

CORRECTIONS
Syllabus
Fall 2021

COURSE TITLE: Corrections
COURSE NUMBER: 333
CREDIT HOURS: 3
PREREQUISITE: 230 or 332, or by permission.
CLASS LOCATION: Science Building, D320

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Name: Barb Jascor
Office: Science Building D256
Phone: Cell phone: 715-572-1927
Office Hours: By appointment
E-mail: bjascor@uwsp.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will examine the history and current trends of the correctional system in the United States. Students will analyze the changing philosophies of corrections, review the programs available to offenders throughout the various stages of their involvement in the criminal justice system, and explore areas of controversy in the criminal justice system.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to:

- Describe how various factors throughout history, including but not limited to politics and public opinion, have influenced the Correctional System.
- Evaluate the continuum of sanctions on the offender, the victim and the community.
- Analyze the impact of 'conviction' on individuals involved in the correctional community; including adult, juvenile and special need offenders.
- Identify, define and differentiate between current correctional strategies on the offender and the community.
- Analyze the impact and value of changing technology in the supervision of offenders.
- Differentiate between the various groups of Special Need Offenders; including analysis as to the effectiveness of supervision strategies.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of Re-entry strategies on recidivism.
- Critically assess current and future trends within the Criminal Justice System, including the potential impact on Corrections.

TEXTBOOK:

Seiter, Richard (2020), Corrections: An Introduction, 6th Edition. Prentice Hall Publishing, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

REFERENCES:

Clear, Todd R., Cole, George F, Reisig, Michael D. & Petrosino, Carolyn (2012). **American Correction in Brief**. Wadworth, Belmont, CA.

Seiter, Richard (2014), Corrections: An Introduction, 5th Edition. Prentice Hall Publishing, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

Hanser, Robert D. (2019). *Introduction to Corrections, (3rd Ed)*., Sage Publishing. Thousand Oaks, CA.

Edwards, Bradley D., Michael Braswell, & Larry Miller. Case Studies in Corrections, (6th Ed). Waveland Press, Inc. Long Grove, IL

WI Department of Corrections: www.doc.wi.gov
National Institute of Corrections: <http://nicic.gov>
American Correctional Association: www.aca.org
American Jail Association: www.americanjail.org

EVALUATION 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. These assignments serve as both a graded activity and as a foundation for classroom discussion. Assignments, unless otherwise indicated, will be submitted via Canvas when due. To help the student, a Unit Schedule will be posted within Canvas at the beginning of each unit which outlines by week upcoming assignments/due dates. The point value for each week will be posted within the assignment.

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.

Current Events: Each student will be assigned ONE week for which they are responsible to present on a 'Current Events in Corrections' (for this assignment, Current is defined as within the past 9 months). The chosen item **must** pertain to the selected topic for this class (ideally, topics will align to the chapter assigned for a given week). 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.** In total, this assignment is not intended to exceed 10 minutes. Grading will be based upon relevance, appropriateness to audience, organization and the overall preparedness of the student for the presentation. At the conclusion of the presentation, the student will submit a one-page typed outline of their presentation. Point value: 15 points.

Exams: Throughout the semester unit assessments will occur. A final exam, based upon cumulative content, will occur at semester end. In the event the exam is completed outside of the classroom, 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.

Mini-Projects: As an alternative to a comprehensive research paper, this course will include the completion of two mini-projects. One will be due in early October; the second will be due near the end of November. Due dates, along with 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. NOTE: each mini-project is worth 50 points, of which 5 points is awarded based upon the student completion of a self-evaluation utilizing a scoring rubric provided.

FINAL EXAM: 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 16 from 7:15-9:15 PM. This time / date is set by the University.

Note: If you are struggling with any assignment or with the class in general, 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 when absent from class.

LATE WORK POLICY: All evaluation material, unless otherwise noted, will be submitted via Canvas (unless otherwise indicated) on or before the date/time due. In the event you are absent from class, you are still responsible to submit your assignment on or before the scheduled due date. Any other arrangement must receive prior permission from the instructor. Assignments related to chapter readings will not be accepted more than one week beyond the scheduled date due. Should an extension be necessary for the mini-project, please work directly with me to identify an agreed upon due date. Late assignments may be assessed a penalty (up to 2 points per day for

weekly assignment; 5% per day for mini-project). The intent of this policy is to treat all students consistent and fair.

NOTE: Given the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, I would ask that you keep me informed should you find yourself falling behind in class. It is difficult for me to help you achieve course success if I don't know you are struggling or falling behind.

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 are struggling with the content of the course or with a particular assignment.

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. Unless otherwise directed, the use of any electronic while taking an in-class exam / quiz is strictly prohibited and will result in a zero.

HOMEWORK FORMAT: All written assignments are to be completed in the following standardized format:

- Single space, font size of 12 for all assignments;
- Proof read your papers prior to submission to ensure your work reflects your own effort.
- Weekly assignments will serve as a foundation to class discussion; therefore, you may find it helpful to have a copy accessible for class (could be in the form of notes or an electronic copy).

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 <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/UWSP14-Final2019.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 via e-mail or by appointment if they are experiencing difficulty in class, in their 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.