

Syllabus
CRIJ/PADM 5336
Spring 2026

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(The best way to contact me is by using the messaging function in Canvas.)

Office Hours: By appointment only. I am available throughout the week, so do not hesitate to send me a message and we can arrange an in-person office session or one via zoom.

Course Overview: A study of ethical issues facing public and criminal justice administrators. Issues include the development of value systems, the nature of public duty, and the formulation of value-based decision-making strategies, the importance of professional ethical standards, and the dangers of public corruption.

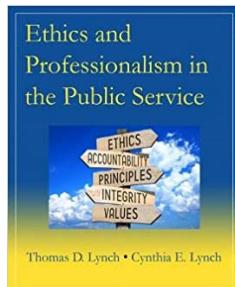
Student Learning Outcomes:

1) Explain the importance of ethical awareness for the public administrator.
2) Summarize how traditional ethical philosophical concepts relate to contemporary public administration issues.
3) Summarize the ethical challenges that encompass the environment for the public administrator.
4.) Discuss leading public organizations from a moral perspective.
5.) Summarize how public administrators can effectively administer within public organizations without compromising the public trust.

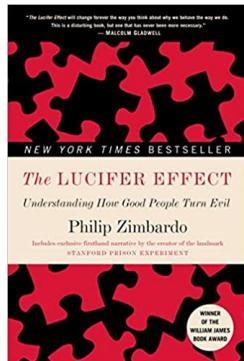
Overall “Big Question” we will be focused on all semester: How can public sector administrators develop a personal and organizational ethical climate to minimize ethical violations for themselves and organizational members?

Required Textbooks and Readings:

Lynch, T. D., & Lynch, C. E. (2019). Ethics and Professionalism in the Public Service. Melvin & Leigh.
ISBN: 978-0-99923598-0

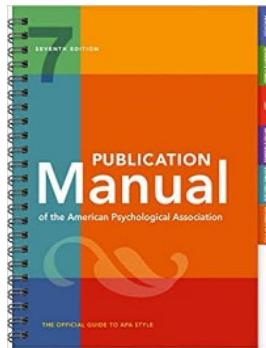


Zimbardo, P. (2008). *The Lucifer Effect: Understanding How Good People Turn Evil*. Random House. ISBN: 978-0-8129-7444-7



Recommended Textbooks and Readings (if applicable):

APA. (2019). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. ISBN: 978-1-4338-3217-8



Assignments and weights/point values

1. Getting Started Activities	5%
2. Lecture Quizzes	10%
3. Discussion Boards	20%
4. Flipgrid Discussions	10%
5. Reflection Papers	15%
6. Semester Paper	20%
7. Final Exam	<u>20%</u>
	100%

Grading Scale:

- A 90% or greater
- B 80 – 89%
- C 70 – 79%
- D 60 – 69%
- F below 60%

**keep in mind, I round up. This means a 89.45, rounds to a 89.5, which rounds to a 90.0

Late Work and Make-Up Exams: Unfortunately, illnesses, deaths in the family, or other traumatic events are part of life. Such events are unwelcomed and because I understand how difficult these times are, if you contact me within 24 hours of the event **and** provide documentation, I will be happy to give you a make-up quiz or extend an assignment deadline.

The general rule is I will not accept any late assignments. Please pay particular attention to the due dates for each assignment.

Attendance Policy: This is an online course, but it is not a self-paced course. It is your responsibility to remain current. There are specific reading assignments and assessments that you are expected to complete on or before the due date/time. Of course exceptions of an emergency nature arise so please let me know if you cannot make the deadline for a particular assignment or be available for our zoom sessions.

UT Tyler does have a [Class Attendance policy](#) in the catalog.

Graded Course Requirements Information:

Getting Started Activities:

In the “Getting Started” module there are three activities for you to complete---preferably prior to the first day of the course, if that is not possible. Then please complete them by the Wednesday of the first week. One activity is simply for you to post an appropriate video of yourself and have the name you prefer to be addressed associated with the video using “studio” to post in a discussion board. Please make it an acceptable video that you would not mind your employer or future employer seeing. The second item is to take the “Getting Started” module quiz---almost all the information in the quiz is located in this syllabus. Take the quiz until you receive 100%. The third and last item is a discussion board. It is your opportunity to let me know what question you have about the course. What concerns you? What is not clear? This will be your opportunity to ask me any questions so I can help you be successful this semester. These activities are worth 10% of your total grade.

