

Lassen Community College Course Outline

AJ 9 Introduction to Corrections

3.0 Units

I. Catalog Description

This course is designed to provide the student with the history of and critical analysis of punishment, alternatives to punishment, and the impact of punishment on the Criminal Justice System and corrections. It will provide a critical examination of the various types of correctional institutions, the special populations housed in these institutions as well as community prisons, alternatives to incarceration and other innovative programs. Students will also study the political and economic ramifications of juvenile delinquents and their rights of Due Process. This course has been approved for online, and hybrid delivery.

Recommended Preparation: Successful completion of ENGL105 or equivalent multiple measures placement.

Transfers to CSU only

C-ID AJ 200

51 Hours Lecture, 102 Expected Outside Class Hours, 153 Total Student Learning Hours

Scheduled: Spring

II. Coding Information

Repeatability: Not Repeatable, Take 1 Time

Grading Option: Graded or Pass/No Pass

Credit Type: Credit - Degree Applicable

TOP Code: 210510

III. Course Objectives

A. Course Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Discuss the origins and history of American corrections.
2. Identify and differentiate clients in each of the types of Correctional institutions, the issues and challenges each type of client presents to Correctional Institutions.
3. Compare and contrast between public, private, federal, state and local correctional systems.
4. Identify the innovative programs designed for specific Correctional Institutions and describe their impact on the Corrections client and society at large.

B. Course Objectives

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

1. Discuss the problems and concerns related to probation and parole.
2. Distinguish between both adult and juvenile probation and parole.
3. Describe the past and current status of the penal system.
4. Explore and analyze various theories of criminal behavior while in penal confinement.
5. Examine special programs and organizations that are used to improve prison conditions and make recommendations.
6. Evaluate efforts to integrate the institutional experience with the post-released clients.

7. Assess evaluate reports and studies involving the operation and guidance of correctional institutions.
8. Identify additional alternatives to prison for some clients.

IV. Course Content

Part I – Historical Perspectives of Corrections

- a. Early history (2000 B.C. to A.D. 1800)
- b. Prisons (1800 to present)
- c. Correctional ideologies: the pendulum swings
- d. Restorative justice
- e. Contemporary corrections

Part II – The Court Process

- a. Sentencing overview
- b. Sentencing decisions
- c. Deterrence by sentencing
- d. Appellate review
- e. Issue of Due Process
- f. Court orders and Court decrees

Part III – Alternatives to Incarceration

- a. Jails: a grim history
- b. Alternatives to jail sentencing
- c. Alternatives to jail at the pretrial stage
- d. Probation
- e. Intermediate sanctions
- f. Innovative Programs

Part IV – Correctional Systems

- a. Imprisonment
- b. State and local prison systems
- c. The Federal System
- d. Private Sector systems
- e. Community Prisons
- f. Juvenile Corrections

Part V- Corrections Functions

- a. Custody functions
- b. Wardens and superintendents
- c. Correctional officers and jailers
- d. Classification for security and treatment
- e. Treatment in prison
- f. Vocational-rehabilitation model
- g. Reintegration model

Part VI- Special Populations

- a. Female Clients
- b. Special problems for incarcerated females
- c. Male Clients
- d. Reasons for fluctuating prison populations
- e. Juvenile Clients
- f. Special category Clients

Part VII – Rights of Correctional Clients

- a. Basic Client's rights

- b. Remedies for violations of rights
- c. Consequences of a conviction
- d. Restoring clients' rights
- e. The death penalty-the ultimate right

Part VIII – Reintegration Systems

- a. Parole and reentry
- b. Parole release conditions
- c. Pardons
- d. Reentry: the new challenge
- e. Community prisons
- f. Correctional outcomes

Part IX – A link to the Future

- a. Current trends
- b. Alternatives
- c. Promising changes
- d. Intermediate sanctions
- e. Creating change

V. Assignments

A. Appropriate Readings

Required reading assignments will be made from the textbook on a weekly basis. In addition, outside media sources pertaining to course topics will be incorporated in the class lectures. One term paper is mandatory for the course, which will be based on approved reading material other than the textbook.

B. Writing Assignments

The student will be required to complete quizzes, a term paper and a final examination.

C. Expected Outside Assignments

Research for term paper, in addition to required reading from textbook.

D. Specific Assignments that Demonstrate Critical Thinking

The instructor will include critical thinking within the following assignments:

1. Written assignments related to course material.
2. Develop/explication/synthesis (compare and contrast, analyze, evaluate and present course information).
3. Examinations; essays, multiple choice, true/false, short answer.

VI. Methods of Evaluation

Traditional Classroom Evaluation

The student will be evaluated on:

1. Completion of Assignments
2. Classroom Participation
3. Quizzes
4. Term Paper
5. Final Examination

Online Evaluation

Same as face-to-face instruction including a variety of evaluation methods such as: research papers, asynchronous and synchronous discussions (chat/forum), exercises/assignments, online quizzes and exams, and postings to online website.

Hybrid Evaluation

All quizzes and exams will be administered during the in person class time. Students will be expected to complete online assignments and activities equivalent to in class assignments and activities for the online portion of the course. Electronic communication, both synchronous and asynchronous will be evaluated for participation and to maintain effective communication between instructor and students.

VII. Methods of Delivery

Check those delivery methods for which, this course has been separately approved by the Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee.

Traditional Classroom Delivery

Correspondence Delivery

Hybrid Delivery

Online Delivery

Traditional Classroom Delivery

The instructor will select the appropriate method of instruction:

1. Lecture
2. Demonstration
3. Role Playing
4. Guest Speakers
5. Video Presentations
6. Field Trips/Tours

Online Delivery

Online instruction will be utilized. 51 hours will be instructed online through the technology platform adopted by the District. Online delivery will consist of participation in forum-based discussions and posts, web links, email communications, lecture posts, exams and online lectures. Adding extra resources and other media sources as appropriate.

Hybrid Delivery

A combination of traditional classroom and online instruction will be utilized. Each semester a minimum of 17 hours, or 1/3 of the lecture hours, will be taught face-to-face by the instructor and the remaining hours will be instructed online through the technology platform adopted by the District. Traditional class instruction will consist of exercises/assignments, lectures, visual aids, and practice exercises. Online delivery will consist of exercises/assignments, lecture posts, discussions, adding extra resources and other media sources as appropriate.

VIII. Representative Texts and Supplies

Robert D. Hanser, *Introduction to Corrections*, 3rd edition, 2019, Sage Publishing, ISBN: 9781544339078

IX. Discipline/s Assignment

Administration of Justice

X. Course Status

Current Status: Active

Original Approval Date: 3/20/1990

Revised By: Thomas Downing

Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee Revision Date: 02/07/2023