisite:	
Recommended Preparation:	Eligibility for English 1A
Enrollment Limitation:	
Hours Lecture (per week):	3
Hours Laboratory (per week):	0
Outside Study Hours:	6
Total Course Hours:	54
Course Units:	3
Grading Method:	Letter Grade only
Credit Status:	Credit, degree applicable
Transfer CSU:	Yes
Effective Date:	Fall 2023
Transfer UC:	No
Effective Date:	
General Education ECC:	
Term:	
Other:	
CSU GE:	
Term:	
Other:	
IGETC:	
Term:	

Other:	
Student Learning Outcomes:	**SLO #1 Ethics Model** Analyze ethical dilemmas and employ appropriate models for making ethical decisions. **SLO #2 Processing Methods** The student will be able to use critical thinking in solving an ethical problem using one of the processing methods mentioned in the textbook or other readings. **SLO #3 Decision Making** The student will be able to recognize the importance of ethical decision making in the field of law enforcement.
Course Objectives:	1. Compare deontological and teleological ethical systems. 2. Recognize and understand theories of moral development. 3. Identify how the police play a role in society. 4. Explain the concept of discretion, discrimination and duty. 5. Describe and understand law enforcement Code of Ethics. 6. Explain and understand police values. 7. Recognize the levels and types of police corruption. 8. Describe the culture of force. 9. Describe the myths and realities of criminal justice. 10. Identify key theoretical approaches to ethical leadership as applied to law enforcement. 11. Understand the dynamics of individual decision making. 12. Explain ethical decision making.
Major Topics:	**I. Introduction to Ethics (3 hours, lecture)** A. Definition of Ethics B. History of Ethics C. Importance of Ethics **II. Leadership Standards in Law Enforcement (4 hours, lecture)** A. Principals B. Values C. Morals **III. Ethics in Law Enforcement (8 hours, lecture)** A. Code of Ethics B. Professional standards

C. Code of conduct

D. Oath of office

IV. Application of Ethics (12 hours, lecture)

A. Demonstrated behavior compared to real behavior

B. Enforcing laws in the community

C. Ethical behavior while in uniform

D. Personal behavior as it relates to the job

E. Process of ethical decision making

V. Unethical Behavior (12 hours, lecture)

A. Ramifications of unethical behavior

B. How good people make tough choices

C. Resolution principles

D. Right vs. right

E. Right vs. wrong

F. The thin blue line

VI. Leadership in Law Enforcement (6 hours, lecture)

A. Definition of leadership and management

B. Ethical leadership

C. Making ethical decisions

D. Moral vs. legal decisions

E. Discipline, morale and their effects on the department

VII. The Future of Ethics (9 hours, lecture)

A. Principled policing and implicit bias

B. Contemporary issues and challenges

C. Law enforcement and the community

D. Where are we and where are we going

Total Lecture Hours:	54
Total Laboratory Hours:	0
Total Hours:	54
Primary Method of Evaluation:	1) Substantial writing assignments
Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:	In a three-page written paper in MLA format, explain one ethics model. You will use the textbook, supplemental reading and provide an example from a news media outlet of an ethical decision made by someone in law enforcement that falls in line with the model you choose. Discuss the decision made, the fallout from the decision and who it affected and why. What alternative decision could have been made? You will cite the sources used including the textbook. Don't just tell me a story. Critical thinking allows you to research the topic and apply some pros and cons to the issue you choose.
Critical Thinking Assignment 1:	In a two-page paper, give an example of a recent experience that you believed to be unethical. Why do you think the person did not make the best choice?
Critical Thinking Assignment 2:	In a two-page paper, write as if you are working vice and enforcing prostitution violations. When arresting one of the women, she tells you an officer is getting favors from the prostitute by trading leniency for sex. What are your options? What are you going to do?
Other Evaluation Methods:	Class Performance, Completion, Essay Exams, Homework Problems, Matching Items, Presentation, Term or Other Papers, True/False
If Other:	
Instructional Methods:	Discussion, Group Activities, Lecture, Multimedia presentations, Role play/simulation
If other:	
Work Outside of Class:	Answer questions, Problem solving activity, Required reading, Study, Written work (such as essay/composition/report/analysis/research)
If Other:	
Up-To-Date Representative Textbooks:	Lofthouse, C. & Peterson, M. Ethics for Public Safety: Ethical and Moral Decision Making. 3rd ed. Kendall Hunt, 2021.
Alternative Textbooks:	
Required Supplementary Readings:	Kidder, R.M. How Good People Make Tough Choices: Resolving the Dilemmas of Ethical Living. Rev. ed. Harper Collins, 2009. (Discipline Standard)
Other Required Materials:	
Requisite	
Category	
Requisite course:	
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	
Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold	

the requisite skill(s). if applicable	
Requisite course:	
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	Eligibility for English 1A
Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). if applicable	**Students need well-developed reading skills in order to understand and interpret information in their textbooks and writing skills to develop essays.** Summarize, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize college-level texts. Write a well-reasoned, well-supported expository essay that demonstrates application of the academic writing process.
Enrollment Limitations and Category:	
Enrollment Limitations Impact:	
Course Created by:	Dina Mauger
Date:	11/7/2022
Original Board Approval Date:	01/17/2023