Lecture Quizzes:

A short lecture video with an embedded quiz will accompany each chapter. The purpose of the lecture is to provide you an overview of the main concepts you will be reading in the chapters. Some weeks you will have two video lectures, other weeks three. Remember, each lecture has some embedded questions. So, please devote your attention to the information and take notes so you are prepared for the questions. You must watch the lecture and have all the quizzes for the week completed (cannot watch the lecture without taking the quiz) by Tuesday at 11:59pm of each week (except for the first week so make sure you devote your attention to the due dates in this syllabus and in the Canvas calendar).

Discussion Boards:

There will be numerous discussion boards during the semester. Each of these will require you to think and apply the material you learned in your reading. Each discussion board will require you to make a post that is 250 words or greater. You must also use evidence to support your position. This will require you to use the APA documentation style (cite in each and every posting). You must also reply to other students (a minimum of two students), along with commenting on any posts to your original posting. The **initial post** to your discussion board is due no later than **11:59pm on the Thursday** of the week when a discussion board occurs. This ensures all students have an opportunity to learn from other students. All replies to the discussion board will be due by 11:59pm each Saturday of the week a discussion board occurs. Follow the specific instructions associated with each discussion board.

Studio Video Discussions:

There will be a couple of video discussions that we will engage in this semester. Rather than always writing, we will have some activities that allow you to demonstrate your public speaking skills. Your video postings will be posted through a “tool” in Canvas called Studio. You must think deeply about the discussions and reflect on your learning and what the course material means to you and how you will apply it. You should not be regurgitating what was in the readings. Each **initial** discussion is due by **11:59pm on the Thursday** that the assignment is due. Then you must reply to at least two other students’ videos by 11:59pm on Saturday. As in the discussion board activities, just follow the specific instructions associated with the studio discussion, located in the Canvas module for the assignment.

Reflection Papers:

There will be a few reflection papers during the semester that will allow you to demonstrate your knowledge and application of your learning. These will be rated on your written skills (grammar, spelling, and diction), along with your analytical ability in connecting the course material to the assignment prompt. Each reflection paper is due on the Saturday by 11:59pm of the week each is assigned.

Semester Paper:

Your paper for this semester is for you to analyze the concepts in Philip Zimbardo’s book *The Lucifer Effect: Understanding How Good People Turn Evil* by critically thinking through concepts and discussing how they apply to the public administrative arena. Incorporate concepts we have discussed this semester along with your in-depth thoughts on the importance of Zimbardo’s work for public administrators in today’s society. You must also incorporate at least six peer-reviewed sources into your analysis.

The structure of the paper will be as follows:

1. Use APA format. Use all requirements, refer to the APA Manual (7th edition) for assistance, direction, and guidance.
2. One inch margins.
3. Double space.
4. Times New Roman with 12 point font.
5. Title page
6. Main text of the paper to be at least ten pages in length, longer is ok also.

7. Use at least six (6) peer-reviewed sources. The Lynch and Lynch book is NOT a peer-reviewed source (if you have questions about whether a source is peer-reviewed, please contact me).
8. Paraphrase your sources with intext citations using the APA documentation style.
9. Reference page (title page and reference page are not part of the minimum page requirement).
10. Upload in a Word document (file ending in .doc or .docx)

Generally, when writing an academic paper you will not use the same informal type language you use during your daily conversations. Informal, conversational language, will negatively impact your grade.

Final Exam:

Your final exam will be a mini-paper where you respond to a prompt that will require you to incorporate/discuss course concepts and their application. You will also be required to critically think about the question by analyzing it with support from the academic literature (this means inclusion of several peer-reviewed sources).

No late assignments will be accepted. No exceptions!

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates (REQUIRED COMPONENT)

This is a tentative course schedule and is subject to change: All initial discussions and video postings are due on Thursdays by 11:59pm with replies/responses due on Saturdays by 11:59pm.

Module 1 (Weeks 1, 2, and 3): Ethics and the Public Administrator

Week 1: January 12-17

This is the first week of the semester and you should become acquainted with the course. Complete all “Getting Started” module activities and read the first chapter in the Lynch and Lynch book. You also want to ensure you get the Zimbardo book *The Lucifer Effect* by the end of the week as you should begin reading it next week.

Assignments: Studio posting in the Getting Started module due by Jan 14 at 11:59pm
Getting Started Discussion Board post due by Jan 14 at 11:59pm
Getting Started module Quiz due by Jan 14 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 1)
Watch video lecture 1 in Module 1 which has an embedded quiz. Due by Jan 17 at 11:59pm

Week 2: January 18-24 Last week there was not learning activity per se that was related directly to the reading. I provided you that week to get comfortable and accustomed to the course. Now you should be ready to “dive into” the course and make sure you are reading Zimbardo’s book.

