

MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY COURSE SYLLABUS

WEC Spring 2010 Semester

Course Information:

Course ID: CRIM 220 1S

Course Title: Corrections in Society

Prerequisites: Weekly access syllabus before class

Credit Hours: 3

Meeting Schedule: Wednesdays from 6:00 to 8:50 PM
March 10 to April 28, 2010

Location: Fenton

Instructor's Information:

Instructor's Name: Paul Hotfelder

Email: photfelder@maryville.edu

Phone: 314-259-9201 ext 3003

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate instructional and/or student needs.

Maryville University
Corrections in Society
CRIM 220-1S
3 Credits
W: 6:00-8:50 PM
March, 10 through April 28, 2010
Fenton Campus
Instructor: Paul Hotfelder
314-529-9201, EXT. 3003
photfelder@maryville.edu

Course Description

This course explores the evolution of correctional practices in the United States. It also examines and assesses the variety of correctional options utilized within the criminal justice system.

Course Objectives:

1. To provide the student with an understanding of the criminal offender-- his behavior, needs, values, characteristics, etc.
2. To evaluate how well society's traditional response to the offender-- incarceration-- has met his needs and those of the community.
3. To familiarize the student with a variety of community-based alternatives to incarceration.
4. To assess how well such alternatives to incarceration have addressed society's need to reintegrate offenders and protect itself.
5. To assess what mix of institutional and community corrections programming most effectively reintegrates offenders into society while affording the community maximum protection.

Required Text:

Corrections in the Community, Latessa, Edward J. and Smith, Paula, 4th edition, 2007.

Course Schedule:

After an overview, the course will focus on the behaviors, characteristics, needs, and risks posed by selected offender populations (Week 1). Such knowledge will be crucial in evaluating how well society's traditional response to the offender, incarceration, has worked in protecting the community (Week 2). Week 3, Sentencing, will then serve as a bridge both to the more established "alternatives," probation and parole (Week 5), and the newer intermediate sanctions (Week 6). Finally, Week 7 will provide the student with a simulated opportunity to integrate all the material learned in the course through the design of an "ideal" mix of cost-effective correctional strategies that provide maximum community protection.

Week 1	Introductions Comments on Syllabus and Course Independent Project: A Case Study The Criminal Justice System and the Offender Readings: Ch. 1
Week 2	The Institutional Response: Radical Prisonization
Week 3	Sentencing Readings: Ch. 2
Week 4	Examination
Week 5	Probation and Parole Readings: Chs. 3, 5, 6 and 7
Week 6	Intermediate Sanctions The Corrections Continuum in Missouri Readings: Chs. 8 and 9
Week 7	“What Works” in Corrections Case Study Paper Presentations Readings: Ch. 11
Week 8	Examination

Course Format and Expectations

In-class time will be spent in a variety of ways. I will attempt to limit my lecture time. The remainder of class time will be spent in student discussion groups and exercises, student paper presentations, class discussions, and perhaps listening to a professional guest speaker. Naturally, this kind of format puts a real premium on student preparation, attendance, and participation. These areas will comprise a significant portion of your grade.

Please consult the course schedule for specific reading assignments. Such readings must be completed *prior* to the day they will be discussed in class.

Examinations

There will be both mid-term and final examinations. Both are likely to be in a short essay format.

Grade Computation

Preparation, Attendance, and Participation	-	25%
Mid-term	-	25%
Case Study Paper	-	25%
Final	-	25%

Each component of your grade will be discussed in detail at our first meeting.

Case Study Paper

This will be a five page “thought” paper in which you will be placed in the role of a professional consultant to the Missouri Department of Corrections. You will be given a detailed case study, including facts, figures, cost projections, etc., and asked to craft a set of recommendations, with convincing rationales, for Missouri to use in effectively maximizing scarce correctional resources.

In effect, you are being asked to determine what mix of community and institutional correctional programming you think will provide Missouri with the most cost-effective protection for the citizenry.

You may use any information gleaned from our class sessions, the text, or the case study materials in your paper. Please note that your paper need not deal in specific numbers. You only need to show where you would put relative emphasis in designing an appropriate mix of institutional and community correctional resources.

Miscellaneous

More than one unexcused absence will negatively affect your grade. You are *strongly* encouraged to be present for all examinations and the paper presentation. Make-up examinations will be offered only in critical situations with prior notice having been given to the instructor.

If you have a problem, question, or concern, please feel free to approach me. I think we can negotiate almost anything to a mutually satisfactory conclusion. In short, you will find I am almost human about these things.

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