



## Introduction to Corrections

CJ 231

Spring 2017

Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

Marshall University

<b>Classroom:</b>	SH 416
<b>Meeting Times:</b>	Tuesday and Thursday: 12:30pm – 1:45pm
<b>Instructor:</b>	Wyatt Brown, Ph.D.
<b>E-Mail:</b>	brownwy@marshall.edu
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Monday and Wednesday, 12:00pm-2:00pm; Tuesday and Thursday 2-3pm
<b>Office:</b>	Smith Hall 731

**Please note that the best way to contact me is via email.**

*In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for MU to suspend normal operations. During this time, MU may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: MU Online, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It's the responsibility of the student to monitor the Blackboard site for each class for course specific communication, and the main MU, College, and department websites, and email for important general information.*

### **Course Description 231**

Basic course in the American correctional system; study of the history of corrections, philosophy of punishment and correction, correctional institutions, programs, and services, and contemporary issues and problems.

### **University Policies**

By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies listed below. Please read the full text of each policy by going to [www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs) and clicking on "Marshall University Policies." Or, you can access the policies directly by going to [www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/). Academic Dishonesty/Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates/Computing Services Acceptable Use/Inclement Weather/Dead Week/Students with Disabilities/Academic Forgiveness/Academic Probation and Suspension/Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students/Affirmative Action/Sexual Harassment

### **Required Materials**

Clear, T. R., Reisig, M. D., & Cole, G. F. (2016). American corrections. 11<sup>th</sup> Edition. ISBN-13: 9781305093300

Additional articles/chapters/excerpts provided on the course website on Blackboard.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

This course is designed to familiarize students with the field of criminal corrections. Students will learn about a range of topics including the history of corrections, theories that inform corrections, trends in criminal punishments and their use, and individuals' and communities' experiences with the correctional system. Parts

of the course will also include a focus on critically evaluating the logic and evidence behind and application of correctional practices.

**Course Learning Outcomes Matrix**

Course Learning Outcome	How Each Outcome is Practiced in this Course	How Each Outcome is Evaluated in this Course
1) Students will have an understanding of the history of the American correctional system..	In-class examples and assignments, readings, and discussions	Quizzes, exam
2) Students will be able to describe trends in America's use of correctional sanctions.	In-class examples and assignments, readings, and discussions	Quizzes, exam
3) Students will be able to describe the various theoretical, political, and social contexts that have informed correctional practices.	In-class examples and assignments, readings, and discussions	Quizzes, exam
4) Students will be able to describe and assess the logic and evidence for different correctional theories, programs, and policies.	In-class examples and assignments, readings, and discussions	Quizzes, exam
5) Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the experiences that individuals, families, and communities have with correctional programs.	In-class examples and assignments, readings, and discussions	Quizzes, exam
6) Students will be able to demonstrate informed views about different aspects of the field of corrections and how different programs, practices, and policies might be improved.	In-class examples and assignments, readings, and discussions	Quizzes, exam

**Required Technology**

Students must have a computer or access to one, as well as access to the Internet to send and receive email messages. If you are using an email account other than your Marshall email account, (i.e., hotmail, yahoo, aol, etc.) you must set your Marshall email account to forward to your other account. In addition, students are required to have access to MU Online in order to access course materials or to complete assignments/quizzes. Make certain that you use a computer that is compatible for completing any online assignments.

**Student Expectations**

To ensure learning outcomes are met, students are expected to:

**Attend Class and Participate.** Students are expected to be prepared for class by completing required readings prior to the start of class. Students are expected to attend **all** classes and are

responsible for **all** material presented during class sessions, including course related announcements. **PowerPoint slides and lecture notes will not be made available on Blackboard or via email.**

*Note that if a student **must** miss class, it is the **student's responsibility** to obtain lecture notes from one of their classmates. Therefore, it is **expected** that all students will have the contact information of at least one classmate.*

**Advocate.** Students in this class are expected to be proactive. This is critical in a criminal justice course. If a student finds him/herself struggling with course material, concerned about his/her grade, or otherwise in need of assistance, s/he is expected to advocate for themselves by communicating with the instructor *as soon as possible*. Helping you earn the grade you want is a top priority to me, but my ability to help you is greatly diminished, if not eliminated entirely, if you choose to procrastinate.

**Check Email & Blackboard Regularly for Course Correspondence.** Important information regarding the course schedule, assignments, and grades will be posted to Blackboard.

**Be Respectful.** This includes directing full attention to class lectures and discussions. Students are not permitted to use cell phones or other electronic devices during class. Laptops are to be used for access to word processing for class notes only. Students who disregard this expectation may be asked to leave class and will be responsible for any material missed.

When participating in class and in email exchanges with the instructor and other classmates, students are expected to use respectful language. Do not communicate with others via the internet in a way you would not interact with them in person. Disrespectful language, and/or disrespectful classroom behavior will not be tolerated. Disregard for this expectation will result in students being asked to leave class. In instances of serious or repeated infractions, students will be subject to University disciplinary action.

