

COURSE SYLLABUS

CJ 105 ONLINE – INTRODUCTION TO CORRECTIONS

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Philosophical and historical introduction of Corrections in the American criminal justice system. This course explores many significant areas within Corrections to aid the student in understanding what a correctional officer actually does, and what is expected of correctional officers. The academic focus is on procedural matters, skills and equipment used in handling inmates. Controversial sentencing policies are also discussed and debated with the course.

RATIONALE

This course provides a thorough understanding of all elements of the Correctional System in America. Additionally, this course cultivates an understanding of different policies and approaches to corrections, and events in history that have contributed to building the justice system we hold today. The course syllabus encourages personal management and fosters university level competencies in writing, speaking, reading, analytical reasoning, computer literacy and research. It challenges students to acquire knowledge independently through research of the sciences and promotes the evaluation of moral and ethical decision making. Students will develop competence in determining an approach to vocation.

I. PREREQUISITES

None

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES

There is no textbook required for this course. Students will purchase an access code through the college bookstore in order to access the online supplemental materials via Canvas Learning Management System. All course content, video lecture, reading, and supplemental material required for the course will be accessed within the course

CT2Learn for CJ & Public Safety 70 Day Term

ISBN: 9781938087127 Author: Curriculum Technology Estimated Price: \$74.99

Disclaimer: The above resources provide information consistent with the latest research regarding the subject area. Everett Community College does not necessarily endorse specific personal, religious, philosophical, or political positions found in these resources.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A.** Computer with basic audio/video output equipment

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- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word

III. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify and describe the various components of the criminal justice.
- B. Identify the historical development of the corrections system and describe the contributions made to corrections by the United States.
- C. Trace the development of American prisons.
- D. Describe the ideologies of prevention, rehabilitation, and retribution.
- E. Identify and describe sentencing alternatives.
- F. Outline the differences between parole and probation and describe the appropriate circumstances under which each is used.
- G. Describe the development of parole and probation and identify and associated administrative procedures.
- H. Identify and describe various types of correctional institutions and describe the role that corrections plays in the criminal justice system.
- I. Identify and describe the organization of various types of correctional institutions and describe the management of each.
- J. Describe special problems involved in dealing with juvenile and female offenders.
- K. Identify and describe prison operations including the classification of prisoners, security operations, disciplinary procedures, industry operations, offender rights, prison programs and services

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. **Online Textbook readings**
- B. **Course Rules of Engagement Quiz**

After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related quiz found in the Course Instructions Module.

- C. **Discussion Board Forums: Initial Posts (4) & Peer Responses (8)**

Discussion Board Initial Posts will be due on Wednesday by 11:59pm (Pacific time). The **Initial Post** should be no less than 300 words, and you are required to include two (2) scholarly references that support your position or argument, cited

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in APA format. Each **Response** will be no less than 250 words, and will include one (1) scholarly reference supporting your response.

A Peer Response to another student's response on your own original thread is acceptable, but must meet minimum word and citation count to be accepted.

The purpose of the discussion structure is to allow every student's post to be challenged, critiqued, or affirmed, and then for the student to be able to provide a response to that challenge, critique, or affirmation.

Unlike the formal written assignments, it is not required that the discussion question responses adhere to specific formatting requirements. However, the student should make sure to proofread carefully. Grammar and spelling errors may impact the grading. This is a required part of your grade.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Discussion Participation

Since this course is delivered online and not in a classroom, there is a high level of importance placed on student interaction and participation in the Discussion Boards. Please note that both quantity and quality are important considerations when it comes to participation. For example, a message which says simply, "I agree," does not constitute participation, because it does not add anything of substance to the discussion. In order to earn full participation points, you must add something of substance to the discussion—this would consist of new ideas, your perspectives, pointed follow-up questions, etc. supported by scholarly reference.

D. Quizzes (10)

All quizzes are open-book, open-notes, taken from the course online textbook and weekly material. Each 25 question quiz has a 3 hour time limit.

