TREATMENT OF CRIMINALS AND DELINQUENTS

COURSE CCJS 452 – SPRING 2017

Monday 12:30-1:45

MEETING TIME(S): 12:30-1:45/online Building III, rm. 2226

INSTRUCTOR: Robin Shusko, M.A.; M.A. Email: rshusko@umd.edu or rshusko@frederick.edu
Phone: 301-401-2728; 301-846-2673

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is an overview of the corrections field; courts, detention, sentencing, adult institutions, juvenile corrections, female offenders and special populations, probation, parole, and staffing and personnel issues will be discussed, as well as the processes and methods used to modify criminal and delinquent behavior. The course includes a unique integration of the author’s experiences and real-world approach to the correctional system, as well as correctional history and theory, case studies, career features, and personal interviews. This course will be an active and interactive learning experience. Students will use the lecture and reading material to build a framework for understanding current sentencing and correctional practices and programs, issues in jail operations, issues regarding the death penalty, and how corrections, history, theory, and research are put into practice.

OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this course:

1. Students will be able to describe the evolution of corrections based on a variety of sentencing goals, and analyze current correctional practices and operations.

2. Students will be able to discuss the need for reform of correctional options and operations.

3. Students will be able to explain the correctional system at the local, state, and federal levels, and how they function and interact.

4. Students will understand the issues resulting in decisions as offenders move through the sentencing and correctional process.


The class will consist of lectures, classroom discussion/activities, visual aids, and guest speakers. Students are responsible for all information presented in class as well as any information in the text unless otherwise noted. All readings should be completed prior to the scheduled class. Students are expected to arrive on time for every class, and are expected to be prepared for the
METHODS OF EVALUATION

**Research Paper**: Each student will write an original 5-7-page paper analyzing some aspect of Corrections. Students will select a corrections issue and suggest how it is to be resolved or improved to enhance the operation of the corrections system. Each student must turn in the paper by the assigned day via the assignment folder in ELMS. Paper is **DUE APRIL 17th**. The following is the expected outline:

A. Description of the issue or program that you select  
B. Description of existing problems that make it less than effective  
C. Evidence of its ineffectiveness  
D. Suggested improvement and how it would be implemented  
E. Description of how this will improve the effectiveness of the system

**Opinion essays/homework assignments**: There will be essays from selected textbook chapters’ “You Make the Decision” segments. This feature of the text presents real situations that someone working in the field might encounter. After reading the scenario, students will “make a decision” about the situation and submit a short essay stating their opinion; making sure to incorporate key terms and theories from the chapter and lecture.

Additionally, there will be opinion essays assigned following the videos watched in class or on your own (outside of class). After viewing the films, you will be asked to provide your opinion in a short essay about the video. You will incorporate information from class, as well as a personal review and reaction to the video. There is no research involved with this assignment; this is completely personal opinion.

All of these assignments/opinion essays will be **submitted via the assignment folder in ELMS, and are due NO LATER THAN MAY 1st**.

**Mid-Term Examination**: There will be one mid-term exam. The exam will cover the first half of the course materials, readings, and discussions. It will consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short answer questions. This will be given ONLINE.

**Final Examination**: The final examination will cover information during the final half of the course, and will have questions that allow you to integrate knowledge from the earlier parts of the semester. It will consist of true/false, multiple choice, short answer, and one or two essay questions to allow you to demonstrate an ability to integrate the knowledge you have developed in the class. This exam will be given ONLINE.
Grades will be awarded on the following basis:

**Assessment Method**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exams / Discussions / Paper / Homework</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Final Grade Scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Exams (50 points each)</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>A = 448-500 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Board (10 @ 20 pts. each week)</td>
<td>200 pts</td>
<td>B = 398-447 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>C = 348-397 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework/opinion essays (10 @ 20 pts. each)</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>D = 298-347 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extra credit</td>
<td>Additional points</td>
<td>F = 297 pts and below</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>500 pts</td>
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**Grade Distribution**

- A+: 97% and above
- A: 96% to 93%
- A-: 92% to 90%
- B+: 89% to 87%
- B: 86% to 83%
- B-: 82% to 80%
- C+: 79% to 77%
- C: 76% to 73%
- C-: 72% to 70%
- D+: 69% to 67%
- D: 66% to 63%
- D-: 62% to 60%
- F: Less than 60%

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Regarding assignments and exams, students should always observe the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Your academic work should be the result of your efforts, thoughts, and ideas. When writing papers or assignments, you should use an appropriate citation style (APA) consistently, indicating exactly where you are quoting, or have been inspired by, the work of others.

**Codes of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct**

Students are required to uphold the Code of Academic Integrity and the Code of Student Conduct. Students who violate either of these codes may receive a failing grade in the class. Regarding assignments and exams, students should always observe the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Your academic work should be the result of your efforts, thoughts, and ideas. When writing papers or assignments, you should use an appropriate citation style consistently, indicating exactly where you are quoting, or have been inspired by, the work of others.

