

**CCJS 342 – Corrections  
Spring 2022  
Syllabus**

**Lecturer:**

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**This section will revert to a FULLY ONLINE asynchronous class if directed by the Universities COVID-19 policy; therefore, neither on-campus attendance nor scheduled remote instruction is required.** Students must have access to a computer.

**Course Description:**

This course provides 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. Students will develop the ability to think critically about the logic and evidence for contemporary correctional policies and programs. Class modules will mainly consist of required reading from the text book, PowerPoint, and supplemental materials covering selected topics.

**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* (3<sup>rd</sup> 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:** 120 points

**Project:** 80 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 or discussion board post; ½ of the grade will be based on how well you answer the specific question and the other ½ will be for your creative thinking in relating to larger correctional issues. I will give extra credit up to 2 points for particularly well thought out responses.

**Project:** You will write a paper and develop a PowerPoint presentation on a topic related to 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. Your 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 your 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.

**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>):

**Deadlines:** 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, with all initial discussion board post due on Thursday at 11:59PM. (if a response is required, you will only respond after the initial post is due on Thursday).** I will accept late work but grading will be reduced by 50%. Do not ask for extensions except in the case of true emergencies, and these will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis; documentation may be required.

**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](http://www.courseevalum.umd.edu)).

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

<b>DATE</b>	<b>LECTURE TOPIC</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT/Activity</b>
Week 1: 1/25/22	Overview of Corrections system	Clear et al. Ch.1 Discussion Board Assigned Question
Week 2: 2/01/22	History of Corrections Punishment & Sentencing	Clear et al. Ch. 2 Assigned Question
Week 3: 2/08/22	Jails and Detention Pre-trial Supervision & Bail Release	Clear et al. Ch. 3 Assignment Question
Week 4: 2/15/22	Community Corrections- history Intermediate Sanctions	Clear et al. Ch. 4 Assignment Question
Week 5: 2/22/22	Community Corrections- Probation Functions and Supervision	Clear et al. Ch. 5 Assignment Question
Week 6: 3/01/22	<b>EXAM #1</b>	
Week 7: 3/08/22	Prison System & Inmate Experience Classification, Rehabilitation & Programming	Clear et al. Ch 6 & Ch. 7
Week 8: 3/15/22	Prison/Institutional Management Incarceration Challenges Incarceration Trends-America and Other Countries	Clear et al. Ch.8 Assignment Question
Week 9: 3/22/22	SPRING BREAK	Project subject due

Week 10:	Special Populations in Corrections	Clear et al. Ch. 9
3/29/22	Law & Corrections Death Penalty	Discussion Board
Week 11:	Exam # 2	
4/05/22		
Week 12:	Parole/Probation Practices & Trends	Clear et al. Ch. 10
4/12/22		Assignment Question
Week 13:	Reentry & community supervision	Clear et al. Ch. 12
4/19/22		Discussion Board
Week 14:	Justice Reinvestment ACT	Clear et al. Ch 11
4/26/22		Assignment Question
Week 15:	Project Paper and PowerPoint Presentations	
5/03/22	(if COVID-19 restrictions in place Power Point will be posted online for comment on discussion board)	
Week 16:	Project Paper and PowerPoint Presentations	
5/10/22	(Comments due on discussion board)	

Final Exam – TBD during the week of 5/12/2022 – 5/18/2022