

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

CCJS418A: OFFENDER REENTRY

SPRING 2022

Section 0101

Tues/Thurs 9:30am – 10:45am

SQH 1119

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Madoo

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Email: jmadoo@umd.edu

Phone: 301-405-0172

Office Hours: By appointment via Zoom

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines offender reentry in the United States. Throughout the course, we will explore reentry as a process that individuals experience with a range of challenges existing prior to, during, and after incarceration. This course will also explore the historical trends in reentry policy and practice, causes of mass incarceration, profiles of inmate populations, correctional facility experiences, recidivism and risk prediction, and future reentry policy initiatives and strategies. The course will take on a practical approach to learning about this subject by utilizing both academic and professional skills.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

CCJS100, CCJS105, and CCJS300

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Readings for this course will be posted on ELMS.

COURSE WEBSITE

This class utilizes ELMS (Canvas) for distribution of important course information. The syllabus, additional reading material, class announcements, assignments, and grades will be posted on ELMS. You are strongly encouraged to access ELMS on a regular basis as you are responsible for knowing the material posted on the website. Please also monitor and use the UMD email account associated with ELMS to communicate with me.

All students should enable ELMS notifications to your email and cell phone so you receive all posted information in a timely manner. You can set this up by clicking on the “Account” tab in ELMS. To access ELMS, go to <http://elms.umd.edu> and log in with your Directory ID and password. If you have any problems accessing your account, contact the support desk at 301-405-1500. You must be registered for the class to access the course website.

CAMPUS HEALTH SITUATIONS

If campus health situations arise, Dr. Madoo reserves the right to alter the content, delivery, and structure of the assignments below, including percentages of assignments and assignment due dates, to rebalance the course appropriately.

COURSE GRADING

Exam #1: 15%

Exam #2: 15%

Participation: 10%

Program Evaluation: 10%

Reentry Proposal & Presentation: 50%

Percentage points will be converted to a letter grade as listed below. Any final grade close to the next letter grade up, by 0.50% or higher, will automatically be rounded up.

A+ (97-100%)	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

There will be two online exams this semester on the assigned readings and lecture notes. Exams will be in the format of true/false, multiple choice, and/or short answer questions. It is your responsibility to prepare for each exam by carefully reviewing the readings, as well as your lecture notes. Any questions about the exam material need to be emailed to me by 12:00pm (ET) the day before the exam. While you may refer to the readings and your own notes during an exam, if needed, you will only have 75 minutes to complete each exam. I strongly recommend you study prior to taking any exam in the class. You may **not** work with any other student on the exam as this is considered cheating.

Exams will be available in the Quizzes section on ELMS on assigned exam days. Please check the course schedule for these dates and plan to complete the exam during class time as no exams can be submitted after the class ends. You will only get one attempt to complete each exam. It is highly recommended you complete exams with minimal distractions and a reliable internet connection. Exams not completed by the deadline will receive a zero.

There are no makeups for exams except in cases of excused absences which always require prior notice and documentation excusing the absence. Makeups may be in a different format from the exam given in class, but the content will be at the same level of difficulty as the standard version given to the class.

PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend class regularly, on time, and participate in all classroom activities. These activities may include classroom discussions, debates, written assignments, etc. on the assigned readings, as well as videos and other topics that emerge in the classroom. Participation will be tracked through these activities to ensure fairness in grading. To obtain participation credit, students must be present in class on the day the activities are assigned. If you miss class, you will not be able to make up participation credit that day unless you notified me of your excused absence prior to the start of class.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

Each student will research a current reentry program in the U.S. and provide an evaluation on the program. An evaluation guide and specific instructions will be posted on ELMS. **Program evaluations are due on ELMS on February 24, 2022, by 9:30am (ET).** If you miss the due date, you will have 5 days from the original due date to submit the assignment with a 10% penalty per day it is late. No program evaluations will be accepted beyond the 5-day period.

REENTRY PROPOSAL & PRESENTATION

Students will work in groups to produce a reentry proposal that focuses on creating solutions to reentry challenges for specific offending populations. The proposal will be 8-10 pages, double-spaced, in standard APA format. Students will also present their final proposal to the class at the end of the semester. All students must actively participate in the group presentation to receive credit.

Since this project requires multiple aspects of student contribution leading up to the final proposal and presentation, progress reports will be scheduled to ensure students stay on track with their group responsibilities. If a student does not keep up with their group responsibilities, they will be switched out of their group to work on the project individually which will require a separate reentry proposal submission, as well as an individual presentation.

Detailed instructions for the proposal and presentation will be provided on ELMS. **Reentry proposals are due on ELMS on April 21, 2022, by 5pm (ET).** Reentry projects will **not** be accepted late.

COURSE RELATED POLICIES

The University of Maryland expects each student to take full responsibility for their academic work and academic progress. As a student, you have the responsibility to be familiar with and uphold the Code of Academic Integrity and the Code of Conduct, as well as for notifying your course instructors in a timely fashion regarding academic accommodations related to absences and accessibility. University policies outlined in the link below are particularly relevant to your experience in academic courses. Additionally, please review the policies specific to this course: <http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>

MASK POLICY

President Pines provided clear expectations to the university about the wearing of masks for both vaccinated and unvaccinated students, staff, and faculty. **At this time, KN95 masks over the nose and mouth are required while you are in the classroom at all times.** There are no exceptions. You must wear a KN95 mask or you will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. **This policy will be strictly enforced in the class.** KN95 masks may be obtained from the information desk at the Stamp Student Union. Students who have additional issues with the mask policy will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for failure to comply with a directive of university officials.