Quizzes in this course are intended to show thorough understanding of the course material – they are **not** primarily intended to increase memorization skills! In the Criminal Justice field, research is a never-ending part of the job. Every day requires research of Policy and Procedure, State Statute, Case Law, etc. As such, quizzes are intended to test research skills as much as practical knowledge of the concepts discussed.

Quizzes are **Pass/Fail**, with 3 attempts allowed.

The passing score is 23/25 (92%) or higher. The failing score is 22/25 (88%) or lower. Students who earn a passing score will receive full credit, (25 points) towards their final grade. Students who earn a failing grade will receive zero credit towards their final grade (0 points).

E. Position Paper 1

The purpose of this position paper is to gain support on a particular side of an argument, and explain the rationale for your position. The assigned reading will be used as a basis for the topic. This is a supported argument paper. The

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information provided must be based on a strong foundation of facts. As such, you must provide evidence from credible academic and scholarly sources.

F. Position Paper 2

The purpose of this position paper is to rebut your position in Position Paper 1. You must convince the readers that the evidence and findings of Position Paper 1 are wrong. As such, the information provided must be based on a strong foundation of facts with evidence from credible academic and scholarly sources.

G. Prison Tour

Students will attend a prison tour during the course which will be scheduled with the local prison. If a student is not local to the EvCC area, alternative options will be provided to the student based on the resources available. Students will be required to write a written observation paper following their prison tour.

H. Field Observation – Extra Credit

Extra Credit will be available for this course for any student who conducts a field observation by attending a tour of a prison.

v. COURSE GRADING & POLICIES

A. Assignment Values

MODULE	ASSIGNMENT	POINTS
0	- Rules of Engagement Quiz (Extra Credit) - DB Forum Student Introduction Post	(10) (10)
1	- Quiz 1	25
2	- Discussion Board 1 - Quiz 2	75 25
3	- Quiz 3	25
4	- Discussion Board 2 - Quiz 4	75 25
5	- Position Paper 1 - Quiz 5	175 25
6	- Discussion Board 3 - Quiz 6	75 25
7	- Quiz 7	25
8	- Discussion Board 4 - Quiz 8	75 25
9	- Quiz 9	25
10	- Position Paper 2 - Quiz 10 - Prison Tour - Field Observation (Extra Credit)	175 25 100 (100)
	TOTAL POINTS (Extra Credit)	1000 (120)

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B. Grading Scale

Point Grade	4.0 Scale	Letter Grade	
930 – 1000	4.0	A	Final Point Grades will be rounded to the nearest 10. Extra credit points will be added to the final grade, which will not exceed 1000.
900 – 920	3.7	A -	
870 – 890	3.3	B +	
830 – 860	3.0	B	
800 – 820	3.0	B -	
770 – 790	2.3	C +	
730 – 760	2.0	C	
700 – 720	1.7	C -	
670 – 690	1.3	D +	
650 – 660	1.0	D	
Below 650	0.0	F	

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive a 10% grade reduction. Assignments submitted more than one week late will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Deadline Extensions

Deadline Extensions will only be given when requested prior to the assignment deadline. The majority of criminal justice students in higher education programs are already involved in a criminal justice, emergency response, or military profession. As this is an online course, it is assumed that students are battling busy and rotating work schedules on top of assignments, as are most instructors. Given that, my deadline extension policy is very flexible regarding work related conflicts that are not regularly scheduled obligations (i.e. mandatory overtime, SWAT callouts, court depositions, military orders, etc.) Please communicate about these issues when they arise so that you can be granted the appropriate extension.

E. Students with Disabilities

This course will follow the EVCC Student Disability Policy regarding assignments, attendance, and enrollment. It is understood that some students may be taking the online course because special circumstances prevent physical attendance or mobility. Students who provide a documentation showing that they are physically

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unable to complete any of the assignments will be afforded the opportunity to complete an alternate assignment, given by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.