

**CCJS 342 – Corrections
Spring 2024
Syllabus**

Lecturer:

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Classroom/Time: MON 03:30 PM - 06:00 PM III-3220

Course Description:

This course will meet on Monday's beginning on 1/29/2024. CCJS 342 will provide a general introduction to the field of corrections. By the end of the course, students will be expected to have an understanding of the history, components, trends-past and current in the field of American corrections and how the various aspects and functions of the Corrections system are interrelated. Students will develop the ability to think critically about the logic and evidence for contemporary correctional policies and programs. It is expected that students attend the class modules which will consist of PowerPoint presentations of the required reading from the text book, and discussion of supplemental materials covering selected topics, along with case study exercises that illustrate the various functions of correctional agencies.

Course Prerequisite:

CCJS100

Course Website:

I will be using *Canvas* to make announcements, list weekly supplemental readings, provide weekly discussion questions, post grades, and provide links. Please make certain that you have access to this course through ELMS (<http://www.elms.umd.edu>) and that the email listing you have attached to this account is active.

Required Text:

Clear, Todd R., Michael D. Reisig, Carolyn Petrosino, & George F. Cole. (2017). *American Corrections in Brief* (3rd Edition). Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning, Student Edition (ISBN: 978-1-305-63375-5)

Other required readings and material will be available on the ELMS course website.

Grading:

Exams (3): 300 points
**Weekly discussion
and assignments:** 100 points
Project: 100 points
TOTAL: **500 points**

Exams: Each exam will test you on material covered during the previous portion of the course. Only the Final Exam will be cumulative. You will be held responsible for all assigned Chapter readings from the course book, supplemental materials and assignment information. The exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions; they will be scheduled and will be timed.

Weekly Assignments: Each module will be comprised of a supplemental reading posted on the assignment board; the grade will be based on how well you participate by answering the specific question during weekly discussions. (½ of the grade will be based on your classroom participation and ½ for your creative thinking in relating to correctional issues displayed during the discussions). Missed classes will result in NO participation points for the assignment.

Deadlines: If any of the weekly assignments are designated as written responses, than I expect you to adhere to the set weekly deadline – which is the last possible moment that assignments will be accepted, and remember that the clock is set by ELMS, which may be different than your own clock! **The Deadline for each week’s assignments is Sunday at 11:59PM.**

Project: You will write a paper and develop a PowerPoint presentation on an organization within the field of corrections that I will provide you. These will cover themes within the course modules. You are expected to draw information for your project from any number of sources: books, articles or other media, such as a movie, TV show or documentary. You’re paper must be 5-6 pages and explain why you chose this subject matter, the relevance to the field of American corrections and an overview, summary and your conclusive opinion of the subject matter. The PowerPoint will be designed to inform your classmates of the subject and the slides should incorporate highlights of you subject and utilize other media to illustrate the subject matter. The grade will be calculated ½ for the paper and ½ for the PowerPoint construction and class presentation, including discussion board responses.

To calculate final grades: add together the number of points acquired throughout the course (total x 2 x 10%). You receive the grade with the corresponding percentage. The percentage points will be converted to a letter grade listed below:

A+ (97%+)	B+ (87-89%)	C+ (77-79%)	D+ (67-69%)
A (93-96%)	B (83-86%)	C (73-77%)	D (63-66%)
A- (90-92%)	B- (80-82%)	C- (70-72%)	D- (60-62%)

Grade Disputes: If you have questions or concerns about your grade(s) and believe I should review them, you must submit a written request over email to me that describes your concern in detail. This request must be submitted within one week of the day that grades for that quiz or exam or project are disseminated.

Course Policies (see <http://ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>):

Addendum on Medical Absences: The exam and paper submissions are considered to be Major Scheduled Grading Events and therefore the university medical excuse policy (<http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/does/V-100G.pdf>) which allows one student-signed honor statement attesting to illness does NOT apply to them. In the event you become chronically absent, missing more than two (2) consecutive weeks of assignments, due to the same persistent illness this must be verified by a health professional in writing and be brought to my or the Program Director, Dr. Wendy Stickle attention via email. Any absences from a Major Scheduled Grading Event will be counted as zeros in the event you have failed to inform of these developments within one week of the grades for the remainder of the class being posted on *Canvas*.

