CCJS 452: Treatment of Offenders and Delinquents
Fall 2015
MW 2:00-3:15pm
Biology and Psychology Building 1243

Professor
Dr. Lauren Porter
Office Hours: Wednesday 10:30am-12:00pm, or by appointment
Office: LeFrak Hall 2220G
Email: lporter1@umd.edu
Phone: (301) 405-1711

Course Description
This is an introductory course to the study of corrections in the United States. Students are expected to have a comprehensive understanding of American punishment by the end of the semester, including both historical trends and current issues.

Course Prerequisite
CCJS 105 or CCJS 350, or permission from the department; AND CCJS 300.

Required Text

*Readings marked with an asterisk will be available on Canvas. Please be certain that you can access the course through ELMS. I will also be using this site to make announcements and post grades, so please monitor the email account registered with the Canvas system.

Course Evaluation

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
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<td>Quizzes (3)</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>POV Paper</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>In-class assignments</td>
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<td>Participation</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Quizzes
There will be three “quizzes” that will cover material from lectures, the textbook, and supplemental readings available online. Quizzes are not cumulative and will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions.

Final Exam
The final exam will be cumulative and will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and one essay question.
**In-Class Assignments**

There will be a handful of short quizzes administered throughout the semester to assess whether students are keeping up with assigned readings. There will also be in-class activities, which will mostly take the form of group work. In-class assignments may be graded based on completion or accuracy.

**POV Paper**

Each of you will complete a paper that is 5-6 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman Font, 1 inch margins. Your paper will be an essay in which you argue in favor or opposition of **one** of the following viewpoints:

- Deterrence should be the main focus of punishment – Yes/No
- Juries should be eliminated from the sentencing process – Yes/No
- The death penalty is an appropriate punishment in certain cases – Yes/No
- Criminal records should be available to employers – Yes/No
- Pre-trial release should be granted to all arrested persons – Yes/No

In the paper you must construct your argument based on research evidence from peer-reviewed academic journals, such as Criminology, Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, Justice Quarterly, and Journal of Quantitative Criminology. Your paper must include at least four research articles from these journals or others like them. Law journals, newspaper articles, and technical reports do not qualify as acceptable sources.

**Participation**

Students are expected to attend class and participate. Although attendance is not mandatory, this is not an online course and therefore attendance is expected. If you do miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to catch up on missed material.

**There will be no extra credit options available**

**Course Policies**

**Late or Missed Work:**

Students will not be permitted to turn in late work or make-up exams except for in the following circumstances: a medical problem, a death in the immediate family, a religious holiday, participation in university activities at the request of university authorities, or other compelling circumstances beyond the students’ control. If you know that you will be absent on the day of an exam, you will be expected to take the exam PRIOR to the exam date. Failure to do so will result in a “zero” grade for the exam. You must also notify me at least ONE week prior to this date.

**Addendum on Medical Absences:**

The **four exams** and the **papers** are considered to be Major Scheduled Grading Events and therefore the new 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. In the event you become chronically absent, missing more than two consecutive weeks of class due to the same persistent illness, this must be verified by a health professional in writing and be brought to my attention in writing. Any absences from Major Scheduled Grading Events will be counted as zeroes in the event you have failed to inform me of these developments within one week of the grades for the remainder of the class being posted on **Canvas**.
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 the relevant assignment are disseminated.

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. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Honor Council, please visit the following website: http://shc.umd.edu/SHC/Default.aspx.

Students with Disabilities:
I will be willing to make necessary accommodations for students who are registered with the Disability Support Service (DSS) Office and who provide me with a University of Maryland DSS Accommodation letter. This form must be presented to me ASAP. I am not able to accommodate students who are not registered with DSS or who do not provide me with documentation that has been reviewed by DSS. DSS students who are requesting to take their exams at the DSS Center need to provide me with a Test Authorization Form for each exam that must be turned in to me no later than one week prior to each exam. The student is expected to take the exam at the same time as the rest of the class.

Athletes:
Official athletic schedules must be submitted to me. Practices do not count as an excused absence; in cases of an excused absence (e.g., a game), students are expected to arrange with me make-up exams/assignments. 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.

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.

Course Schedule (Subject to Change)

PART I. INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN CORRECTIONS

Aug 31 - Introduction to Class

Sep 2 – No Class

Sep 7 – No Class – Labor Day

Sep 9 – History of Punishment
  - Read Chapters 1 and 2 in American Corrections in Brief
  
  And,

Sep 14 – The Current Justice System

Sep 16 – Current Practices

Sep 21 - Incarceration and Crime

Sep 23 – Sentencing

Sep 28 – Sentencing, Cont’d

And,


Sep 30 – Quiz 1

Oct 5 – Life Inside Prison
- Read Chapters 3 and 6 in *American Corrections in Brief*

Oct 7 – Film: Solitary Nation

Oct 12 – Life Inside Prison

Oct 14 – Prison Staff

Oct 19 – Inmate Health and Special Populations
- Read Chapter 9 in *American Corrections in Brief*

And,

Oct 21 – Guest Speaker

Oct 26 – Quiz 2

Oct 28 – Life After Prison

Nov 2 – Life After Prison

And,


Nov 4 – Punishment and Inequality

Nov 9 – Punishment and Inequality, Cont’d

And,


Nov 11 – Probation and Parole
- Read Chapters 4 & 5 in *American Corrections in Brief*

Nov 16 – Probation and Parole
- Film: Straight and Narrow

Nov 18 – Quiz 3

Nov 23 – Moving Toward De-incarceration

Nov 25 – Extreme Punishments
- Read Ch.11 in American Corrections in Brief

And,

Nov 30 – Alternative Punishments

Dec 2 – Sex Offenders

Dec 7 – Juvenile Corrections
- Chapter 12 in American Corrections in Brief

Dec 9 – Last Day of Class. POV Paper Due.

FINAL EXAM – Thursday, December 17 at 1:30pm.