

**CCJS 342: Corrections**  
**Spring 2024**  
**Section 0201**  
**Online (asynchronous)**

**INSTRUCTOR**

Professor Jessica Morabito  
2215 LeFrak Hall  
Email: [jmorab21@umd.edu](mailto:jmorab21@umd.edu)  
Office hours: Virtual office hours by appointment only

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines the American correctional system, including both incarceration and community corrections. Upon completion of the course, students will have an understanding of historical trends and current issues in corrections, as well as correctional policies, practices, and research.

**COURSE PREREQUISITE**

CCJS100

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

Hanser, R.D. (2020). *Introduction to Corrections*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.  
ISBN: 9781544339078

Readings that are not from the textbook will be posted on the course website for you to download.

**COURSE FORMAT**

Our course will be asynchronous, meaning that lectures will not be live and you will not be required to log in at a specific time for lecture. Each week, you will be responsible for viewing a series of pre-recorded lectures. The lectures will consist of me narrating a PowerPoint. The PowerPoint will be visible to you, but you will not have access to the slides as a separate file. Some weeks, you will also be responsible for watching videos (e.g., TED Talks, YouTube videos) that are aimed to enhance your understanding of the week's topics. Each Monday at 12:30am, a module for the week will open on ELMS with all of the information you need to complete the week's tasks. Start each week by reading the instructions file in the module (e.g., "Week One Instructions"). Lecture recordings will remain available until 10 minutes before the exam on which the material appears. The time zone for this class is Eastern Time.

**COURSE WEBSITE**

This class uses Canvas (ELMS) for distribution of important course information. I will use it to make announcements to the class, post reading material that is not in your textbook, and update your grades. Go to <http://elms.umd.edu> and log in with your Directory ID and password. You are able to adjust your individual settings to receive email notifications when new content is posted, if you wish; I strongly encourage you to adjust your settings so that you receive email notifications when announcements are posted. Please be sure to check this site regularly, as you

are responsible for knowing the material that I post. If you have any problems accessing ELMS, please contact the support desk at 301-405-1500.

### **COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS AND EMAIL POLICY**

Clear and timely communication is a high priority in an online course. Please monitor your email and the course website daily to stay up-to-date. Because we will not meet in person, it is important that you read all posted announcements in their entirety.

Email is the University's official form of communication. I expect your emails to me to be professional. Please do not use chat-speak in your emails to me. You must email me from your University email address, not a personal email. I do not guarantee a response to emails sent from a non-University email account. Please be sure to include CCJS342 in the subject line of your email, so that I know which class you are in. Please do not message me through ELMS.

It is important to me to provide timely responses to your emails. I will make an effort to provide a same-day email response to emails received during business hours, Monday-Friday between 9:00am and 5:00pm. I do not respond to emails over the weekend or on holidays and will respond to any emails by 5:00pm the next business day. Keeping these guidelines in mind, if you do not receive a reply from me within 48 hours of when you can anticipate a response, please re-send the email. Before you email me, please check the syllabus, weekly instructions, and ELMS announcements to see if your question can be answered there (e.g., "what time will the exam be open?" is answered in the syllabus).

### **GRADING POLICY**

Your final grade will be determined according to the following assignment categories:

15% Quizzes (5 total)

20% Exam One

20% Exam Two

20% Final Exam

15% Documentary Response Paper

10% Infographic Assignment

### **Important notes about assignments:**

1. I do not allow students to resubmit assignments to earn a new grade or return partial credit to a previously graded assignment. All assignments get one chance for a grade, so make sure you understand that what you are turning in is your final product.
2. I do not allow retakes of any exams or quizzes.
3. I reserve the right to adjust the weighting, points, and/or course requirements if necessitated by a health or other emergency as declared by the University.

Final course grades will be assigned as follows:

97-100% A+    96%-93% A    92%-90% A-

89-87% B+    86%-83% B    82%-80% B-

79%-77% C+    76%-73% C    72%-70% C-

69%-67% D+    66%-63% D    62%-60% D-

59% and below F

Final grades will be rounded up to the next percentage point at the 0.45% threshold. Grades will not be curved or negotiated at the end of the course.