Save your assignments and documents on the cloud or an external drive before submitting them electronically. You can use the saved version of your work to copy and paste to the module assignment/discussion board, or you can attach the saved file where allowed. This will prevent a lot of frustration should your internet connection or system fail.

Your instructor is NOT a computer specialist. When you commit to taking an online course, it is your responsibility to problem solve and trouble shoot issues. The IT Service Desk is always available for assistance.

Discussion Board and Assignment Grading scheme and Tips for Success: The Discussion board is not an informal chat room. Your original posts and responses should be thoughtful, considerate, show critical thinking in processing the course information and use college-level language and grammar (not 'texting' language or Instant Message shortcuts; and, please check your spelling and grammatical errors prior to posting). A Substantive post should meet several criteria in order to merit full points: all details of the question are fully answered; it must specifically reflect the content of the material in the module; it may reference other materials within the course, or if using other resources, you should cite that source; it is not solely based on opinion; it should be of sufficient length to show command of the information, and in response, expand on or clarify a point made by another and offer an additional argument to support or disagree.

Communication: I prefer that you utilize my email, or you may attempt to leave me a message thru the Criminology & Criminal Justice Program Office. You are responsible for checking your UMD email and any announcements on *Canvas*. On your email to me, please **include in the subject line "CCJS 342 & sign your message by typing your full name at the end of your email,** so I know who you are.

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and any violations will be reported to the Honor Council. Academic dishonesty includes: cheating, fabrication of information used in assignments; plagiarism, and knowingly facilitating the academic dishonesty of another student. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Honor Council, please visit website: <http://shc.umd.edu/SHC/Default.aspx>.

Copyright: The lectures that I deliver in this class and the course materials I create and distribute are protected by federal copyright law as my original works. My lectures are delivered from written material in order to ensure copyright protection. You are permitted to take notes of the PowerPoint and supplemental materials and to use course materials for your use in the course. You may not reproduce or distribute notes of the PowerPoint or my course materials or make any commercial use of them without my express consent.

Course Evaluations: Your feedback about this course is very important to me and the Program, and is a responsibility you hold as a student member of our academic community. You will have an opportunity to provide feedback through the online evaluation at the end of the semester (www.courseevalum.umd.edu).

*Please check *Canvas* weekly for updates to **ASSIGNMENT/Activity**.

DATE	LECTURE TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT/Activity
Week 1: 1/29/24	Overview of Corrections system	Clear et al. Ch.1 Discussion Board Assignment Question
Week 2: 2/05/24	History of Corrections Punishment & Sentencing	Clear et al. Ch. 2 Assignment Question
Week 3: 2/12/24	Jails and Detention Pre-trial Supervision & Bail Release	Clear et al. Ch. 3 Assignment Question
Week 4: 2/19/24	Community Corrections- history Intermediate Sanctions	Clear et al. Ch. 4 Assignment Question
Week 5: 2/26/24	Community Corrections- Probation overview	Clear et al. Ch. 5 Assignment Question
Week 6: 3/04/24	EXAM #1	
Week 7: 3/11/24	Prison System & Prison/Institutional Management Classification, Rehabilitation & Programming	Clear et al. Ch 6 & Ch.8 Assignment Question
Week 8: 3/18/24	SPRING BREAK	Project subject due
Week 9: 3/25/24	Prison Inmate Experience Incarceration Challenges Special Populations in Corrections	Clear et al. Ch. 7 & 9 Assignment Question

Week 10:	Parole/Probation Practices & Trends	Clear et al. Ch. 10
4/01/24	The Maryland system	Assignment Question
Week 11:	Reentry & community supervision	Clear et al. Ch. 10 & 12
4/08/24		Assignment Question
Week 12:	EXAM # 2	
4/15/24		
Week 13:	Law & Corrections; Death Penalty issues	Clear et al. Ch 11
4/22/24		Assignment Question
Week 14:	Project Paper and PowerPoint Presentations	
4/29/24	(if COVID-19 restrictions in place Power Point will be posted online for comment on discussion board)	
Week 15:	Project Paper and PowerPoint Presentations	
5/06/24	(Comments due on discussion board)	

Final Exam – TBD during the week of 5/11/2024 – 5/17/2024