Assignments: Watch video lecture (Chapter 2) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Jan 20 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 2)
Discussion Board #1 due by Jan 24 (**initial post due by Thursday, Jan 22 and replies by Saturday, Jan 24—no later than 11:59pm on both days**).
Read Zimbardo’s Chapters 1 and 2 (keep up with this as it will minimize your stress. You will need the details from this book as part of your semester paper. Better to read it throughout the semester to help you frame your narrative when you write your paper).

Week 3: January 25-31 Ethics, corruption, and administrative evil is the topic for this week. Make sure you complete the following activities:

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 3) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Jan 27 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 3)
Read Zimbardo’s Chapters 3 and 4
Reflection Paper #1 due by Jan 31 at 11:59pm

Census Day is January 26th

Module 2 (Weeks 4, 5, and 6): Understanding Ethics

Week 4: February 1-7 Onto our second module as we delve deeper into gaining a better grasp of how to apply ethics in the world of public administration. This week our theme is a quick review of the history of ethics.

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 4) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Feb 3 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 4)
Read Zimbardo’s Chapter 5
Discussion Board #2 due by Feb 7 at 11:59pm (initial post is due by Feb 5 at 11:59)

Week 5: February 8-14 This week we move into a contemporary mindset in regard to ethics and public administration.

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 5) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Feb 10 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 5)
Read Zimbardo's Chapter 6
Studio #1 due by Feb 14 at 11:59pm (initial video post is due by Feb 12).

Week 6: February 15-21 This week we put more together with a focus on the ethics of virtue. This is a very concept that we devote the entire week to our learning.

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 6) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Feb 17 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 6)
Read Zimbardo's Chapter 7
Reflection Paper #2 due by Feb 21 at 11:59pm

Module 3 (Weeks 7 and 8): Grasping the Application of Ethics for the Public Administrator

Week 7: February 22-28 Now we move toward our thinking in regard to how all this really applies in the "real world." This week's concept is ethics and self-control.

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 7) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Feb 24 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 7)
Read Zimbardo's Chapter 8
Discussion Board #3 due by Feb 28 at 11:59pm (initial posting is due by Feb 26 at 11:59pm).

Week 8: March 1-7 This is really a great week for us as we get a glimpse at the tools for critical thinking. This should help you not only with your thinking about ethics, but also how you approach your thinking in your daily lives (academic, employment, and social).

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 8) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Mar 3 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 8)
Read Zimbardo's Chapter 9
Studio #2 due by Mar 7 at 11:59pm (initial video post is due by Mar 5 at 11:59pm).

March 8-14 Spring Break
(If you have fallen behind in your reading of Zimbardo's book, you can use the time to catch up or even read ahead.)

Module 4 (Weeks 9 and 10): Ethical Leadership

Week 9: March 15-21

Just keep reading *The Lucifer Effect* and think how this applies to the world of public administration.

Assignment: Zimbardo's *The Lucifer Effect* Chapters 10-14

Week 10: March 22-28

Moral leadership is one of the keys to successful leadership, so we will learn about it this week.

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 9) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Mar 24 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 9)
Read Zimbardo's Chapter 15
Reflection Paper #3 due by Mar 28 at 11:59pm

Module 5 (Weeks 11, 12, 13, and 14): Personal and Organizational Ethics

Week 11: March 29-April 4

By now everything should be coming together for us as you gain a grasp of how interconnected the concepts we have been learning about are for you to become an ethical professional. Specifically, this week we will learn about values and the professional context.

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 10) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Mar 31 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 10)
Read Zimbardo's Chapter 16
Discussion Board #4 due by Apr 4 at 11:59pm (initial post is due by Apr 2 at 11:59pm).

(March 30: last day to withdraw from one or more classes with "W")

Week 12: April 5-11

You have now completed reading Zimbardo's book, so if you should have a rough draft of your paper. If not, now is the time to begin writing. Your paper is due next week. In the meantime, we will learn about creating a personal ethical style.

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 11) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Apr 7 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 11)
Nothing else, just be working on your paper so next week you only have to polish it before submitting.

Week 13: April 12-18

This is the last concept related to administrative ethics for the course. This week we will learn about creating public organizations that are ethically minded. You will also submit your semester paper.

Assignment: Watch video lecture (Chapter 12) which has an embedded quiz. Due by Apr 14 at 11:59pm
Read Lynch & Lynch (Chapter 12)
Paper due by April 18 at 11:59pm

Week 14: April 19-25

This week we wrap it all up with your final exam.

Assignment: Final exam is due by Friday, Apr 24 at 11:59pm

Week 15: April 26-May 1

Finals Week
I am available for consultation via Zoom