## **QUIZZES**

Throughout the semester, you will take 5 open-book, open-note quizzes based on lecture material, videos, and reading assignments. You will have 10 minutes to complete each quiz. Quiz format may include multiple choice questions and true/false questions. Each quiz will be open on ELMS for 12 hours, from 7:00am until 7:00pm Eastern Time; this time period is non-negotiable. You may not collaborate on or discuss the quiz with anyone, nor may you use AI or other tools to answer quiz questions. It is highly recommended you complete each quiz with minimal distractions and a reliable internet connection. Quizzes not completed by the deadline will receive a zero. I will not answer quiz-related questions while the quiz is open, nor will I allow students to view their quiz answers on ELMS. You are welcome to make an appointment with me to discuss your quiz. All quizzes will count toward your final grade (i.e., no quiz scores will be dropped).

## **EXAMS**

There are three exams for this course, including a final exam. Each exam will include a combination of multiple choice and true/false questions, for a total of 50 questions. The exams will be based on lecture and reading material, as well as any assigned videos or documentaries. You may use your notes while you take the exam, but you will not have access to my lecture recordings during the exam; I strongly recommend that you study for the exams even though you may use your notes. You may not collaborate on or discuss the exam with anyone, nor may you use AI or other tools to answer quiz questions. You will have one 50-minute attempt to take each exam. Each exam will be open on ELMS for 12 hours, from 7:00am until 7:00pm Eastern time; this time period is non-negotiable. The final exam will not be cumulative. No exceptions or adjustments to exam times will be made for technical difficulties. I highly encourage you to complete the exam with minimal distractions and a reliable Internet connection. Exams not completed by the deadline will receive a 0. I will not answer exam-related questions while the exam is open, nor will I allow students to view their exam answers on ELMS, but you are welcome to make an appointment with me to discuss your exam.

## **DOCUMENTARY RESPONSE PAPER**

You will write a 2-4 page paper based on a documentary related to course material. While you will be expected to summarize the documentary, the bulk of the paper will require you to make connections between the documentary and what you have learned in lecture. The use of AI is not permitted on this assignment. Further instructions and the rubric will be provided on ELMS after the first exam. The paper is due **Friday, April 19, 2024 at 11:59pm** and must be submitted as a PDF document.

## **INFOGRAPHIC ASSIGNMENT**

You will create a one-page infographic on a course topic of your choice. You will use the free version of Canva to create your infographic. Further instructions and the rubric will be provided on ELMS. The infographic is due **Monday, April 29, 2024 at 11:59pm**.

## **EXTRA CREDIT**

Extra credit is not available in this class on either a class-wide or individual basis.

## **GRADE DISPUTES**

If you have a concern about a grade on an exam or assignment and believe that I should review it, you must submit a written request over email that describes your concern in detail. Upon receiving your email, I may ask you to meet with me in person to further discuss your concern. You have **one week** after the assignment/exam grade is posted to submit a grade dispute.

## **MAKEUP POLICY/MISSED EXAMS/LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

Makeup exams and assignments will only be given in cases of excused absences. Excused absences include religious observances, mandatory military obligation, illness of the student, required participation in university activities, death in the family, and required court appearances. Changes in employment schedules, personal travel, technical/internet problems, etc. do not qualify as excused absences.

Students must notify me in writing **prior** to missing an exam, quiz, or major graded assignment for a makeup to be scheduled. If you know in advance that you will be absent for an exam or assignment due date with an approved absence (you must notify me at least one week prior to the due date), you will be expected to take the exam or quiz or turn in the assignment prior to the exam/assignment due date.

**Exams and Quizzes:** Makeup exams and quizzes will only be given in cases of excused absences which always require prior written notice to the start of the exam and documentation to determine if your absence was excused. If you miss an exam or quiz and notify me after the start of the exam, you will not be able to reschedule the quiz. Please contact me immediately (before the start of the exam or quiz) to let me know if you will not be able to take it on time so we can begin the process of rescheduling while you gather documentation. All makeup exams and quizzes must be completed as soon as you are able to return but no later than one week after the missed exam or quiz. Failure to adhere to these policies will result in a grade of zero for the exam or quiz.

**Paper and Infographic:** A late assignment (infographic or documentary response paper) without a documented excused absence will receive a grade reduction of 10% per day the assignment is late. For instance, if you turn your documentary response paper in 3 days late, the highest grade you can earn on the paper is a 70% due to the 30% grade reduction. Grade reductions start immediately after the deadline has passed and weekends count toward this calculation. If you have a documented, excused absence for an assignment due date, you will be expected to turn the assignment in by the next day, unless other arrangements are made with me. You must provide me with prior notification that you are unable to turn your assignment in on time due to the documented, excused absence in order to avoid grade reductions.

I reserve the right to verify all documentation provided to me. If you are suspected of having fabricated documentation, you will be referred to the Student Honor Council.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**

On occasion, the University may cancel classes due to inclement weather. If the university is closed on a day that a graded assignment is scheduled to be due or an exam is scheduled to be given, the graded assignment or exam will be rescheduled for the next class day that the University is open. Please note that the course schedule, including reading assignments, may need to be adjusted as a result of inclement weather-related class cancellations.

## **ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY SERVICES**

I will make every effort to accommodate students who are registered with the Accessibility and Disability Service office (ADS) and who provide me with a University of Maryland ADS form which has been updated for Spring 2024. You must provide me with this form **and meet with me by February 7, 2024**, so that we can discuss how I may best help you. I am not able to accommodate students who are not registered with ADS or who do not provide me with documentation that has been reviewed by ADS. ADS students who are requesting to take their exams at the ADS testing office in Shoemaker Hall need to make arrangements to do so through the ADS website and must provide me with a testing form online **at least one week prior to the exam**; failure to do so will mean that the student must take the exam with the rest of the class. Any student taking an exam at the ADS office is expected to take the exam on the same day and at the same starting time as the rest of the class; if you feel that you are unable to take the exam at the same day due to a scheduling conflict (i.e., another class), you must discuss this with me prior to submitting your request to the ADS testing office and submit documentation of your conflict.

## **RELIGIOUS OBSERVATIONS & ATHLETICS**

If you will be observing a religious holiday or will have a University athletic obligation that will cause you to miss class, a paper due date, a quiz, or an exam, please let me know **by February 7, 2024**. If you will be missing an exam or quiz, you will be expected to take it prior to the exam/quiz date. If you will be missing an assignment due date, you will be expected to turn it in prior to the due date.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

I take academic integrity very seriously. The University of Maryland has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity which sets standards for academic integrity for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student, you are responsible for upholding these standards in your courses. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. Some of your assignments will be collected via Turnitin on our course ELMS page; Turnitin is an originality checker that helps me verify the integrity of student work. For information about Turnitin, how it works, and the feedback reports you may have access to, visit [Turnitin Originality Checker for Students](#).

Unless I give explicit permission otherwise, please be advised that you are not permitted to use AI generated content in this course and doing so will be considered a violation of academic integrity.

In this course, academic dishonesty of any form will not be tolerated. I strongly encourage you to visit <http://shc.umd.edu/SHC/StudentAcademicDishonesty.aspx> for further information about

the Code of Academic Integrity, what constitutes academic dishonesty, and the Student Honor Council. If you are ever unclear about acceptable levels of collaboration, when and/or how to cite, or what actions I consider a breach of academic integrity, please ask me!

### **OFFICE HOURS**

This semester, my office hours will be held virtually and by appointment only. Please email me if you would like to set up a time to meet. Meetings will be held via Zoom and I will send you the Meeting ID once we have set up our appointment. Please be sure to log in to [umd.zoom.us](https://umd.zoom.us) and sign in with your University credentials in order to participate in our Zoom meetings as I cannot admit anyone from a waiting room.

