

Canadian Police Knowledge Network
Course Training Standard

**CANADIAN
POLICE
KNOWLEDGE
NETWORK**



**RÉSEAU
CANADIEN DU
SAVOIR
POLICIER**

Police Ethics and Accountability

Canadian Police Knowledge Network

Course Training Standard

Revision History

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability
Date of Course Design: December 2008
Date of Course Launch: February 2, 2009

Date of Revision: August 10, 2009
Name of Person Responsible for Change(s): CPKN
Summary of Change(s): Minor text changes

Date of Revision:
Name of Person Responsible for Change(s):
Summary of Change(s):

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Course Outline/Calendar Description

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability

Delivery Method: Online

Course Description:

Police officers are granted with special powers to enable them to provide citizens with a safe and secure environment. With these special powers are expectations of professionalism, ethical conduct, and police accountability. Unlike many other occupations, police are expected to maintain high ethical standards both on and off duty-whether at work or home, the public is watching.

Though actual or deliberate acts of unethical police conduct are rare, police misconduct can occur in a variety of forms, including use of excessive force, improper conduct, acceptance of gratuities, and in some instances a criminal act. Education that emphasizes what is appropriate and what is inappropriate is key to avoiding ethical pitfalls.

Police Ethics and Accountability explores the complexities surrounding ethical decisions and dilemmas in policing. Focusing on ways to avoid improper and unethical conduct, this course helps officers ensure their behaviour, judgement, and decisions are appropriate in their day to day duties.

Course Objective(s):

- Differentiate between morals, ethics, and values
- Explain why it is important to be aware of and open to ethical issues as a police officer in contemporary society
- Differentiate between an ethical and unethical individual
- Explain how to properly respond to an ethical dilemma
- Describe the development of ethical and professional policing
- Explain how police misconduct happens and provide examples
- Discuss the ethical issues and dilemmas surrounding gratuities and noble cause policing
- Explain how to foster ethics and professionalism in the workplace

Evaluation Standard:

Students will complete a final assessment consisting of 25 questions. Students will have unlimited attempts to successfully pass the evaluation. Pass criteria is 80%.

Target Audience: Police Officers and Law Enforcement Personnel

Duration: 2 Hours

Price: \$25.00

Prerequisite(s): None

Language(s): English and French

Special Notes: None

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Content Provider/Subject Matter Expert(s)

Content Provider(s): Justice Institute of British Columbia

Subject Matter Expert: Rick Parent

Rick Parent, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor at Simon Fraser University, School of Criminology - Police Studies. Rick completed over 29 years of service as a police officer in the Vancouver area during which he obtained experience in areas including general duty patrol, traffic, criminal investigations, recruiting, training, and police internal investigations. Rick is also a former police recruit instructor at the Justice Institute of British Columbia - Police Academy and a crisis negotiator, assigned to a regional Emergency Response Team. As an academic, he is the co-author of several policing textbooks and currently teaches Police Ethics and Accountability at Simon Fraser University.

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Course Evaluation Strategy

Evaluation Strategy

This course contains two forms of evaluation—practice activities and a final assessment.

Each practice activity provides the means for the learner to self assess, without scoring or tracking, in order to provide an environment to discover from mistakes and perfect their performance.

The final assessment provides a scorable/trackable function that assesses the learner on their overall knowledge gain. The final assessment serves two functions: it provides the learner with a pragmatic utilization of the knowledge; and provides data to the learner's organization so that it can provide the learner with additional remediation, or identify areas in the content that require critical attention and improvement.

Criteria	Practice Activities	Final Assessment
Question Creation	CPKN/Content Provider	CPKN/Content Provider
Question Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple Choice • True/False • Scenario 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple Choice • True/False
Question Numbers	Varies by lesson	Pool of 30 questions – 25 questions asked on final assessment
Feedback	Correct/Incorrect	Correct/Incorrect
Remediation	None	Completion of final assessment will list areas that require review
Tracking and Scoring	None	Tracked and scored
Number of Attempts	Question level – 1 Module level – Unlimited	Question level – 1 Final Assessment – Unlimited
Passing Criteria	N/A	80%
Reporting Requirements	None	Completion and scores

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Lesson Outline

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability

Lesson Title: Introduction to Police Ethics and Accountability

Duration: 5 minutes

Lesson Objective(s):

- None

Lesson Topic(s):

- Introduction to Police Ethics and Accountability

Evaluation Standard:

None

Resources Required:

- None

Special Notes:

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Lesson Outline

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability

Lesson Title: Ethics and Society

Duration: 20 minutes

Lesson Objective(s):

- Differentiate between morals, ethics, and values
- Explain why it is important to be aware of and open to ethical issues as a police officer in contemporary society

Lesson Topic(s):

- Ethics and Society
- Police: A Unique Position within Society

Evaluation Standard:

Practice Activities

Resources Required:

- None

Special Notes:

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Lesson Outline

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability

Lesson Title: Ethical Issues, Dilemmas, and Decision-Making

Duration: 20 minutes

Lesson Objective(s):

- Differentiate between an ethical and unethical individual
- Explain how to properly respond to an ethical dilemma

Lesson Topic(s):

- Ethical Issues
- Ethical Dilemmas
- Ethical Decision-Making

Evaluation Standard:

Practice Activities

Resources Required:

- None

Special Notes:

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Lesson Outline

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability

Lesson Title: The Police Subculture and Code of Conduct

Duration: 20 minutes

Lesson Objective(s):

- Describe the development of ethical and professional policing

Lesson Topic(s):

- The Police Subculture
- A Contemporary and Historical Focus on Ethics

Evaluation Standard:

Practice Activities

Resources Required:

- None

Special Notes:

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Lesson Outline

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability

Lesson Title: Police Duty and Misconduct: Minor and Serious Issues

Duration: 20 minutes

Lesson Objective(s):

- Explain how police misconduct happens and provide examples

Lesson Topic(s):

- Police Misconduct in Perspective
- Inappropriate/Questionable Behaviour – While On Duty
- Inappropriate/Questionable Behaviour – While Off Duty
- Off Duty Employment

Evaluation Standard:

Practice Activities

Resources Required:

- None

Special Notes:

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Lesson Outline

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability

Lesson Title: Gratuities, Noble Causes, and Ethical Compromises

Duration: 20 minutes

Lesson Objective(s):

- Discuss the ethical issues and dilemmas surrounding gratuities and noble cause policing

Lesson Topic(s):

- Gratuities
- Noble Causes
- Ethical Compromises

Evaluation Standard:

Practice Activities

Resources Required:

- None

Special Notes:

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Lesson Outline

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability

Lesson Title: Police Leadership and Staying on Course

Duration: 20 minutes

Lesson Objective(s):

- Explain how to foster ethics and professionalism in the workplace

Lesson Topic(s):

- Police Leadership
- Fostering Ethics in the Workplace
- Summing Up – Staying on Course

Evaluation Standard:

Practice Activities

Resources Required:

- None

Special Notes:

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Lesson Outline

Course Title: Police Ethics and Accountability

Lesson Title: Final Assessment

Duration: Varies by learner

Lesson Objective(s):

- None

Lesson Topic(s):

- None

Evaluation Standard:

Final Assessment

Resources Required:

- None

Special Notes: