

University of Maryland, College Park
Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice

CCJS342: CORRECTIONS

Fall 2019
Section 0201

Lecture:

ASY 1213
Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:00 – 3:15pm

Professor:

Jessica Deitzer
2162 LeFrak Hall
Email: jdeitzer@umd.edu
Office hours: Monday 12-1pm and Wednesday 10am-12pm

Course Prerequisite:

CCJS 100: Introduction to Criminal Justice

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the study of corrections. By the end of this course, students are expected to have a comprehensive understanding of the history and current state of corrections in the United States and the ability to think critically about current practices and policies in the corrections system. This course will include in-course lectures, in-class activities and discussions, readings, PowerPoint presentations, and video and audio clips.

Course Website:

I will be using **ELMS-Canvas** to make announcements, post grades, readings, and other documents. 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 and routinely monitored. Please also monitor and **use the email account associated with ELMS** to communicate with me. This policy is to ensure the identity of each student.

Course Materials:

Required Textbook:

- Clear, Todd R., Michael D. Reisig, Carolyn Petrosino, & George F. Cole. (2016). *American Corrections in Brief* (3rd Edition). Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-1-305-63373-5.

Other required materials for this course include:

- Readings – Readings outside the textbook will be posted on ELMS
- Podcasts – Podcast episodes can be accessed directly on the internet or downloaded for free via several sources including iTunes, Spotify, and Google Podcasts

- Visual Media – Visual media will be screened in class or available online. Whenever possible, I will link the in-class videos on ELMS, but there are occasional videos that are only available on DVD or via subscription service.

Other required reading will be posted on the ELMS website.

Course Grading:

Exam 1: 100 points (20%)
 Exam 2: 100 points (20%)
 Final Exam: 150 points (30%)
 Reading Quizzes: 25 points (5%)
 Class Participation: 25 points (5%)
 Current Issues Paper: 100 points (20%)
Extra Credit Assignment: 20 points
 Total points Possible: 520/500 points

Grading Scheme:

A+	97% +	B+	87 – 89%	C+	77 – 79 %	D+	67 – 69%	F	< 60%
A	93 – 96 %	B	83 – 86%	C	73 – 76 %	D	63 – 66%		
A-	90 – 92%	B-	80 – 82%	C-	70 – 72%	D-	60 – 62%		

Exams:

Exams will be a combination of true/false, multiple-choice, and short-answer questions. Exams 1 and 2 will **not be cumulative** and will cover all of the course material assigned since the last exam. You will have 75 minutes to take Exam 1 and 2.

The final exam **will be cumulative** with an emphasis on materials covered after Exam 2. The exam will still be a combination of true/false, multiple-choice, and short-answer questions. You will have two hours to take the final exam.

It is your responsibility to prepare for each exam by carefully reviewing the textbook, other assigned materials, and course notes.

Quizzes:

There will be randomly given quizzes on the during the semester. The quizzes will be unannounced and administered at the beginning of class. The primary purpose of these quizzes is to assess whether students are attending class and keeping up with weekly reading assignments and their comprehension of these readings. Each quiz will be 1 or 2 questions. Students lowest quiz score will be dropped.

Class Participation:

Class participation involves more than just attendance: 1) quality participation in course discussions, 2) engaging during group activities, 3) completing participation assignments, and 4) actively listening during class. There will be a variety of individual and group activities during

class which will not be announced ahead of time. Both completion and correctness of these activities will count towards class participation. In order to have fruitful, informative discussions you should come to class having read, listened to, or watched, as well as thought about the assigned course materials for the day. Discussing and engaging with the assigned course material is an essential component of your learning in this course.

An over-arching objective for our class meetings is to have a classroom environment wherein a wide variety of opinions can be freely voiced and where constructive dialogue flourishes. Students are expected to be courteous and respectful in course discussions. While you are free to express differing views and opinions on subject matter, this must be done in a professional and academic manner at all times. Students who engage in personal attacks, insults, aggressive and/or offensive language, or any other behavior that the instructor deems inappropriate will be subject to referral to the Office of Student Conduct.

Current Issues Report:

For this assignment, students will write a report on a current issue in the United States correctional system. Students will select from one of these major topic areas from the first two units: Bail, Jail, Alternative Sanctions, Probation, Mass Incarceration, Prison Experience, Punishment in Prison, Special Populations in Prison, Correctional Rehabilitation, and Risk Assessment. Students should 1) identify an issue that is in a need of a policy response, 2) research the issue based on published reports, books, and peer-reviewed journal articles, and 3) recommend an answer to the issue based on the research. More detailed explanation of the assignment, a description of the research requirements, and a grading rubric will be posted on ELMS. Your paper should be 3-4 pages and is due by 11:59pm (EST) on Wednesday, November 13th.

Extra Credit Assignment:

For the extra credit assignment, students will present their research from the Current Issues Assignment to the rest of the class on a discussion board. More details on the requirements of this assignment will be posted on ELMS.

Religious Observations:

If you are unable to complete any assignments due to a religious observance, you will need to discuss this with me by Monday, September 9th. Failure to notify me by this time will result in a zero on the exam/assignment.

Athletes:

Official athletic schedules must be submitted to me. Practices do not count as an excused absence; in cases of an excused absence (i.e. a game), students are expected to arrange with me make-up exams/assignments at least one week prior to scheduled due dates. Athletes who miss exams/assignments due to games or other commitments, yet never submitted an official athletic schedule, and never spoke with me, will receive a grade of zero for the relevant assignment.

Disability Support:

Students who are registered with the Disability Support Service (DSS)/Accessibility and Disability Service (ADS) Office and who provide me with required DSS/ADS documentation

will be accommodated in the classroom. Please provide me with an up-to-date Accommodations Form by Monday, September 9th so that accommodations can be considered in this class. Pertaining to exams, students are expected to take exams on the same day as the rest of the class. If you need accommodations for exams, please give me the necessary forms **at least one week prior** to each exam. I am unable to accommodate students who are not registered with DSS/ADS or who do not provide me with the necessary documentation.

Inclement Weather Policy:

On occasion, classes may be cancelled due to inclement weather. If the university is closed on the day a graded item is scheduled, the graded assignment will be rescheduled for the next class meeting in which the university is open.

Missed or Late Work:

Exams must be completed on the date listed in the course schedule. There will be no makeup exams except in cases of excused absences with written documentation, such as serious illness, injury, or death in the family. In all cases, you must notify me **prior to the due date** in order to schedule a makeup exam. Official documentation will be required. Failure to adhere to these policies will result in a grade of zero for the exam. The **three exams** and the **paper** are considered to be Major Scheduled Grading Events and therefore the university medical excuse policy (<http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/docs/V-100G.pdf>) which allows one student-signed honor statement attesting to illness does **not** apply to them.

Papers submitted after the due date will be accepted late up to seven days after the due date. There will be a 5% penalty per day the assignment is late. Late begins at 12:01am the day after the due date. No projects will be accepted after seven days past the due date.

Please note: It is not possible to make up for participation points associated with in-class activities or unannounced reading quizzes. Even if you have an excused absence, you cannot make up those particular points. Rest assured that you must miss several of them before that will independently affect your final grade and there is an extra credit opportunity. In the case of extended excused absences, please contact me.

Absences and Missed Course Material:

Students who miss class due to illness or medical necessity will provide a **self-excusal note** for the absence upon return to class. This note should explain the reason for the absence and acknowledge that the information provided is accurate. I will accept one self-excusal, but any subsequent absences must be excused by written documentation from a health care provider. For students missing class for an excused reason, please notify me of your absence **before class**.

I do not share PowerPoints, lecture notes, or other class materials. Students must solicit peers for lecture notes when they are unable to make it to lecture.

Feedback:

I am always open to suggestions about how I can improve my teaching, so I encourage all constructive feedback. There will be opportunities during the course to provide feedback on the course, sometimes anonymously. In addition to providing feedback to me directly, I also

encourage you to fill out the online evaluation at the end of the semester. CourseEvalUM will be open for students to complete their evaluations towards the end of the semester. Students can go directly to the website (www.courseevalum.umd.edu) to complete their evaluations. Students who complete evaluations for all their courses in the previous semester (excluding summer), can access the posted results via Testudo's CourseEvalUM Reporting link for any course on campus that has at least a 70% response rate.

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 that describes your concern in detail. This request must be submitted within one week after grades for the relevant assignment have been posted.

Technology Policy:

Using laptops for non-class-related purposes is not permitted. Inappropriate use of technology impedes the students' learning and, often, the learning of the students around them. If a student repeatedly uses technology in an inappropriate way, the student may lose the privilege of using the technology device during class. I also request that you turn **cell phones on vibrate or silent** during class. Using cell phones during class is not permitted. If you are observed using technology in an inappropriate way during class, you will be asked to leave.