### **NOTICE OF MANDATORY REPORTING**

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible University Employee,” and I must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, interpersonal violence, and stalking to UMD’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy on Sexual Harassment and Other Sexual Misconduct. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of UMD’s confidential resources, such as [CARE to Stop Violence](#) (located on the Ground Floor of the Health Center) at 301-741-3442 or the [Counseling Center](#) (located at the Shoemaker Building) at 301-314-7651. You may also seek assistance or supportive measures from UMD’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 301-405-1142, or emailing [titleIXcoordinator@umd.edu](mailto:titleIXcoordinator@umd.edu). To view further information on the above, please visit the [Office of Civil Rights and Sexual Misconduct's](#) website at [ocrsm.umd.edu](https://ocrsm.umd.edu).

### **COURSE EVALUATIONS**

Your feedback about this course is very important to me. At the end of the semester, you are encouraged to fill out the online evaluation, which you can access via [www.courseevalum.umd.edu](https://www.courseevalum.umd.edu). As an incentive, students who complete evaluations for all of their courses in the previous semester are able to access the posted results of the evaluations for any course that has a response rate of at least 70%.

### **COPYRIGHT**

The lectures that I deliver in this class and the course materials I create and distribute are protected by federal copyright law. You are permitted to take notes on lectures and to use course materials for your use in this course. You may NOT record, reproduce, or distribute my lectures/notes for any commercial purpose without my written consent. You may NOT take pictures of my lectures/notes for your own personal use or for any commercial purpose without my written consent. Persons who sell or distribute copies or modified copies of my course materials, possess commercial copies of my notes (i.e. Terpnotes), or assist another person or entity in selling or distributing those materials may be considered in violation of the University Code of Student Conduct, Part 9(k).

### Class Schedule and Reading Assignments

Week	Dates	Lectures and Videos	Reading Assignments	Complete
1	1/24-1/28	Welcome Video/Course Intro Introduction to Corrections	No reading	
2	1/29-2/4	History of Corrections, Part 1 History of Corrections, Part 2	Chapter 1	
3	2/5-2/11	Sentencing and Philosophies of Punishment Mass Incarceration	pp.34-46 Pfaff	<b>Quiz 1 2/9</b>
4	2/12-2/18	Documentary: <i>The Prison State</i> Probation	Chapter 5	
5	2/19-2/25	Intermediate Sanctions Jail and Pretrial Detention	Chapter 6 Chapter 4	<b>Quiz 2 2/23</b>
6	2/26-3/3	<b>EXAM ONE MARCH 1</b>	Prepare for the exam!	
7	3/4-3/10	Prisons Prison Life	Chapter 8 Chapter 9	
8	3/11-3/17	Women in Prison Video: "Mind the Gap" Elderly Prison Population	Chapter 11 Chapter 12	<b>Quiz 3 3/15</b>
9	3/18-3/24	<b>SPRING BREAK! Enjoy!</b>		
10	3/25-3/31	Solitary Confinement & Supermax Prison Programming	Haney Chapter 15	
11	4/1- 4/7	Incarceration and Health Incarceration and the Family	Porter Comfort	<b>Quiz 4 4/5</b>
12	4/8-4/14	<b>EXAM TWO APRIL 12</b>	Prepare for the exam!	
13	4/15-4/21	Collateral Consequences Correctional Administration	Travis Chapter 14	<b>Documentary Response Paper due 4/19</b>
14	4/22-4/28	Juvenile Corrections Parole and Reentry	Chapter 13 Chapter 16	<b>Quiz 5 4/26</b>
15	4/29-5/5	Death Penalty Future of Corrections	Chapter 17 Chapter 18	<b>Infographic due 4/29</b>
16	5/6- 5/9	<b>FINAL EXAM MAY 9</b>	Prepare for the exam!	

NOTE: Dates are listed as Monday through Sunday (except week 1, which begins on a Wednesday)  
Videos and readings that are not from your textbook will be posted on ELMS in the appropriate week's module. I reserve the ability to add videos to the course requirements. Any additional assigned videos will be announced via the weekly instructions for the relevant week. Note that all quizzes and exams must be completed by 7:00pm on the dates indicated in the syllabus. Assignments must be submitted by 11:59pm on their due date.