Administrative Unit: Criminal Justice Administration & Human Services Department

Course Prefix and Number: CJAD 350

Course Title: Corrections and Penology

Number of Credit Hours: 3  
Lecture Hours: 3  
Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Analysis of punishment in our criminal justice system, with focus on why we punish and how we punish, all examined within the context of correctional philosophies. History and development of corrections, including relevant theories, practices, systems analysis, and treatment modalities. Prerequisites: CJAD 101 and junior standing. Offered even Spring.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): CJAD 101 and junior standing.

Text(s): Many suitable textbooks are available from various publishers and the following list is not comprehensive. Other textbooks may be judged by individual instructors to be more suitable in meeting Course objectives. Many current textbooks have companion websites, and the instructor is encouraged to enhance the course experience for the student by utilizing available technology.


Course Objectives:

- To understand and appreciate the corrections and penology in America.
- To understand common terminology and methods used by professionals in the Corrections system.
- To become empowered to advocate reform on correctional issues when necessary.
- To understand the roles and functions served by the various entities in the Corrections system and to heighten the student’s sensitivity to the legal and practical limitations placed on corrections agencies.
- To understand and appreciate probation, parole and community based corrections programs.
- To enhance knowledge and understanding of the retribution and rehabilitation pendulum associated with sentencing strategies.
Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for the history and evolution of corrections and penology in America.
- Describe and evaluate past and present philosophy and theory regarding the American correctional system.
- Describe the roles and functions of the Corrections system.
- Distinguish between probation and parole.
- Identify the limitations placed on corrections agencies.
- Explain current community based corrections programs.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the retribution and rehabilitation pendulum associated with sentencing strategies.
- Apply competing values, theories, policies and concepts to real and hypothetical problems in the correctional system.
- Identify current problems and issues relating to the correctional system.
- Appraise current literature and developments regarding corrections and penology.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- History and evolution of corrections
- Law and the legal process
- The correctional process
- The rights of the convicted prisoner
- The correctional client
- The correctional manager’s dilemma
- Correctional systems
- Summary and overview

In an effort to better prepare students for future educational pursuits and professionalism in their chosen fields, it is highly recommended that all courses bearing the CJAD prefix contain both a writing and speech communication component. Formal writing projects should be prepared in APA format.

Material from this course may be tested on the Major Field Test (MFT) administered during the Culminating Experience course for the degree.

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35

Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

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Date: September 12, 2005
NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

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