**Complete Exams, Reading Questions and Assignments When Scheduled.** Students are informed both verbally (in class) and in writing (this syllabus) of the due dates of ALL exams and assignments **for the entire semester on the first day of class**. For this reason:

#### **LATE WORK IS NOT ACCEPTED & MAKE UP EXAMS ARE NOT AN OPTION\***

*\* Exception: Emergencies, Religious Observances, & University Excused Absences.* Students are expected to notify their instructors at the beginning of each academic term if they intend to be absent for an announced examination. Students absent for religious reasons, as noticed to the instructor at the beginning of each academic term, will be given reasonable opportunities to make up any work missed.

#### **Make Up Exam / Assignment Policy:**

If a student feels an unforeseen event requires them to request a make-up test/assignment, he or she **must** complete the following:

**(1) Determine the event constitutes a University Excused Absence or an emergency.** Emergencies refer to **very serious** physical or mental health issues only. Because students are made aware of class due dates in advance, emergencies do **NOT** refer to events such as: social obligations (e.g., weddings, birthdays), computer/technology issues, or work requirements.

**(2) Communicate (email/office hours) your issue as soon as possible: preferably before class.**

Delayed requests may not be considered.

**(3) Provide acceptable documentation of the emergency** (documents from a person or organization other than the student [e.g. medical professional]).

*If the instructor determines all 3 criteria are satisfied, a make-up exam / assignment will be given at a date and time of the instructor's choosing.*

### **Extra Credit**

There will be no opportunities for extra credit in this course.

### **Policy Regarding Absences**

Although encouraged, attendance is not required. In the event of an absence, no student will be given the opportunity to earn credit toward an in-class assignment or an examination. The professor is not obligated and will not provide to any absent student lecture notes, class summaries, or any other information that was provided in class. The university has detailed policies regarding absences, including what constitutes an excused absence. In the event of a university-excused absence, the professor will follow the guidelines set forth by the university. Each student is expected to review, be familiar with, and follow the university's guideline regarding absences.

### **Incompletes**

As late work is not accepted and make up exams are not scheduled, no grade of Incomplete ("I") will be given in this class.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Any form of cheating on examinations constitutes unacceptable deceit and dishonesty. Disruption of the classroom or teaching environment is also unacceptable. The Marshall University has very specific policies and procedures regarding academic dishonesty or disruption of academic process. If you have any questions, please refer to the University's Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty policy at:

- Academic Dishonesty Policy:  
<http://www.marshall.edu/board/files/policies/MUBOG%20AA-12%20Academic%20Dishonesty.pdf>
- Student Handbook:  
<http://www.marshall.edu/student-affairs/files/15-16-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

In an effort to ensure compliance, plagiarism tracking software will be employed in this course. The Marshall University has an account with *SafeAssign* an automated plagiarism detection service which allows instructors to submit student assignments to be checked for plagiarism. The professor reserves the right to submit assignments to this detection system. Assignments are compared automatically with a large database of journal articles, web articles, and previously submitted papers. The instructor receives a report showing exactly how a student's paper was plagiarized.

Because all papers will be submitted to *SafeAssign*, you should know your rights:

*This course requires you to submit your paper to a plagiarism detection site that will be identified by your instructor. In order to comply with federal (FERPA) and state privacy laws, you (students) are not required to include personal identifying information such as your name, SSN, and/or 901# in the body of the work (text) or use such information in the file naming convention prior to submitting. Please follow carefully your instructor's instructions regarding what identifying information to include. Your submission will be*

*placed in the course grade center in your account that can be accessed by the instructor and attributed to you.*

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with the Office of Disabilities Services (ODS) in order to receive academic accommodations. ODS encourages students to notify instructors of accommodation requests at least five business days prior to needing the accommodation. A letter from ODS must accompany this request.

- For more information, see: <http://www.marshall.edu/disability/>

### **Class Notes and Tape Recordings**

Any student who wishes to tape record class lectures must first get permission from the instructor. Any recording, whether audio or written (i.e., class notes), can only be used by the individual who recorded them. No student has permission to sell or distribute any recording (in any form) made in the course.

### **Grading Scale and Distribution**

#### **Grading Scale**

Grading is an exceptionally difficult task, especially in a criminal justice class. To that end, the grading criteria for this class is determined prior to the start of class and is detailed in the syllabus. There will be no changes to the grading scale, as in the points a student acquires will determine their final grade.

#### **Grade Distribution**

The final grade is the total of five different components: exams, weekly reading questions, survey assignment, critical thinking assignment, and class participation.

#### **1. Exam (300 points)**

There will be one final examination in this course. The format of the exam may include any of several formats (e.g., multiple-choice items, short-answer, fill-in-the-blank, essay, etc.). Graduate exams will include an essay portion. These exams comprise 20% of the final grade. The questions on the exam will be based on material from the readings, homework, lectures, and discussions. All material to which you are exposed may appear on the exam. Thus, even if a topic in the readings is not discussed in class, a question on that topic may still appear on the exam. Conversely, not everything from discussions will be included in exams. Students have 120 minutes to complete the exam- extra time will not be allotted, including to students who arrive late to class.