MAKEUP POLICY

Makeup exams and assignments will only be given in cases of excused absences which always require prior notice and documentation. Excused absences include religious observances, mandatory military obligation, illness of the student or illness of an immediate family member, required participation in university activities, death in the family, and required court appearances. Changes in employment schedules, personal travel, traffic/transit problems, miscalculating due dates, etc. do not qualify as excused absences.

The student must notify Dr. Madoo **prior** to missing a class or assignment for a makeup to be scheduled. All makeup assignments must be completed as soon as you return, preferably within 48 hours, but no later than one week of the missed assignment with approval from the course instructor. If you know in advance that you will be absent for a class 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 complete the exam or assignment prior to the due date.

Official documentation is always required. Students may, one time per course per semester, provide a self-signed excuse as documentation of a medically necessitated absence from a single class that does not coincide with a major graded assessment or assignment due date. For all other medically necessitated absences, students must provide verifiable documentation from a physician, upon request of the course instructor. Dr. Madoo reserves the right to verify all documentation submitted in this class. If a student is found providing false information, a referral will be made to the Office of Student Conduct and may result in disciplinary action.

If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain lecture notes from a classmate as lecture notes will not be posted online. To succeed in this course, you will need to attend classes regularly.

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 within **one week** after grades for the relevant assignment have been posted.

CLASSROOM CODE OF CONDUCT

This class is an inclusive learning environment. As a department and university, we expect the faculty and students to be prepared for class and to be actively engaged in classroom activities. Students are expected to treat others with respect, as well as refrain from disruptive behaviors such as entering the classroom late, leaving the classroom early and/or repeatedly, making loud and distracting noises, eating, reading outside material, sleeping, side conversations, text messaging and using prohibited technological devices. Also, please note that cell phones are to be turned off or placed on silent during class.

Repeated classroom disruptions will result in being asked to leave the class and may ultimately affect the final grade you receive. Repeated tardiness to class will also be considered disruptive and may influence your final grade. If you do arrive late to class, please enter the classroom quietly and get started with the daily notes or assignment immediately so not to distract the class. Students who do not adhere to these policies will be subject to referral to the Office of Student Conduct.

DISABILITY SUPPORT

Students who are registered with the Accessibility and Disability Service (ADS) Office and provide me with required ADS documentation will be accommodated in the classroom. **After submitting your Accommodations Letter through the ADS portal, you are expected to reach out to Dr. Madoo via email to further discuss your specific accommodations. In some cases, you will be required to meet with Dr. Madoo, in person, to discuss how your accommodations will be applied in the course.** Please make sure all required ADS forms are submitted through the portal for me to review and confirm receipt by **February 4, 2022.**

ADS students who are requesting to take their exams at the ADS Testing Office need to provide me with a testing form online **at least three business days prior to each exam** or will have to take the exam with the rest of the class. Saturday and Sunday are **not** business days. The student is expected to take the exam at the same time as the rest of the class unless other accommodations have been approved by the instructor.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Unless instructed to use as part of an in-class activity, all technological devices are prohibited in this class including laptops, phones, gaming devices, etc. If these devices are seen and/or used during the class, outside of a required in-class activity, you will be asked to leave class due to the disruptive behavior. See the classroom code of conduct section of this syllabus for more information on disruptive behavior. Exceptions to this policy will apply if a student has documented accommodations through ADS, has provided me with this documentation by **February 4, 2022**, and has obtained approval directly from me.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES & ATHLETES

If you are unable to attend class or take an exam due to a known religious observance or athletic obligation, you will need to discuss this with Dr. Madoo and submit the necessary documentation (signed religious letter, university athletic travel schedule, etc.) to excuse your absence by **February 4, 2022**. Failure to notify me by this date will result in the grade of a zero for the missed exam/assignment regardless of circumstances. It is your responsibility to arrange an alternative date with me to complete exams/assignments prior to the missed class.

COPYRIGHT AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Class lectures and other course materials are copyrighted and may not be reproduced for anything other than your personal use in this course without the permission of the course instructor. Course materials are the property of the course instructor – please do not sell them, do not post them on a website, do not take pictures or screenshots of them, and do not record them without documented permission from the course instructor. Be aware that copyright infringements may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Course Schedule (subject to change)
 Readings will be posted on ELMS and are to be completed
 prior to the start of the assigned week.

Week	Date	Lecture Topic
1	1/25-1/27	Course Introduction
2	2/1-2/3	What is Reentry? Historical Trends in Corrections and Reentry
3	2/8-2/10	Mass Incarceration
4	2/15-2/17	<i>Introduce Project</i> Profile of the Inmate Population
5	2/22-2/24	Prison vs. Jail Experiences Program Evaluation Due 2/24 by 9:30am
6	3/1-3/3	Parole and Supervision Challenges Exam #1 on 3/3
7	3/8-3/10	Reentry Experiences and Challenges Group Project Meeting on 3/10
8	3/15-3/17	Reentry Experiences and Challenges
9	3/20-3/27	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>
10	3/29-3/31	Recidivism and Risk Prediction Group Project Meeting on 3/31
11	4/5-4/7	Diverse Inmate Populations
12	4/12-4/14	Reentry Policy Exam #2 on 4/14
13	4/19-4/21	Group Project Meeting on 4/19 Reentry Proposal Due 4/21 by 5pm
14	4/26-4/28	Presentations
15	5/3-5/5	Presentations
16	5/10	Last Day of Semester