Cheating on any assignment or exam will result in the following disciplinary actions:

1. “XF” (a cheating F) will be the grade earned for the course, and (2) possible expulsion from the UMCP’s B.A. Program in Criminology & Criminal Justice at the Shady Grove Center, effective the following semester. All cases of academic misconduct will be referred to the Student Honor Council at UMCP.

2. Examples of conduct meriting such disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) cheating on an exam, either with or without assistance of another student or students, (2) submitting as your own work a paper that is either wholly or partially
plagiarized, such as purchasing a paper from an internet site or superficially rewriting the work of others without proper citation, or (3) collaborating with fellow students on assignments or take-home exams for which you were instructed to work alone.

The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized *Code of Academic Integrity*. 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.shc.umd.edu](http://www.shc.umd.edu)

**Papers and assignments are subject to an originality check via turnitin.com. I may submit papers to this site to verify original work.**

**All electronic devices (cell phones, etc.) must be turned off and put away. Laptops are permitted for note-taking purposes only. You cannot participate fully if you are engaged in other activities.**

Should a student need accommodations in the classroom or for assignments/exams due to a verified, documented learning or physical disability, please inform me of your situation immediately, so that proper UMCP documentation and accommodation procedures are followed.

[http://www.counseling.umd.edu/dss/](http://www.counseling.umd.edu/dss/)
Participation, Attendance and Make-up Policy
Students are expected to adhere to the class schedule, attend and participate in every class, come to
class on time and remain in class until it is completed. Class participation, to include discussion,
group and individual class work, and respectful interaction between the instructor and students are
emphasized in this course.

If you are absent from class, you cannot participate; therefore, class should only be missed for serious
illness, emergency, religious holidays, or participation in official college functions. Opportunities to
make-up missed in-class work will only be given in cases of excused absences and official
documentation is required. Exams and assignments are considered to be Major Scheduled Graded
Events and therefore the University medical excuse policy which allows one student signed honor
statement attesting to illness does not apply to them. Excused absences are: illness with a doctor's
note, death in the immediate family, required school activities, and required court appearance. If 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 or by phone or email PRIOR to missing an in-class assignment for me to
consider giving you a makeup. If you know you will not be in class for in-class work or a date an
assignment is due for an excused reason it is your responsibility to turn in the work PRIOR to the due
date.

What to do if you must seek to be excused from class: Contact me by email or phone at the contact
number on this syllabus as soon as you know you will be unable to attend class. Excusal will be
granted, at my discretion, and make up work and late assignments accepted in these emergency cases
as contracted and documented in email between the student and instructor. In case of excused
absence, students are responsible for requesting missed material from another student or the
instructor.

PER UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICY FOR A STUDENT’S MEDICALLY
NECESSITATED ABSENCE FROM CLASS, students shall now make a reasonable attempt to
inform the instructor of his/her illness prior to the class; and, upon returning to class, present
their instructor with a self-signed note attesting to the date of their illness. Each note must also
contain an acknowledgment by the student that the information provided is true and
correct. Providing false information to University officials is prohibited under Part 9 (h) of the
Code of Student Conduct (V-1.00(B) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CODE OF STUDENT
CONDUCT) and may result in disciplinary action.

https://pdc-sypaap1.umd.edu/teach/attend_student.html
**SCHEDULE AND TOPICS OF STUDY**

**Subject to change; this instructor will provide as much notice as possible.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 30</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Overview of Course</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The History of Crime and Corrections</td>
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<td>Feb 6</td>
<td>Sentencing and the Correctional Process</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>Prison Reform</td>
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<td>Video: Let the Doors Be Made of Iron</td>
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<td>Feb 20</td>
<td>Jails and Prison Systems</td>
<td>Chapters 3 &amp; 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 27</td>
<td>Parole and Probation</td>
<td>Chapters 4 &amp; 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 6</td>
<td>Adult offenders</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Management of prisons; Prison Staff</td>
<td>Chapters 10 &amp; 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td><strong>SPRING BREAK - NO CLASS</strong></td>
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<td>March 27</td>
<td>Juvenile Correction System</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td>April 3</td>
<td>Special Offenders</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<td>Video: The Worst Offenders - Can they change?</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
<td>research day… catch up on videos; research; opinion essays; etc.</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td><strong>Research Paper Due</strong></td>
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<td>April 24</td>
<td><strong>Guest Speakers from Pre-Release Center</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
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<td>Prison Life for Inmates</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
<td>Legal Issues &amp; the Death Penalty</td>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Custody/Treatment; Programs; Future Issues</td>
<td>Chapters 13, 14, &amp; 16</td>
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