- **Final Exam: May 2, 12:45pm- 2:45pm**

#### **2. Quizzes (500 points)**

There will be 5 quizzes and you are required to take all 5 quizzes, no quiz scores will be dropped. Quizzes are closed book, but students are permitted one page (front and back, 8.5 x 11 paper) of notes for each quiz. The quizzes will consist of multiple choice, true or false, short answer, and fill-in-the-blank questions (essay questions for master's students) based on the assigned material.

- Quiz 1: January 31th
- Quiz 2: February 21th
- Quiz 3: March 16th
- Quiz 4: April 6th
- Quiz 5: April 27th

### **3. Participation (200 points)**

Participation points are accumulated in two ways. First, in lieu of long lectures, a daily in-class assignment will be completed, turned in, and graded for completion rather than accuracy. These assignments are designed to as a guide to supplement the quizzes and final exam. The second part of the participation grade is based on both the frequency and quality of your participation in class. Frequent but off track or irrelevant contributions do not count toward participation. Students who do not wish to participate in class discussions may earn participation points by posting comments, questions, and relevant news items on the classroom discussion board on Canvas.

**The following grading schema and point distribution will be used to assign final letter grades in this course:**

**Grading Scale**

A	=	≥ 900 points
B	=	800 - 899 points
C	=	700 - 799 points
D	=	600 - 699 points
F	=	≤599 points

**Point Distribution**

Examinations:	
Quizzes	500 pts (50%)
Final Exam	300 pts (30%)
Assignments:	
Participation	<u>200 pts (20%)</u> 1000 pts

**Class Schedule**

**Subject to Change:** While it is the intention to cover topics throughout the semester as described below, the following course outline is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Any subsequent changes to the course outline will be discussed in class and/or posted to Blackboard.

**Course Outline**

**Week & Topic:**

**Reading Due:**

January 9

- T: Course Introduction
- TR: Chapter 1: The Correctional System

pp. 4-26

January 16

- T: **No live class (professor unavailable) Watch video online**  
*Slavery by Another Name*
- TR: **No live class (professor unavailable)**

January 23

- T: Chapter 2: The Early History  
Foucault Handout (Online)
- TR: Chapter 3: The History of Corrections in America

pp. 30-43

pp. 46-66

January 30

- T: **Quiz 1**
- TR: Chapter 4: The Punishment of Offenders

**CH: 1, 2, & 3**

pp. 70-95

February 6

- T: Chapter 4: The Punishment of Offenders  
Gamblers Fallacy Handout (online)
- TR: Chapter 5: The Law of Corrections

pp. 70-95

pp. 98-124

February 13

- T: Chapter 6: The Correctional Client
- TR: Chapter 6: The Correctional Client

pp. 128-157

pp. 128-157

February 20

<b>T:</b>	<b>Quiz 2</b>	<b>CH: 4, 5, &amp; 6</b>
<b>TR:</b>	Chapter 7: Jails: Detention and Short-Term Incarceration	pp. 162-188
February 27		
<b>T:</b>	Chapter 8: Probation	pp. 192-221
<b>TR:</b>	Chapter 9: Intermediate Sanctions and Community Corrections	pp. 226-249
March 6		
<b>T:</b>	Chapter 8: Conflict Theory	pp.176-206
<b>TR:</b>	Chapter 10: Incarceration	pp. 252-272
March 13		
<b>T:</b>	Chapter 11: The Prison Experience	pp. 276-295
<b>TR:</b>	<b>Quiz 3</b>	<b>CH: 7, 8, 9, 10, &amp; 11</b>
March 20		
<b>T:</b>	<b>No Class (Spring Break)</b>	
<b>TR:</b>	<b>No Class (Spring Break)</b>	
March 27		
<b>T:</b>	Chapter 12: Incarceration of Women	pp. 300-319
<b>TR:</b>	Chapter 13: Institutional Management	pp. 324-349
April 3		
<b>T:</b>	Chapter 14: Institutional Programs	pp. 352-380
<b>TR:</b>	<b>Quiz 4</b>	<b>CH: 12, 13, &amp; 14</b>
April 10		
<b>T:</b>	Chapter 15: Release from Incarceration	pp. 384-401
<b>TR:</b>	Chapter 16: Supervision in the Community	pp. 404-434
April 17		
<b>T:</b>	Chapter 17: Juveniles	pp. 438- 465
<b>TR:</b>	Film	
April 24		
<b>T:</b>	Chapter 18: Incarceration Trends	pp. 472- 485
<b>TR:</b>	<b>Quiz 5</b>	<b>CH: 15, 16, 17, &amp; 18</b>
May 1		
<b>T:</b>	<b>Final Exam 12:45pm- 2:45pm</b>	<b>(ALL Material)</b>