

Introduction to Corrections

CJ 1300 – 50

Wednesday 5:15 – 7:45 PM

McDonald 103

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Syllabus Fall 2009

Department Objective

Criminal Justice is the application of law, social and natural sciences to the social phenomenon of crime and delinquency. The discipline addresses definitions, causation, prevention, legal processes and treatment of offenders. Criminal justice courses at Dixie State College provide a foundation for continued study toward a bachelor degree while preparing the student for employment in law enforcement, courts or corrections.

Course Description

This course is for students interested in a career in law enforcement, adult or juvenile corrections, private or industrial security or law and criminology. It examines corrections philosophy, history, punishment of offenders, and rehabilitation. It also identifies problems, issues and trends in the corrections system. Through the use of lectures, videos, guest lecturers and assigned text study it helps develop a foundation for a career in corrections or law enforcement.

Course Goal and Objectives

The goal of this course is to introduce students to today's corrections operations. In order to accomplish this task the following issues will be examined:

- A brief overview of correctional history.
- The criminal process that leads up to sentencing.
- How the various elements of the correctional processes operate.
- The various categories of correctional clients.
- The life of corrections through the eyes of inmates and staff.
- The challenges facing corrections now and in the future.

Text

Corrections: An Introduction 2nd Ed., Richard P. Seiter, PH.D., Pearson Education, Inc., 2008.

Expectations

Preparation: Class lectures and discussions will, for the most part, follow the reading schedule provided. Students are expected to complete each week's reading assignment prior to coming to class. Although class discussions will not always cover all the material in the reading assignment, you will be expected to know the material for quiz and testing purposes.

Class discussion is highly encouraged. You may be given extra credit points for substantial participation in weekly class discussions, at the instructor's discretion. Current events will be discussed as they arise. Students are expected to keep up-to-date on local, regional, and national events related to corrections law.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend classes weekly. Attendance will be excused for special or exceptional circumstances, and only with prior approval from the instructor. Students are also expected to come to class on time. Unexcused absences and excessive tardiness may affect your grade.

Academic Integrity: Members of the law enforcement community are expected to display high levels of integrity. As students in the criminal justice program, you are expected to act on this same level of integrity. The Dixie State College policy on cheating is as follows:

Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated at Dixie State College, including but not limited to plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, and cheating on exams or quizzes. Teachers at Dixie State College may discipline students proven guilty of academic dishonesty by:

- Giving a failing grade on the specific assignment where dishonesty occurred,
- Failing the student in the entire course,
- Immediately dismissing and removing the student from the course, and/or
- Referring the student to Student Affairs, a committee which may reprimand, place on probation, suspend, and/or expel the student.

Disruptive Behavior Policy: Students are expected to act in a manner that ensures a good learning climate. Students displaying disruptive behavior may be dismissed and removed from individual class activities. If a student's behavior continues to disrupt class activities, the student may be dismissed and removed from the course.

Student Appeals: Students who believe themselves wrongfully disciplined for academic dishonesty or disruptive behavior may appeal those disciplinary actions through the standard grievance procedure.

Exams: There will be a total of two exams. Exams will consist of short answer, multiple choice, and true/false questions. Exam questions will be drawn from reading material, lectures, presentations, and class discussions. Each exam will be worth 100 points. Make-up exams have the same limitations and requirements as the attendance policy stated above.

Quizzes: There will be one quiz per chapter for a total of 12 quizzes. Each quiz is worth 10 points. The lowest two quiz grades will be dropped for a total of 100 points possible from quizzes.

Paper and Class Presentation: Each student will be expected to write a three to five page paper on an issue faced by today's correctional officers. The paper should be double spaced, 12 pt courier font with 1 inch margins. On the due date of the paper, each student will give a 5 – 10 minute presentation to the class discussing the findings of his/her paper. The paper is worth 80 points and the presentation is worth 20 points for a total of 100 points, constituting the final 25% of the course grade. The paper and presentation will be due on December 2, 2009. Papers turned in late will automatically be docked 20 points.

