

**SYLLABUS FOR Community Corrections  
Fall 2019**

**COURSE TITLE:** Community Corrections

**COURSE NUMBER:** Sociology 395

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**PREREQUISITE:** None.

**CLASS LOCATION:** CCC 204

**CLASS SCHEDULE:** Thursday 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:**

Name:	Barb Jascor
Office:	CCC 228
Phone:	(715)572-1927
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:bjascor@uwsp.edu">bjascor@uwsp.edu</a>
Office Hours:	Thursday 5:30 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. or by appointment.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Following a brief overview of the history of corrections, including the development of probation and parole, this course will highlight critical issues and trends in community-based corrections. Particular emphasis will be placed on the assessment and evaluation processes of offenders. Students will have opportunity to explore modern use of Community Corrections, including probation, parole, intermediate punishments, special offenders in the community, and future trends. Through a variety of learning activities, students will be exposed to a portion of the “daily life” of a probation and parole agent.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** As a result of successfully completing Community Corrections, the student will be able to:

1. Examine the primary goals of Corrections, with emphasis on those impacting community-based supervision.
2. Describe the legal framework under which Probation, Parole and Extended Supervision function.
3. Demonstrate an awareness of key legal rulings related to community corrections.
4. Describe how probation conditions are modified and under what circumstances.
5. Examine how the use of contemporary sentencing philosophies differ from traditional criminal justice practices. and the resulting impact on offender, victim, and community.
6. Apply contemporary assessment and evaluation practice in the formulation of an offender case plan.
7. Apply effective supervision strategies.
8. Apply evidence-based practice in the evaluation of a community correction program.
9. Describe the importance of cultural competence within criminal justice, specifically as it relates community corrections.

**TEXT:**

- Essentials of Community Corrections, Robert D. Hanser (2019). SAGE Publications, Inc., ISBN 9781506359762.

**REFERENCES:**

WI Department of Corrections: <http://www.doc.wi.gov>

National Institute of Corrections: <https://nicic.gov>

Corrections.Com: <http://www.corrections.com>  
American Correctional Association: [www.aca.org](http://www.aca.org)

### **GRADED ASSESSMENTS:**

**CHAPTER READINGS/WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS:** A key to student success in this course is completing chapter readings prior to the start of class each week. Throughout the semester, assigned learning activities will connect to the weekly readings. The assignment will serve as both a graded activity and as a foundation for classroom discussion. Assignments will be uploaded to Canvas for grading. Unless otherwise directed, handwritten papers will not be accepted. To help the student anticipate the required assignment a Unit Schedule will be distributed at the beginning of each unit. The point value will be identified on the Unit Schedule.

**NOTE:** In reality, by semester end, the assignments connected to the readings will equate to the point value of an exam. Thus, students are encouraged to not overlook the importance of completing and submitting homework.

**MINI-PROJECTS:** As an alternative to a comprehensive research paper, this course will include the completion of two mini-projects. Detailed directions will be provided to the students early in the semester. The goal of each project will be to explore in depth a topic related to Corrections.

**CASE PLANNING ACTIVITIES:** Throughout the course, students will be assigned various “case planning” activities. In total, these assignments will have a combined point value of a unit exam. Additional details will be provided throughout the course.

**QUIZ / EXAMS:** Throughout the semester written assessments will occur. Given the content of this course student can anticipate most exams will comprise short answer/essay exams, with a portion to include multiple choice. In the event the exam is in ‘take home’ student collaboration is permitted; however, each submission is INDIVIDUAL. Therefore, no two submissions should look remotely similar. If an in-class exam is given, there is no collaboration allowed while taking the exam. The point value of exams will vary. Quizzes may be utilized throughout the class to assess student’s progress in the course.

**FINAL EXAM:** A final exam, based upon cumulative content, will occur at semester end. This course will have a cumulative exam at the conclusion of the semester. This exam will be worth 100 points. The exam is set for Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 7:15-9:15. This time / date is set by the University.

**Note:** If you are struggling with any assignment, be sure to ask for assistance. While my office hours are scheduled for immediately preceding class, I am available by appointment.

**NOTE: THE EVALUATION DATA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS THE SEMESTER PROGRESSES.**

### **COURSE POLICIES:**

**ATTENDANCE:** The expectation of this instructor is that students will make every effort to attend classes as scheduled. Students are expected to demonstrate commitment to the learning process and accept responsibility for the outcome of the effort they put forth in this class. Students are responsible for any content they missed while absent from class.

**NOTE: Field Trip: In the event a field trip is arranged, the expectation will be that students participate. For those students unable to attend an alternative assignment may be assigned.**

**PARTICIPATION:** In order to gain the most from enrollment in this course, students are expected to attend class weekly, complete required readings and associated assignments, and take an active role in class discussions. In addition, while not a graded activity, students are encouraged to maintain an awareness of current events within the criminal justice system, paying particular attention to community corrections. Ongoing class participation by all enrolled will result in an engaging class.

**LATE WORK POLICY:** All evaluation material, unless otherwise noted, must be turned in to the course instructor when due. Any other arrangement must receive prior permission from the instructor. Late assignments will be assessed a penalty (2 points per day for weekly assignment; 5% per day for mini-project). Assignments will not be accepted more than one week beyond the scheduled date due. The intent of this policy is to treat all students consistently and fair.

**GRADE:** Your grade will be based on a cumulative percentage as follows:

A	=	94 – 100%	C	=	74 – 76%
A-	=	90 – 93%	C-	=	70 -73%
B+	=	87 – 89%	D+	=	67 - 69%
B	=	84 – 86%	D	=	64 - 66%
B-	=	80 – 83%	D-	=	60 - 63%
C+	=	77 – 79%	F	=	Below 60%

NOTE: Students are encouraged to contact me if they drop below 74% (or sooner) in the course in order to determine appropriate redemption that could improve their success in the course.

**ELECTRONICS:** Out of respect for your fellow classmates, there is an expectation that cellphone use will be avoided during class unless the cellphone is part of a class activity. If you do need to accept a phone call while class is in session you are asked to excuse yourself from the classroom. The use of any electronic while taking an exam / quiz is strictly prohibited and will result in a zero.

**HOMEWORK FORMAT:** All written assignments completed outside the class should follow a standardized format:

1. Single space, font size of 12 for all assignments;
2. Proof read your papers prior to submission to ensure your work reflects your own effort.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students are encouraged to register with UWSP Student Services for assistance with accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to voluntarily and confidentially disclose information regarding the nature and extent of a disability. The college cannot assume responsibility for providing accommodations or services to students who have not identified themselves as having a qualifying disability.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** The University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point, Chapter 14 of the Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures applies to this class. Please refer to

[http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/rightsChapter 14.pdf](http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/rightsChapter%2014.pdf) should you have any questions regarding the expectations of academic honesty in this class.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Students are encouraged to seek the assistance of the course instructor during office hours, via e-mail or by appointment if they are experiencing difficulty in class, in the understanding of course content, or in preparing assigned learning activities. The easiest method to reach me is to call my cell phone (listed on page one). Please do not hesitate to call me if have questions on an assignment or if you will be absent from class. (My phone will be turned off 15 minutes prior to the start of each class period). If I do not answer, please leave a message.

**Finally, this class is intended to be engaging. In order for this to occur, students are encouraged to attend class each week, complete out of class readings/learning activities, participate in class discussions / small group activities, ask questions, seek answers, and challenge yourself to learn new ideas.**

**Please bring your text to class each week.**