

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Division of Liberal Arts

Index Number: CJUS 420

Course Title: Correctional Policy and Practice

Professor: Dr. Rose Bigler
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Credit Hours: 3.0

Trimester: Fall, 1999

GSU ARCHIVES
CJUS 420
F99

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course analyzes current approaches used in federal, state, and local correctional and related agencies. Students will examine discrepancies between new theories implemented by criminal justice decision makers and the actual outcome of the theoretical applications.

COURSE RATIONALE AND APPROACH:

This course is an upper-level study of the governmental philosophy relating to correctional methods centered in and involving the offender's community. Particular attention will be focused on an examination of the origins, goals, methods, and effectiveness of existing community-based correctional systems and practices. An interdisciplinary approach, including lectures, discussions, group presentations, case studies, guest speakers, and video tapes, will be the principle methodology. Active student participation is strongly encouraged for this course.

PREREQUISITES:

Criminal Justice 320: Correctional Process or permission/consent of Professor.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Cromwell, Paul F. and Del Carmen, Rolando V., Community-Based Corrections, 4th Edition, West/Wadsworth Publishing Company: Belmont, California, 1999.

Additional readings may be placed on reserve in the library during the course.

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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To develop an understanding of the philosophy of community-based corrections.
2. To develop an understanding of the promise, prospects, and problems involved in executing a community-based correctional strategy.
3. To prepare the student for eventual work in community-based corrections.

EXPECTATIONS:

1. Class attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to attend **ALL** classes. Any student who misses 25% or more of the class sessions (4 or more) will automatically **FAIL** the course. Students are also expected to be prompt to all class sessions. Arriving late for a class meeting is counted as a tardy. You are tardy if you come into class after your name is called during roll call. No tardy can be later than ten minutes. Three "tardies" will count as one absence. Leaving class early or during break will also be taken into account appropriately.
2. Students are expected to prepare before each class all assigned readings.
3. Students are expected to make arrangements to see me when they need assistance with the course. Please see me before or after class to make an appointment, leave messages on my voice mail or E-mail, or visit my office during my regular office hours that are posted on my door. (E #2542, phone number (708) 534-4577, E-mail r-bigler@govst.edu).

EXAMINATIONS, PAPERS, AND GRADING:

The final grade for each student will be based equally on two in-class examinations, one case study, and one group presentation. Each examination will count 25% of the final average and their format will consist primarily of objective and short answer questions. The case study (3-5 pages typed and double-spaced) will count 25% of the final grade and will be based on the facts of a probation case integrated with the course material. The group presentation will also count 25% of the final grade. All students must also complete the in-class and homework assignments successfully!

The group presentation will be developed from a special topic assigned to a student group of three or four members. Each group will prepare a 30 minute oral presentation as well as a 10-12 page (typed and double-spaced) research paper on their topic. These presentations will be graded for substance, creativity, and research methodology as well as spelling, grammar, and style. Each research paper must include at least 25-35 citations (from 15 or more sources) that will be attached to the final work.

Additional information on the case study and the group presentations will be provided later in the semester.

1. The grading scale for the class:

90 - 100	A	60 - 69.99	D
80- 89.99	B	Below 60	F
70- 79.99	C		
2. Class attendance and participation will also be considered in cases of borderline grades.
3. Students must take exams on the given dates. Unless given prior permission, exams taken later than the provided date will be lowered one letter grade. Late exams may also be **all** essay questions.
4. All required papers turned in late will be docked 25 points for each day they are tardy. If no paper is handed in, you will fail the course. Students should make a copies of their papers prior to turning them in to me.
5. No "extra-credit" may be earned.
6. No student will be exempt from any examination, the case study, the class assignments, or the group presentation.
7. All lectures, assigned readings, and outside materials are testable.
8. All students are expected to adhere to the Governors State University Honor Code. Infractions of this code, especially cheating and plagiarism, will result in a "F" grade for the course as well as other sanctions.

COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic or Activity</u>	<u>Reading</u>
Sept. 1	Introduction	
Sept. 8	Goals of Punishment: Deterrence, Rehabilitation, Incapacitation, Just Deserts	Handouts
Sept. 15	Introduction of Case Study Corrections in the Community	Handouts
Sept. 22	History, Legal Foundations, Decision to Grant Probation, and Presentence Investigation Report	Chapters 1, 2, 3
Sept. 29	Conditions and Terms of Probation Supervision, Prediction	Chapters 4, 6
Oct. 6	Exam #1	Study!
Oct. 13	Introduction to Library Research Organization of Groups	
Oct. 20	Revocation of Probation Introduction to Parole Case Study Due	Chapters 7, 8
Oct. 27	Parole Board, Parole Selection, Conditions, and Revocation Learning to Write	Chapters 9, 10
Nov. 3	Intermediate Sanctions	Chapter 11
Nov. 10	Continued... Group Work	Handouts
Nov. 17	Library/Research	Study!
Nov. 24	Exam #2	Study!
Dec. 1	Collateral Issues in Probation, Parole, and Community Corrections Restoration of Rights Future of Community Corrections	Chapters 13, 14, 15 Handouts
Dec. 8	Group Presentations	