Grading:

Midterm Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
10 Quizzes	100 points
Paper and Class Presentation	<u>100 points</u>
Total:	<u>400 points</u>

A = 372 – 400	B- = 320 – 331	D+ = 268 – 279
A- = 360 – 371	C+ = 308 – 319	D = 252 – 267
B+ = 348 – 359	C = 292 – 307	D- = 240 – 251
B = 332 – 347	C- = 280 – 291	F = 239 & Below

Students with Disabilities: If you are a student with a medical, psychological or a learning difference and requesting reasonable academic accommodations due to this disability, you must provide an official request of accommodation to your professor(s) from the Disability Resource Center **within the first two weeks** of the beginning of classes. Students are to contact the center on the main campus to follow through with, and receive assistance in the documentation process to determine the appropriate accommodations related to their disability. You may call **(435) 652-7516** for an appointment and further information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 per Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The office is located in the **Student Services Center, Room #201 of the Edith Whitehead Building.**

Dmail: Dixie State College has transitioned your email account on rebelmail.dixie.edu to dmail.dixie.edu. You don't need to do anything to aid this transition. Your old email address will continue to work, but all messages will be delivered to your NEW dmail account at <http://dmail.dixie.edu>. You will still have access to your old messages and address book on the rebelmail server at <http://rebelmail.dixie.edu>.

Important class and college information will be sent to your Dmail account. This information includes your DSC bill, financial aid/scholarship notices, notification of dropped classes, reminders of important dates and events, and other information critical to your success in this class and at DSC. All DSC students are automatically assigned a Dmail account. If you do not know your user name and password, go to www.dixie.edu and select "Dmail," for complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your Dmail email, so please check it often.

Other Resources

- Library - <http://library.dixie.edu>
- Computer Lab - http://www.dixie.edu/helpdesk/lab_hours.php
- Writing Center - http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php
- Testing Center - <http://new.dixie.edu/testing>
- Tutoring Center - <http://dsc.dixie.edu/tutoring>

Disclaimer: Information contained in this syllabus may be subject to change with advance notice as deemed appropriate by the instructor. Additional general syllabus information can be found at <http://dixie.edu/reg/syllabus>.

Class Schedule: Below is the tentative schedule, including reading assignments. It may be modified if necessary.

Week	Reading	Topics
8/26	Chapter 1	Introduction/Background/History of Corrections Last day to add class without a signature
9/2	Chapter 2 & 3	Sentencing and the Correctional Process and Jails (Quiz 1)
9/9	Chapter 5	Prison Systems (Quiz 2)
9/15		Courses dropped for non-payment
9/16	Chapters 4 & 6	Probation and Intermediate Sanctions & Parole and Prisoner Reentry (Quiz 3)
9/23	Chapter 7	The Clients of Adult Correctional Agencies (Quiz 4)
9/30	Chapter 8	The Juvenile Correctional System (Quiz 5)/Midterm Review
10/7		Midterm Exam/Test Review
10/14		NO CLASS - Semester Break
10/21	Chapter 9	Special Offenders (Quiz 6)
10/28	Chapters 10 & 11	The Management of Prisons & Prison Life for Inmates (Quiz 7)
11/4	Chapter 12	The World of Prison Staff (Quiz 8)
11/11	Chapter 13	Custody and Treatment (Quiz 9)
11/18	Chapter 14	Legal Issues and the Death Penalty (Quiz 10)
11/25		NO CLASS – Thanksgiving Break
12/2	Chapter 15	Issues in Corrections (Quiz 11)/ Paper and Class Presentation Due
12/9	Chapter 16	Questions Regarding the Future of Corrections (Quiz 12)/Final Exam Review
12/16		Final Exam/Test Review

Additional Important Dates:

8/31	\$10 drop fee for each class dropped after this date
9/8	\$50 late registration/payment date
9/14	Last day to drop to receive a refund Last day to drop without receiving a W grade Pell grant census date
9/18	Last day to add class with instructor permission
10/14	Midterm grades posted
10/19	Last day to drop/audit class
11/13	Last day for complete withdrawal
12/21	Final grades posted