University of Maryland  
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice  
CCJS 432: Law of Corrections  
Fall 2015

Lecture: Monday 4:00-6:30pm  
Location: 1118 Tydings Hall  
Instructor: Professor Vered Krasna  
2217 LeFrak Hall  
Email: vkrasna@umd.edu  
Office hours: By Appointment Only

Expectation: To learn and understand the laws and policies of sentencing and corrections in the American criminal justice system.

Texts:
• *Corrections – A Critical Approach* 3rd Edition (Michael Welch) ISBN number 9780415782098
• Articles which may be handed out from time to time (Required when given)

Course Description:
This course will examine sentencing law, corrections law, and prisoners’ rights. In addition to the text, there will be pertinent lectures on institutions, probation, parole, and home detention programs. Course material and lectures will cover constitutional law and legal issues in the areas of sentencing and corrections. By the end of the course, students should be able to discuss the law and policy of sentencing and corrections, and critically examine evidence based policies in corrections and sentencing.

Course Format:
Class meetings will include lecture, interactive questions, and discussion. Class lectures will not merely re-cap the reading material, but expand upon it. Regular class attendance is highly recommended.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND STUDENT EVALUATION
1) Examinations (60% of final grade): There will be two (2) exams this semester. Exams will be multiple-choice and will require knowledge of lecture and the assigned readings. Exams are completed without the use of notes, texts, computers, etc. The midterm is worth 25% of the final grade and the final exam will be worth 35% of the final grade. All two exams are considered Major Scheduled Graded Events.
2) Reflection papers, case briefs and class participation will make up 40% of the final grade. Further instructions on what is expected in a reflection paper and case brief will be outlined in class. Class participation will be worth 20% of the final grade. When I announce that a case brief will be turned in for grading, it will be worth 10% of the final grade.
Reflection papers which will be distributed throughout class, based on speakers and or current event articles will be worth 10% of the final grade.

**Grading:**
The following is how marks will be given at the end of the semester:
97-100+: A+
77-79: C+
93-96: A
73-76: C
90-92: A-
70-72: C-
87-89: B+
67-69: D+
83-86: B
63-66: D
80-82: B-
60-62: D-
60<: F

**Makeup Exam Policy / Excused Absences**
Makeup exams are only given in cases of excused absences. Official documentation is required. Excused absences are: illness with a doctor’s note; death in the immediate family; required University activities; and required court appearances.
For Major Scheduled Graded events (as labeled), I cannot accept a Health Center honor statement to verify an illness. If you go to the Heath Center and a doctor will not write you a note, you will need to get a copy of your medical record from them to verify your illness. By law, you are entitled to get a copy of this and it is your responsibility to do so. I must be notified in person, e-mail, in writing, or by phone PRIOR to missing an exam for me to consider giving you a makeup. If you have a problem on the day of an exam, call or email me. If you know in advance that you will be absent for an exam with an approved absence, you will be expected to take the exam prior to the exam date.

**Missed Lectures**
**I do not hand out lecture notes.** The student must solicit peers for lecture notes when they are unable to make it to class. Also, please note that under University policy I do not grade based on attendance.

**Grade Disputes**
If you have questions or concerns about your grade(s) and believe that I should review them, you must submit a written request over email. This request must be submitted within one week of the day that grades for the relevant assignment are posted.

**Canvas**
Canvas (elms) is a critical component to this class. All grades will be posted on Canvas. In addition, some required readings will be posted on elms. It is expected that students bring copies of these readings to class. Go to: [http://elms.umd.edu](http://elms.umd.edu) and log in with your directory ID and password to use this feature.
COURSE COMMUNICATION
Changes to the course schedule, reading assignments, and other important information will be announced during class and sent to the e-mail you have registered with your UMD account. Be sure to check your email account regularly for updated information.
If you have any questions or concerns about the course, please email me and we can set up an appointment to discuss.

Technology
If it is discovered that personal technology devices are being used in any way that is not directly related to class, the student will lose the privilege of using any personal technology for the duration of the semester.

Disability Support
I will make every effort to accommodate students who are registered with the Disability Support Services (DSS) Office and who provide me with a University of Maryland DSS Accommodation form, which has been updated for the Fall 2015 semester. This form must be presented to me no later than September 14, 2015. I am not able to accommodate students who are not registered with DSS or who do not provide me with documentation that has not been reviewed by DSS after 9/14/2015. DSS students who are requesting to take their exams at the DSS center need to provide me with a testing form for each exam that must be turned in no later than one (1) week prior to each exam. The student is expected to take the exam at the same time as the rest of the class.

Religious Observance
If you are unable to take any exam due to a religious observance, you will need to discuss this with me by September 10, 2015.

Academic Integrity
Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty encompasses the traditional behaviors such as cheating on exams and quizzes, providing false statements, falsification of records or data, unauthorized reuse of work (including resubmitting work written for another class, misrepresentation in bibliography and footnotes, dishonest use of computer facilities, etc).
Students will be asked to write the University approved Honor Pledge on each assignment. The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally Recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit: http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html

Course Evaluation
Your feedback about this course is very important to me and is a responsibility you hold as a student member of our academic community. Your feedback is confidential and important to the improvement of teaching and learning at the University. Therefore, we will do several forms of evaluation throughout this semester. One way is to fill out the online evaluation at the end of the semester. Students can go directly to the website (www.courseevalum.umd.edu) to complete their evaluations.

Course Outline
Below is a schedule of lecture and discussion topics, readings, and assignments. Class
readings are to be completed before the date on the schedule. If a topic/reading spans more than one class period, complete the reading prior to the first class period it is addressed. This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

**SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS**
(Subject to change at discretion of instructor)

8/31: **FIRST DAY OF CLASS**
- Introduction to course and course rules, how to brief a case, IRAC, legal aspects of corrections management
- Read Chapter 1 & Chapter 2 of CM Book

9/7: **LABOR DAY (NO CLASS)**

9/14: **ROSH HASHANAH (NO CLASS)**
- Case Briefs Due Online
- Read Chapter 3

9/21: **Corrections and the Criminal Justice System**
- Review Article
- Read Chapter 4 & Submit Reflection Paper on Article

9/24: **Extra Credit**
*Voices of Social Change*, a program on campus which invites storytellers to share their experiences as active leaders, will be welcoming Angela Davis, a world renowned civil rights activist who advocates for the abolishment of the prison industrial complex, on Thursday, September 24th
* Post a two page reflection paper about the discussion and how it relates to topics in our course.
Post on ELMS by 9:30pm

9/28: **Habeas Corpus & Intro to Constitutional Criminal Procedure**
- Read Chapter 5

10/5: **Continue Con Crim Pro & Access to the Courts**
- Read Chapter 6
- Brief cases for 10/5’s class

10/12: **Fourth Amendment in the Prison Context**
- Continue to brief cases from assigned reading
- Prepare any questions for midterm review

10/19: **Fourth Amendment Cont.; Review for Midterm**

10/26: **Midterm**
- Read Chapter 11
11/2: Due Process: Inmate Discipline
-Read Chapter 14

11/9: Examination of the 8th Amendment & Sentencing Issues
-Read Chapter 15

11/16: 8th Amendment Cont.: Conditions of Confinement
-Read Chapter 20

11/23: Rights of Jail Inmates
-Read Chapter 23 & Chapter 17

11/30: Loss of Rights of Convicted Persons; Probation, Parole and Community Corrections

12/7: NO CLASS

12/14-19th FINAL will be announced