Classroom Code of Conduct:

The classroom should be an intellectually stimulating and respectful environment. Disruptive behaviors cheat other students out of the ability to learn and will not be tolerated in this class. Examples include coming late to class, repeatedly leaving and entering the classroom without authorization, engaging in conversation with your classmates during lecture, sleeping, and persisting in speaking without being recognized. Students are expected to treat each other with respect. Students who are unable to show civility toward one another, discussion leaders, or me will be subject to referral to the Office of Student Conduct or to Campus Police.

Names/Pronouns and Self Identifications:

The University of Maryland recognizes the importance of a diverse student body and we are committed to fostering equitable classroom environments. I invite you, if you wish, to tell us how you want to be referred to both in terms of your name and your pronouns (he/him, she/her, they/them, etc.). The pronouns someone indicates are not necessarily indicative of their gender identity. Visit trans.umd.edu to learn more.

Additionally, how you identify in terms of your gender, race, class, sexuality, religion, and dis/ability, among all aspects of your identity, is your choice whether to disclose (e.g. should it come up in classroom conversation about our experiences and perspectives) and should be self-identified, not presumed or imposed. I will do my best to address and refer to all students accordingly and encourage students to do so as well.

Academic Integrity:

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. In this course, academic dishonesty of any form will **not** be tolerated.

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. You may not record, reproduce, or distribute my lectures/notes 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).

COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Reading Assignments
Unit 1	Monday, 8/26	Introduction	
	Wednesday, 8/28	History of Corrections and Punishment	Ch. 1
	Monday, 9/2	NO CLASS; Labor Day	
	Wednesday, 9/4	Philosophies of punishment	Ch. 2
	Monday, 9/9	Mass Incarceration	ELMS: <i>Why do we punish?</i>
	Wednesday, 9.11	Watch <i>The Prison State</i>	
	Monday, 9/16	Pretrial Detention and Bail	ELMS: <i>The Bail Trap & Watch What If We Ended the Injustice of Bail?</i>
	Wednesday, 9/18	Jail	Ch. 3
	Monday, 9/23	Alternative Sanctions	Ch. 4
	Wednesday, 9/25	Probation	Ch. 5
	Monday, 9/30	Review	
Wednesday, 10/2	Exam 1		
Unit 2	Monday, 10/7	Prisons in the US	Ch. 6
	Wednesday, 10/9	The Prison Experience	Ch. 7
	Monday, 10/14	Punishment and Pains in Prison	ELMS: <i>Being "On Point"</i> & Listen to <i>The SHU</i>
	Wednesday, 10/16	Special Populations	Ch. 9, Ch.12 ELMS: <i>Prison Born</i>
	Monday, 10/21	Prison Management	Ch. 8 ELMS: Listen to <i>Serving 9 – 5</i>

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Reading Assignments
	Wednesday, 10/23	Watch <i>Breaking the Cycle</i> ; Discussion	
	Monday, 10/28	Correctional Rehabilitation	ELMS: <i>Evaluating the Effectiveness of Correctional Education & Correctional Programs and Services</i>
	Wednesday, 10/30	Risk Assessment; Review	ELMS: <i>Should Prison Sentences Be Based on Crimes That Haven't Been Committed Yet?</i>
	Monday, 11/4	Exam 2	
Unit 3	Wednesday, 11/6	Parole and Reentry	Ch. 10 ELMS: Listen to <i>Kissing the Concrete</i>
	Monday, 11/11	Reintegration and Rehabilitation	ELMS: <i>What Works in Prisoner Reentry? & Redemption</i>
	Wednesday, 11/13	NO CLASS ; American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting Paper Due on ELMS by 11:59pm	
	Monday, 11/18	Collateral Consequences	ELMS: <i>The Mark of a Criminal Record</i>
	Wednesday, 11/20	Children and Families	ELMS: <i>Punishment Beyond the Legal Offender</i>
	Monday, 11/25	Punishment and Inequality	ELMS: <i>Debtors Prison in 21st Century American</i> & Listen to <i>Future on Ice</i>

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Reading Assignments
	Wednesday, 11/27	NO CLASS; Happy Thanksgiving!	
	Monday, 12/2	Issues of Justice	ELMS: <i>Deterrence and the Death Penalty & Listen to Perfect Evidence</i>
	Wednesday, 12/4	Current Trends in Corrections	ELMS: <i>How to Cut the Prison Population & Public Opinion</i>
	Monday, 12/9	Review	
	Saturday, 12/14	Final Exam at 1:30-3:30pm; Location TBD	