

**SYLLABUS FOR Community Corrections
Fall 2018**

COURSE TITLE: Community Corrections

COURSE NUMBER: Sociology 395

CREDIT HOURS: 3

PREREQUISITE: None.

CLASS LOCATION: CCC 205

CLASS SCHEDULE: Wednesday 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Name:	Barb Jascor
Office:	CCC 456
Phone:	(715)572-1927
E-mail:	bjascor@uwsp.edu
Office Hours:	Wednesday 5:30 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. or by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Following a brief overview of both the history and development of probation and parole, this course will highlight critical issues and trends in community-based corrections as well as evaluate the overall effectiveness of selected community correction agencies. 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 Community-Based Supervision.
2. Describe the legal framework under which Probation, Parole and Extended Supervision function.
3. Apply contemporary assessment and evaluation practice in the formulation of an offender case plan.
4. Describe how probation conditions are modified and under what circumstances.
5. Identify and differentiate between the various methods of release from custody.
6. Apply evidence-based practice in the evaluation of a community correction program(s) available in hometown/county of student.
7. Examine how the use of contemporary sentencing philosophies differ from traditional criminal justice practices and the resulting impact on offender, victim, and community.
8. Describe the importance of cultural competence within criminal justice, specifically as it relates community corrections.
9. Demonstrate an awareness of key legal rulings related to community corrections.
10. Apply effective supervision strategies of special need offenders.

TEXT:

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

REFERENCES:

WI Department of Corrections: www.wi-doc.com
National Institute of Corrections: <http://nicic.gov>
Corrections.Com: <http://www.corrections.com>
American Correctional Association: www.aca.org
American Jail Association: www.aja.org

ASSESSMENT DATA:

CHAPTER READINGS: A key to student success in this course is completing the 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 (when appropriate) **must** be typed and submitted when due. Assignments may be uploaded to D2L for grading. 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 strongly encouraged to not overlook the importance of 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.

SOCIAL HISTORY: Each student will be required to complete a personal Social History according to instructions provided by the instructor. This paper will be valued at 50 points.

CURRENT EVENTS: Each student will be assigned ONE week for which they are responsible to present on ‘Current Events in Community Corrections’ (for this assignment, *Current* is defined as within the past 6 months). The chosen item **must** pertain to the selected topic for this class. Students may elect to utilize media to illustrate their point; however, “PG” content is a requirement. In the event the student misses their assigned week either due to unexcused absence or lack of preparation there is no make-up opportunity. As part of this class presentation, students should prepare specific questions to generate **a 5-7minute** class discussion. Grading will be based upon relevance, appropriateness to audience, organization and presentation. **At the conclusion of the presentation, the student will be required to submit a one-page typed outline of their presentation.** Grading will focus 100% on both the appropriateness of the current event selected and the overall preparedness of the student for the presentation. Value: 25 points.

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. 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 Wednesday December 19, 2018 from 7:15-9:15 PM. 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.

LATE WORK POLICY: All evaluation material, unless otherwise noted, must be turned in to the course instructor at the start of class when due. In the event you are absent from class, please submit your assignment via UWSP email prior to the start of class on the scheduled date 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, you are asked to avoid the use of electronic devices with the exception of laptop computers while class is in session. 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.
3. Students are encouraged to submit assignments via D2L.

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> should you have any questions regarding the expectations of academic honesty in this class.

MISCELLANEOUS: Students are encouraged to do independent research on the subject of Corrections. Students are encouraged to share this information during classroom activities.

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, if you are seeking feedback on a graded activity, 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.